

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: February 9, 2026
AGENDA NUMBER: 10
ITEM: Annual AIS Update

AGENDA: Discussion

ACTION REQUESTED

Receive annual aquatic invasive species (AIS) update

PURPOSE & SCOPE OF ITEM

Annually evaluate and update the list of priority AIS that are at high risk for introduction and spread within the District and to provide an update of any ongoing AIS management activities.

BACKGROUND

Each year, the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) at the University of Minnesota evaluates the numerous AIS posing threats to the state and publishes a list of priority species for research and management based on those that are likely to survive in Minnesota and cause significant ecological and economic damage. The current [list](#) for 2026 contains 40 AIS designated as high priority with roughly equal numbers of invasive fishes, invertebrates, plants, and microbes.

Annually, District staff review the statewide priority list to identify those species that are at high risk for introduction and spread within CCWD. High risk is defined as a species on the current statewide priority list with a documented occurrence in Anoka County or one of the seven adjacent counties (based on local and [MN DNR Records](#) [updated Dec 16, 2025]).

ISSUES/CONCERNS

Proposed 2026 List of AIS at High Risk of Introduction to District Waters

There are three new additions to the proposed 2026 list, bringing the total to 17 species at risk of introduction and spread in District waters: brittle naiad, freshwater jellyfish, and grass carp. None of these species have been newly discovered in the Twin Cities metro area, but were newly added to the MAISRC priority list this year. None of these species have been observed within the District or Anoka County to date, but have been observed in adjacent counties.

	Common Name	Scientific Name	Life Form	Trend in MN	Nearest Occurrence	
					County	Site
Present in CCWD	Curlyleaf Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>	Plant	Established	Anoka	Crooked, Ham, Several ditches
	Eurasian/ Hybrid Watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i> , x <i>M. sibiricum</i>	Plant	Established	Anoka	Crooked, Ham, Cenaiko, Springbrook
	Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Plant	Established	Anoka	Multiple sites
	Narrow leaf/ Hybrid Cattail	<i>Typha angustifolia</i> , <i>Typha x glauca</i>	Plant	Established	Anoka	Multiple sites
	Common carp	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Fish	Established	Anoka	Multiple sites
	Rusty Crayfish	<i>Orconectes rusticus</i>	Invert	Established	Anoka	Ditch 41, Coon Cr
	Nonnative Phragmites	<i>Phragmites australis</i> European haplotype	Plant	Invading	Anoka	Multiple sites
	Goldfish	<i>Carassius auratus</i>	Fish	Established	Anoka	Sand/Coon Cr
	Golden Clam	<i>Corbicula fluminea</i>	Invert	Invading	Anoka	Cenaiko, Coon Cr
	Pale Yellow Iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Plant	Established	Anoka	Ditch 39 Pond
Present in Anoka Co. or Adjacent Counties	Chinese and Banded Mystery Snails	<i>Cipangopaludina chinensis malleata</i> , <i>Viviparus georgianus</i>	Invert	Established	Anoka	Crooked, Ham, Cenaiko, other
	Flowering Rush	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>	Plant	Established	Anoka	Amelia, Bass
	Zebra Mussel	<i>Dreissena polymorpha</i>	Invert	Established	Anoka	Miss/Rum Rv
	Brittle Naiad	<i>Najas minor</i>	Plant	Invading	Hennepin	SW metro
	Freshwater Jellyfish	<i>Craspedacusta sowerbii</i>	Invert	Invading	Hennepin	S metro
	Starry Stonewort	<i>Nitellopsis obtusa</i>	Algae	Invading	Hennepin	Medicine
	Invasive carps (silver, bighead, grass)	<i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i> , <i>H. nobilis</i> , <i>C. idella</i>	Fish	Invading	Ramsey, Hennepin Chisago	Mississippi & St. Croix Rivers
	Largemouth Bass Virus	<i>LMBV</i>	Microbe	Invading	Chisago, Wash.	Green, Forest

New Infestations

In 2025, new infestations of three priority species were detected within the District. Additional infestations of golden clam and rusty crayfish were found during routine biomonitoring activities in Coon Creek from Lower Coon Creek to as far upstream as Highway 65. Previously, Golden clam had only been observed in the Mississippi River and Lake Cenaiko and the extent of the rusty crayfish infestation in Coon Creek was unknown. No management actions are required at this time. Nine additional infestations of invasive phragmites were also documented and added to the Countywide list of sites for annual control and monitoring led by the Anoka Conservation District with assistance from CCWD for sites within the District. Two of these sites are quite extensive and will likely require several years of herbicide treatment to achieve control.

Growing AIS threats

In 2025, 63 new waterbodies were listed as infested with zebra mussels throughout the state, including 9 located in counties immediately adjacent to Anoka County. There are now 708 documented infestations in MN, but none within Anoka County lakes. Zebra mussels remain one of the highest risk AIS threats to District waters. The District continues to administer a citizen observer program for District lakes in hopes to detect any new infestations early to enable possible rapid response actions.

Starry stonewort, an invasive plant-like algae, was found in a metro lake for the first time in 2018, elevating its risk of spread and establishment in District waters. No new metro infestations of starry stonewort have been observed since 2018 although the statewide count of infestations has grown to 39, including three lakes in nearby Wright county.

Ongoing Control Efforts

All known populations of pale yellow iris on public land continue to be monitored annually and manually removed as needed, with none requiring management in 2025.

Control efforts continued for all known populations of invasive phragmites within the District and were initiated for the 9 newly discovered sites in 2025. Live phragmites was found at 12 of the 18 established sites under active management despite 1-6 years of herbicide applications. Most sites however only had a handful of scattered individual live stems that were spot treated by Anoka Conservation District staff. Control efforts were funded by the Anoka Cooperative Weed Management Area program, supported by MN DNR control grants and a \$1500 contribution of District funds to cover unplanned expenses for the new sites.

Efforts to control invasive hybrid Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed in Crooked and Ham Lakes continue. This work is led by local lake associations with technical assistance by District staff and cost share by the Cities of Andover and Coon Rapids. After a very successful whole lake Eurasian milfoil treatment in Crooked Lake in 2023-24, a similar treatment was conducted in Ham Lake in fall 2024-spring 2025. A follow up survey in August 2025 found zero living Eurasian milfoil plants, indicating complete control! These treatments typically provide control for 3-5 years with adequate surveillance and small maintenance treatments.

New in 2025, CCWD coordinated a purple loosestrife treatment along the shoreline of Crooked Lake. 18 sites were treated by a commercial herbicide applicator for \$400, with follow-up treatment planned for 2026 and 2027. Sporadic patches of purple loosestrife have been present along the Crooked Lake shoreline since the 1990s, but had recently been observed expanding to new locations.

New for 2026, CCWD was asked to serve as a partner to the Ham Lake Lake Association as part of a new Minnesota Sea Grant/MN Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center program called the Minnesota Cattail Collaborative. Staff is currently looking into obligations and plans to attend an introductory workshop later this winter.

CONCLUSIONS/IMPLICATIONS

As of 2025, there are 17 high priority aquatic invasive species that pose a risk to District waters, 11 of which have already been documented within the District. The District may play a role in managing these species on a case-by-case basis depending on extent and severity of impacts and feasibility, efficacy, and cost of control efforts. Presently, District staff largely provide technical assistance with treatment planning and permitting, grant applications, and monitoring. The District also holds contingency funds to enable rapid response to new infestations for situations where infestations can be contained before they spread.

RECOMMENDATION

Receive annual AIS update



COON CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT

Annual AIS Update
2/9/2026

Justine Dauphinais, Chase Vanderbilt,
Emma Krause



Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

“Non-native species that thrive in new environments, causing economic or environmental harm or harm to human health”



Photo credit: MAISRC

CCWD's 2026 High-Risk AIS

Of the 40 "high priority" species statewide:

18* species on our list

- 11 within CCWD
- 7 within Anoka or adjacent county

3 new additions to the list:

- Grass Carp
- Brittle Naiad
- Freshwater Jellyfish



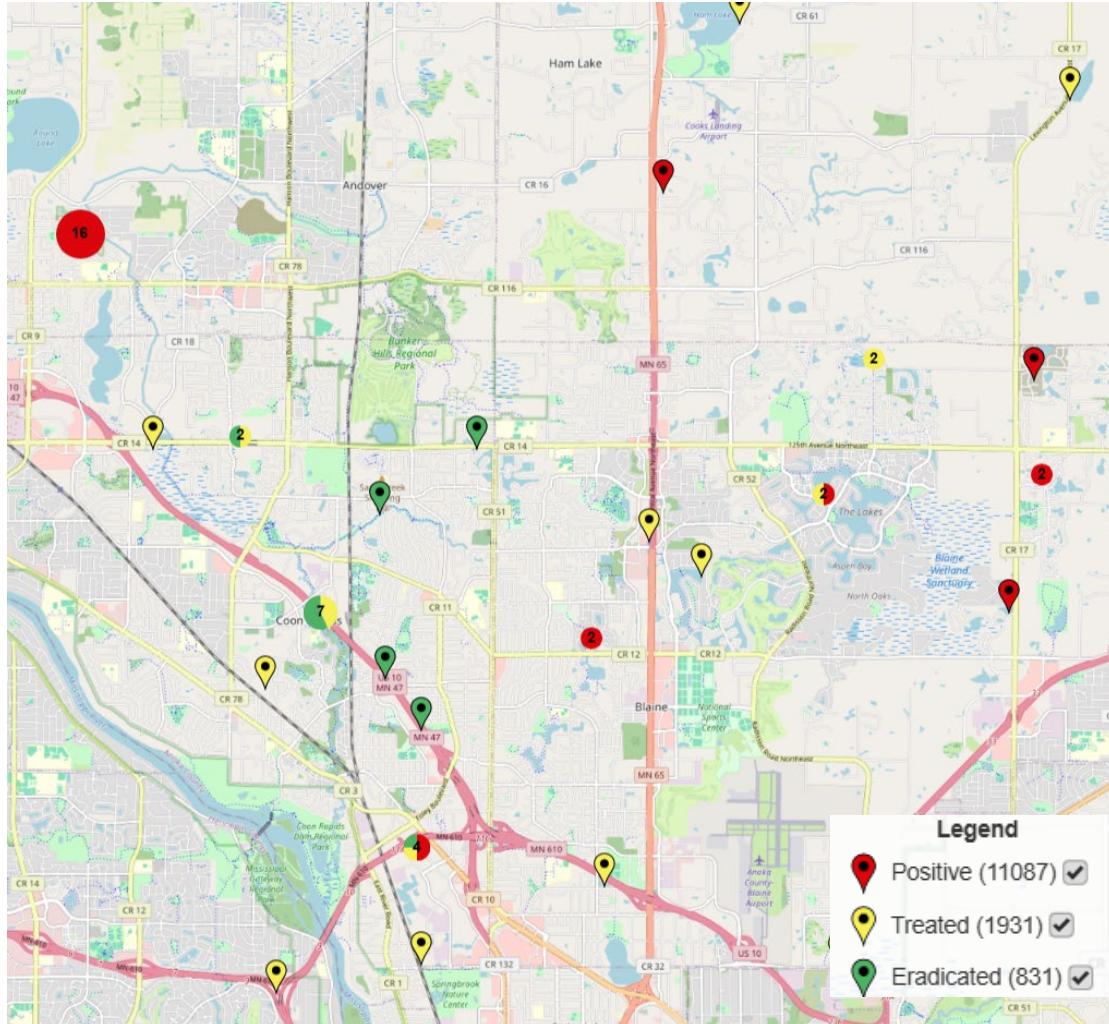
New detections of 3 priority species:

- Phragmites at 9 sites
- Golden Clam in Coon Creek
- Rusty Crayfish in Coon Creek



	Common Name	Life Form	Year Added
Present in CCWD	Curlyleaf Pondweed	Plant	2013
	Eurasian/ Hybrid Watermilfoil	Plant	2013
	Purple Loosestrife	Plant	2013
	Narrow leaf/ Hybrid Cattail	Plant	2013
	Common carp	Fish	2013
	Nonnative Phragmites <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Plant	2017
	Rusty Crayfish <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Invertebrate	2019
	Goldfish	Fish	2020
	Golden Clam <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Invertebrate	2021
	Pale Yellow Iris	Plant	2021
Present in Adjacent County	Chinese & Banded Mystery Snails	Invertebrate	2024
	Zebra Mussel	Invertebrate	2013
	Flowering Rush	Plant	2014
	Invasive Carps (silver, bighead, & grass)	Fish	2015, 2026
	Starry Stonewort	Macroalgae	2018
	Largemouth Bass Virus	Microbe	2021
	Brittle Naiad	Plant	2026
	Freshwater Jellyfish	Invertebrate	2026

2026 New Infestations

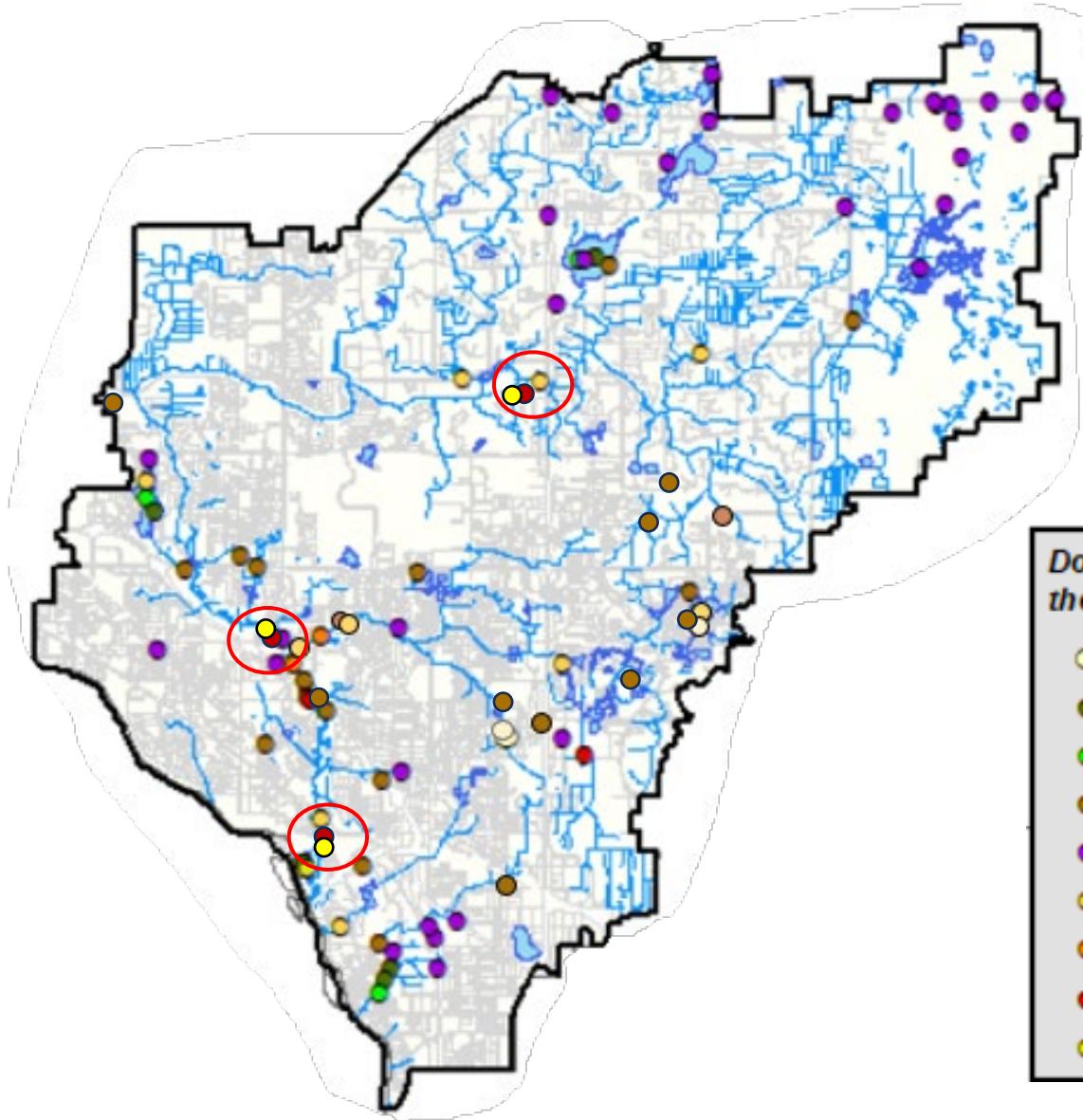


Invasive phragmites x9 (red pins)



Golden Clam & Rusty Crayfish
in Coon Creek

AIS Distribution



Documented Occurrences of AIS in the Coon Creek Watershed District

- Pale Yellow Iris
- Eurasian/hybrid watermilfoil
- Curlyleaf pondweed
- Phragmites australis
- Purple loosestrife
- Common carp
- Goldfish
- Rusty crayfish
- Golden Clam

AIS Management Efforts

1. Ongoing districtwide Phragmites Control Program
2. Eurasian watermilfoil/curlyleaf pondweed control led by local lake associations
3. New Purple Loosestrife Control effort 2025
4. Possible new MN Cattail Collaborative partner in 2026?



Invasive Phragmites Update

Date	# sites in CCWD	# sites in MN
2018	5	311
2019	12	389
2020	14 (7 active)	435
2021	16 (10 active)	570
2022	17 (12 active)	980
2023	18 (10 active)	1617
2024	19 (12 active)	2299
2025	28 (20 active)	2350 (thru June)

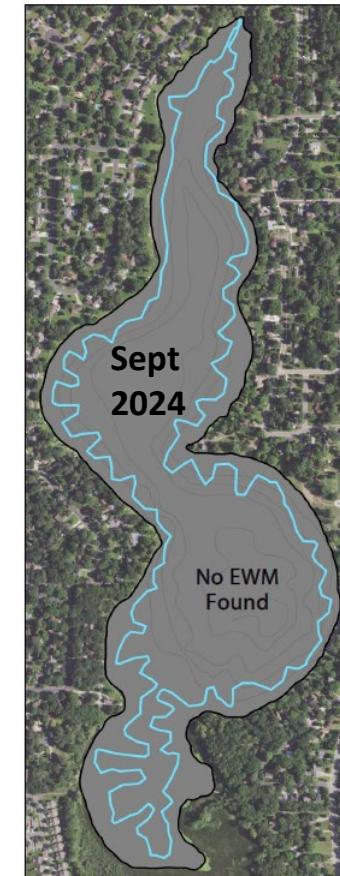
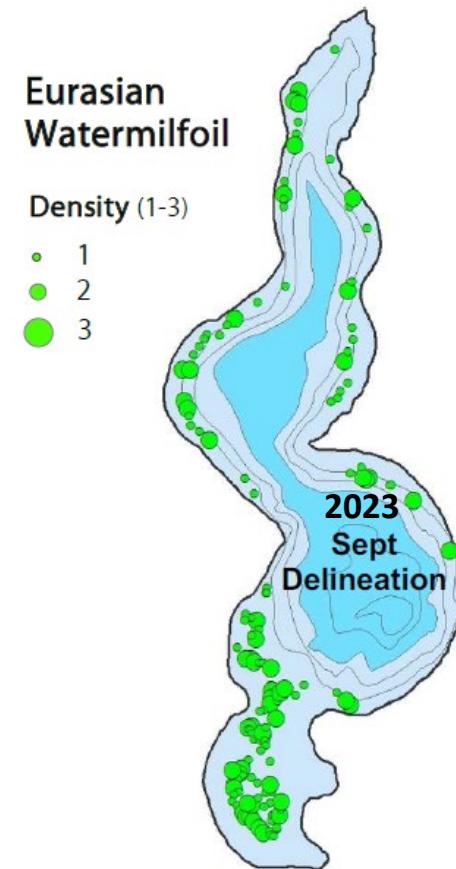
- Starting in 2019, all sites with live stems ("active") treated annually with herbicide
- As of 2025: 20 active sites, 8 sites eradicated
- ~75% of infested area successfully controlled
- Led by Anoka Conservation District staff
 - ~90% of cost covered by MDA & DNR grants
 - CCWD contributed \$1500 towards new sites in 2025
- CCWD staff monitor District sites annually to inform treatment decisions



Crooked Lake Hybrid Eurasian Milfoil Update



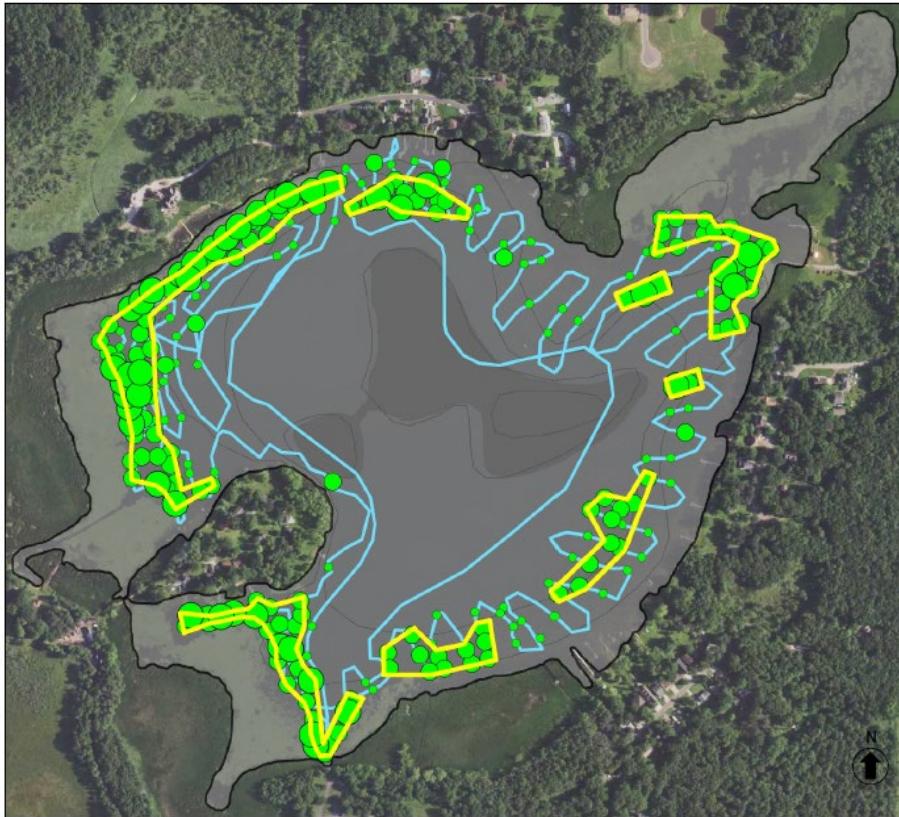
- The very successful 2016 experimental whole lake treatment protocol was repeated in Fall 2023 after 7 years of control
- No milfoil was found in 2024
- 3 acres of milfoil found in 2025, contained to southern bay
- Ham Lake attempted same treatment protocol in fall of 2024



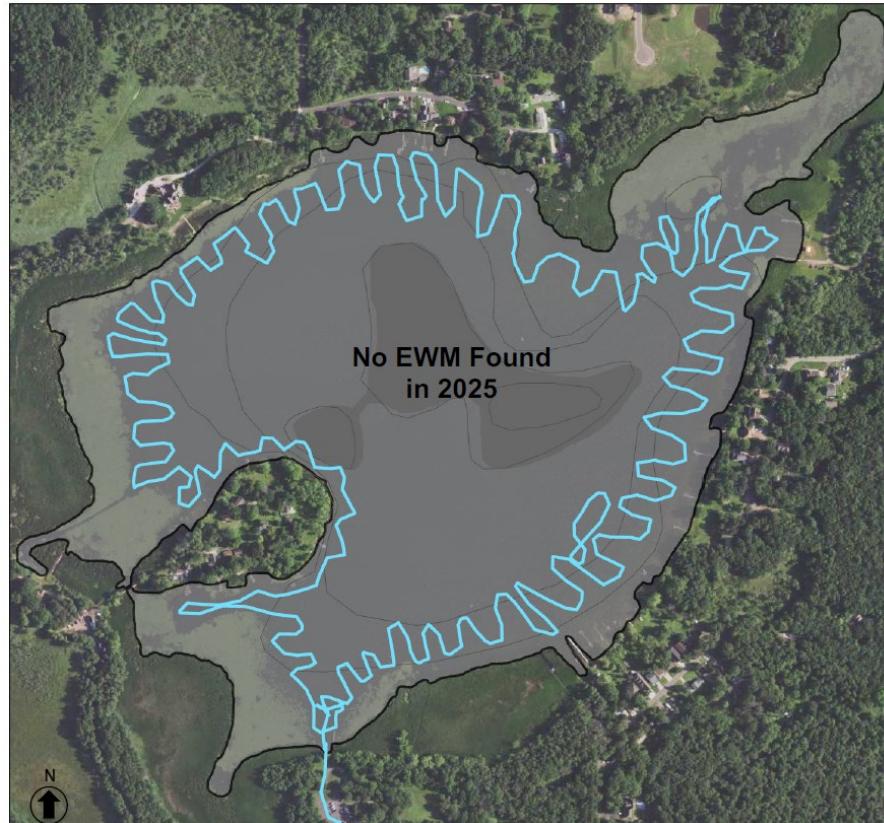
Ham Lake Hybrid Eurasian Milfoil Update



Ham Lake (#02-0053)
Eurasian Watermilfoil Delineation: 2024



Ham Lake (#02-0053)
Eurasian Watermilfoil Delineation: 2025



Invasive Purple Loosestrife Control

SKOL! Purple Loosestrife— We're Coming for You!

By: Coon Creek Watershed District (CCWD)



Photo Credit:
John D. Byrd, Mississippi State
University, Bugwood.org

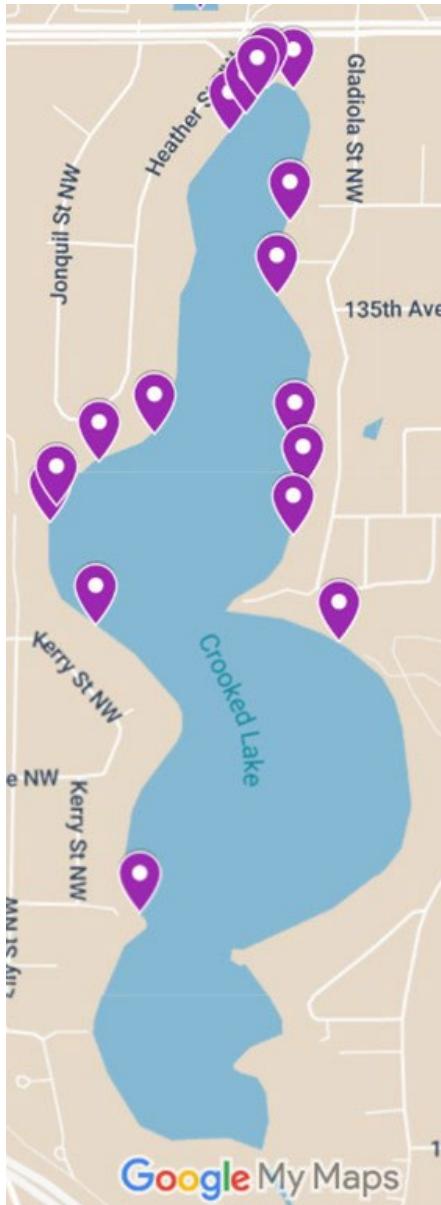
Despite its beauty, purple loosestrife is an aggressive invasive weed that can wreak havoc on our shorelines and wetlands. Purple loosestrife is not new to MN or Crooked Lake, but has recently been observed expanding into new areas.

To avoid further unwanted spread, we are asking Crooked Lake residents to help us locate and control purple loosestrife along your shoreline in 2025.

You can help by:

Locating and removing any purple loosestrife plants from your shoreline

1. Keep an eye out for purple flowering plants in Mid-July; see below for ID tips.
2. Carefully dig up the entire plant including roots, bag all material, and dispose of it in your fire pit or trash (not as yard waste which can



2022 © Peter M. Dziuk



MN Cattail Collaborative?

- A new program led by MN Sea Grant/MN AIS Research Center to advance applied research and management of invasive cattails in MN
- Currently seeking 25 field sites for 2026-27 pilot project to evaluate impacts of larger scale cattail removal on water quality and biota
 - Collect “pre-treatment” data in Summer 2026
 - Remove a large plot of cattails in Fall 2026
 - Collect “post-treatment” data in Summer 2027
- CCWD was asked to serve as a “management agency” partner to Ham Lake Lake Association
 - HLLA funds cattail removal (\$3-10K)
 - CCWD participates in data collection (equipment + a few hours staff time per month)



Key Takeaways

18* AIS currently at high risk of introduction and spread throughout the District

3 new species added to the list for 2026:

Grass carp, Brittle Naiad, Freshwater Jellyfish

New infestations of 3 existing priority species documented:

Phragmites x9, Rusty Crayfish, and Golden Clam

Management actions undertaken on a case-by-case basis depending on extent and severity of local impacts and feasibility, efficacy, and cost of control options

Ongoing Districtwide management of phragmites, small infestations of other target species, & providing assistance on Lake Association-led control projects continues to be successful!



Questions/Discussion

REQUEST

Receive annual AIS update



AGENDA

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS

February 9, 2026
5:30 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Announcements
4. Open Mic

CONSENT ITEMS

5. Approval of Minutes
6. Receive Administrator's Report
7. Advisory Committee Report
8. Bills/Accounts Payable

POLICY ITEMS

9. 2026 MS4 General Permit Comments

PERMIT ITEMS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

10. Annual Aquatic Invasive Species Update
11. 2026 Projects and Activities
12. Minnesota Watershed's Legislative Briefing
13. DNR Permit Application Completeness Meeting
14. Watershed Management Video

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

ADJOURN

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Board Room

Coon Creek Watershed District Offices

Monday, February 9, 2026

5:30 p.m.

Board of Managers:

Jim Hafner, President; Erin Lind, Vice President; Jason Lund, Secretary; Mary Campbell, Treasurer; Dwight McCullough, Member at Large

Note: Individuals with items on the agenda or who wish to speak to the Board are encouraged to be in attendance when the meeting is called to order.

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of the Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

3. Announcements

4. Open Mic/Public Comment

Members of the public at this time may address the Board, for up to three minutes, on a matter not on the Agenda. Individuals wishing to be heard must sign in with their name and address at the door. Additional comments may be accepted in writing. Board action or discussion should not be expected during the presentation of public comment/open mic. Board members may direct staff to research the matter further or take the matter under advisement for consideration at a future Board meeting.

CONSENT ITEMS

The consent agenda is considered as one item of business. It consists of routine administrative items or items not requiring discussion. Items can be removed from the consent agenda at the request of a Board member, staff member or a member of the audience.

5. Approval of Minutes of January 26, 2026

6. Receive Administrator's Report

7. Advisory Committee Report

8. Bills/Accounts Payable

POLICY ITEMS

9. 2026 MS4 General Permit Comments

PERMIT ITEMS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

10. Annual Aquatic Invasive Species Update

11. 2026 Projects and Activities

12. Minnesota Watershed's Legislative Briefing

13. DNR Permit Application Completeness Meeting

14. Watershed Management Video

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

ADJOURN

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS' MEETING

The Board of Managers of the Coon Creek Watershed District held their regular meeting on Monday, January 26, 2025, at the Coon Creek Watershed District Office.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM

Board Members Present: Erin Lind, Mary Campbell, Jason Lund, and Dwight McCullough.

Absent: Jim Hafner

Staff Present: Jon Janke, Erin Margl, Jason Hilst, Hattie Hillukka, and Michelle Ulrich

Zoom Attendees: Tyler Thompson

2. Approval of the Agenda

Administrator Janke clarified that a clerical error had been corrected in one of the Stipulations of Permit Item #8 and the corrected report is included in the Board Member's packets.

Board Member Lund moved to add permit items #8 and #9 to the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Board Member Campbell. The motion carried with four (4) yeas (Board Members Campbell, Lind, Lund, and McCullough) and no nays.

Board Member Lund moved to approve the amended agenda. Seconded by Board Member Campbell. The motion carried with four (4) yeas (Board Members Campbell, Lind, Lund, and McCullough) and no nays.

3. Announcements: No announcements

4. Open Mic/Public Comment: No comments

No one was present for comment.

CONSENT ITEMS

5. Approval of Minutes of January 12, 2026

6. Approval of Bills for Payment

Claims totaling \$249,440.15 on the following disbursement list will be issued and released upon Board approval.

Vendor	Amount
V0004--CITY OF HAM LAKE	5,000.00
V0005--LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES	2,497.00
V0024--CITY OF ANDOVER	31,580.00
V0027--CITY OF FRIDLEY	19,900.00
V0046--HOUSTON ENGINEERING INC	2,888.00
V0110--RESPEC COMPANY LLC	7,135.00
V0195--STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC	6,761.25
V0195--STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC	20,583.50
V0195--STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC	65,010.25
V0195--STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC	1,789.00
V0221--ABDO LLP	1,635.00
V0221--ABDO LLP	5,466.67
V0315--HFN PROPERTIES LLC	13,541.77
V0348--BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MN	23,015.98
V0350--FIRST UNUM LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	409.96
V0350--FIRST UNUM LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	133.50
V0351--DELTA DENTAL OF MN	1,579.29
V0352--HEALTH EQUITY INC	508.99
V0360--PAYLOCITY	518.35
V0362--PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION	7,733.05
V0363--MINNESOTA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM	1,215.00
V0421--RAMSEY-WASHINGTON METRO WATERSHED DISTRICT	1,999.20
V0422--PLAN IT SOFTWARE LLC	5,000.00
V0423--ACCENT HOMES INC	5,643.89
V0424--SHERMAN & ASSOC VENTURES LLC	5,368.75
V0424--SHERMAN & ASSOC VENTURES LLC	3,919.25
V0425--JON SANDBERG	8,607.50
	249,440.15

The following permit items were moved to the Consent Agenda.

8. Rivers Edge Business Center, P-25-039

The purpose of this item is the redevelopment of a commercial building, parking and associated stormwater management features located at 7350 Commerce Lane in Fridley, Minnesota.

The applicant is proposing the redevelopment of a parcel in Fridley to include a new commercial building, parking, and associated stormwater treatment pond. The project will disturb 15 acres and create 11.17 acres of regulated impervious. The area drains to Oak Glen Creek. The existing site has a history of flooding. There is a City owned and operated pond with an iron enhanced sand filter that is treating runoff from the existing site. The relevant water resource concerns are

stormwater management, soils and erosion control, and floodplain which correspond to District Rules 3, 4 and 6.

Based on the findings and exhibits as presented in the Staff Report, the staff recommendation was to Approve with three (3) Conditions and three (3) Stipulations.

Conditions to be Met Before Permit Issuance:

Rule 2.7 – Procedural Requirements

1. Submittal of a performance escrow in the amount of \$9,500.00.

Rule 3.0 – Stormwater Management

2. Provide proof of recording of a fully executed Operations and Maintenance Agreement for the perpetual inspection and maintenance of all proposed stormwater management practices after review and approval by the District.

Rule 4.0 – Soils and Erosion Control

3. Provide a standard detail for energy dissipation at pipe outlets.

Stipulations: The permit will be issued with the following stipulations as conditions of the permit. By accepting the permit, the applicant agrees to these stipulations:

1. The applicant must apply for coverage under the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA's) Construction Stormwater Permit (Permit No: MNR100001)
2. If dewatering is required, provide DNR dewatering permit prior to construction. If a DNR permit is not required, provide well-field location, rates, discharge location, schedule and quantities prior to construction.
3. Submittal of as-builts for the stormwater management practices and associated structures listed in Table 2, including volume, critical elevations and proof of installation for hydrodynamic separators.

9. Tractor Supply Ham Lake, P25-037

The purpose of this item is the construction of a new commercial building with parking and associated stormwater treatment features located at 16350 Johnson St NE Ham Lake, Minnesota.

The applicant proposes the construction of a new commercial building with parking and associated stormwater management features. The project will disturb 5.03 acres and create 3.02 acres of regulated impervious surface. The parcel drains to County Ditch 58. The relevant water resource concerns are stormwater management and soils and erosion control. These correspond to District Rules 3 and 4.

Based on the findings and exhibits as presented in the Staff Report, the staff recommendation was to Approve with three (3) Conditions and four (4) Stipulations.

Conditions to be Met Before Permit Issuance:

Rule 2.7 – Procedural Requirements

1. Submittal of a performance escrow in the amount of \$4,515.00.

Rule 3.0 – Stormwater Management

2. Provide proof of recording of a fully executed Operations and Maintenance Agreement for the perpetual inspection and maintenance of all proposed stormwater management practices after review and approval by the District.

Rule 4.0 – Soils and Erosion Control

3. Update the sediment and erosion control plan to include the following notes:
 - a. portable toilets should be secured.
 - b. hazardous materials and stormwater contaminants should be stored undercover cover and in sealed containers.

Stipulations: The permit will be issued with the following stipulations as conditions of the permit. By accepting the permit, the applicant agrees to these stipulations:

1. Submittal of as-builts for the stormwater management practices and associated structures listed in Tables 2 and 3, including volume, critical elevations and proof of installation for hydrodynamic separators.
2. Completion of a post construction infiltration test on the Detention Basin by filling the basin to a minimum depth of 6 inches with water and monitoring the time necessary to drain, or multiple

double ring infiltration tests to ASTM standards. The Coon Creek Watershed District shall be notified prior to the test to witness the results.

3. If dewatering is required, provide DNR dewatering permit prior to construction. If a DNR permit is not required, provide well-field location, rates, discharge location, schedule and quantities prior to construction.
4. The applicant must apply for coverage under the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA's) Construction Stormwater Permit (Permit No: MNR100001)

Board Member Campbell moved to approve the Consent Agenda items. Seconded by Board Member Lund. The motion carried with four (4) yeas (Board Members Campbell, Lind, Lund, and McCullough) and no nays.

POLICY ITEMS -none

PERMIT ITEMS

7. Crosstown Blvd & Bluebird St Roundabout, P25-044

The purpose of this item is the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Crosstown Blvd and Bluebird Street in Andover, Minnesota.

The City of Andover is proposing the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Crosstown Blvd and Bluebird Street in Andover, Minnesota. The project would disturb 2 acres and create 0.96 acres of regulated impervious, which is below the threshold requirement for stormwater management for a public linear project. The relevant water resource concern is soils and erosion control, which is District Rule 4.

Based on the findings and exhibits as presented in the Staff Report, the staff recommendation was to Approve with two (2) Conditions and two (2) Stipulations.

Conditions to be Met Before Permit Issuance:

Rule 2.7 – Procedural Requirements

1. Submittal of a performance escrow in the amount of \$3,000.00.

Rule 4.0 – Soils and Erosion Control

2. Update the sediment and erosion control plan to include the following:
 - a. a single row of perimeter control downgradient of disturbed soils.
 - b. provide standard details for erosion and sediment control devices.

Stipulations: The permit will be issued with the following stipulations as conditions of the permit. By accepting the permit, the applicant agrees to these stipulations:

1. If dewatering is required, provide DNR dewatering permit prior to construction. If a DNR permit is not required, provide well-field location, rates, discharge location, schedule and quantities prior to construction.
2. The applicant must apply for coverage under the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA's) Construction Stormwater Permit (Permit No: MNR100001)

Watershed Development Coordinator Erin Margl in response to Manager Lind's permit question explained the impervious surface changes that trigger rate control standards under District Rules.

Board Member Campbell moved to approve PAN P-25-044 Crosstown Blvd & Bluebird St Roundabout with two (2) Conditions and two (2) Stipulations as outlined with one clerical correction in the Staff Report. Seconded by Board Member Lund. The motion carried with four (4) yeas (Board Members Campbell, Lind, Lund, and McCullough) and no nays.

8. Rivers Edge Business Center, P-25-039– *(moved to Consent Agenda)*
9. Tractor Supply Ham Lake, P25-037– *(moved to Consent Agenda)*

DISCUSSION ITEMS

10. Administrator Transition Update

The purpose of this item is to provide an update on the Administrator transition, summarize initial areas of focus, and identify emerging issues, opportunities, and future discussion topics.

Jon Janke formally accepted the District Administrator position effective January 1, 2026. This update provides observations and focus areas from the first several weeks in the role.

Since starting in the Administrator role, stabilizing operations has been an area of work. Initial efforts have focused on maintaining continuity of day-to-day operations while addressing routine administrative and operational issues as they arise.

Secondly, initiating annual work planning discussions to better understand planned and budgeted 2026 activities. Meetings with each program helped to review tasks and responsibilities, reduce the risk of work falling through the cracks, and provide an opportunity to discuss pinch points and areas for improvement.

Staff are in the process of hiring a Project Manager, approved in the 2026 budget to address increased project management demand rather than replace an existing role. While restoring staffing capacity to better balance workload is time-sensitive, thoughtful evaluation is needed to ensure staffing decisions support both short and long-term agency effectiveness.

Looking ahead, there are anticipated areas of focus such as legislative coordination, partner engagement, and funding related efforts that may require additional Administrator attention. The near-term priority is to position operations and staffing in a way that allows time and capacity to focus on these efforts, with further discussion and direction to occur as appropriate.

NEXT STEPS

- Complete work planning and workload evaluation to clarify staffing needs and budget flexibility
- Continue Project Manager hiring and assessing options for addressing remaining capacity needs
- Return to the Board with updates or recommendations as staffing and budget considerations become clearer

11. Lower Coon Creek Inspection Report

Field Operations Services Manager, Jason Hilst presented the Lower Coon Creek Inspection Report. The purpose of this item is to identify and prioritize maintenance needs in the Lower Coon Creek area regarding flooding, water quality and wildlife habitat by using photos at surveyed points and points of interest.

Mr. Hilst reported the Lower Coon Creek is in fair/good condition with one immediate maintenance concern that is an obstruction.

Based on the findings and exhibits as presented in the Staff Report, the staff recommendation was to receive the report.

Board Member Lund moved to receive the report. Seconded by Board Member Campbell. The motion carried with four (4) yeas (Board Members Campbell, Lind, Lund, and McCullough) and no nays.

12. Ditch 41 Inspection Report

Jason Hilst presented the Lower Coon Creek Inspection Report. The purpose of this item is to identify and prioritize maintenance needs in the Ditch 41 Sand Creek area regarding flooding, water quality and wildlife habitat by using photos at surveyed points and points of interest.

Mr. Hilst reported Ditch 41 is in good/fair condition and there are 2 immediate maintenance concerns.

Based on the findings and exhibits as presented in the Staff Report, the staff recommendation was to receive the report.

Board Member Lund moved to receive the report. Seconded by Board Member Lind. The motion carried with four (4) yeas (Board Members Campbell, Lind, Lund, and McCullough) and no nays.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Lund moved to adjourn at 5:57pm. Seconded by Board Member Campbell. The motion carried with four (4) yeas (Board Members Campbell, Lind, Lund, and McCullough) and no nays.

President

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: February 9, 2026
AGENDA NUMBER: 6
ITEM: Administrator's Report

AGENDA: Consent

REQUESTED ACTION:

Receive report.

ADMINISTRATOR'S EVALUATION

District Capacity and Capability

Following the Administrator transition effective January 1, initial efforts have focused on stabilizing agency operations and working with staff to identify planned 2026 workload relative to existing funding, staffing, and consultant resources.

This review indicates that, while many program areas are generally aligned with available capacity and can be managed through prioritization and ongoing evaluation, other areas present capacity pinch points where workload and resources are not optimally aligned. Adjustments are being evaluated to address these areas.

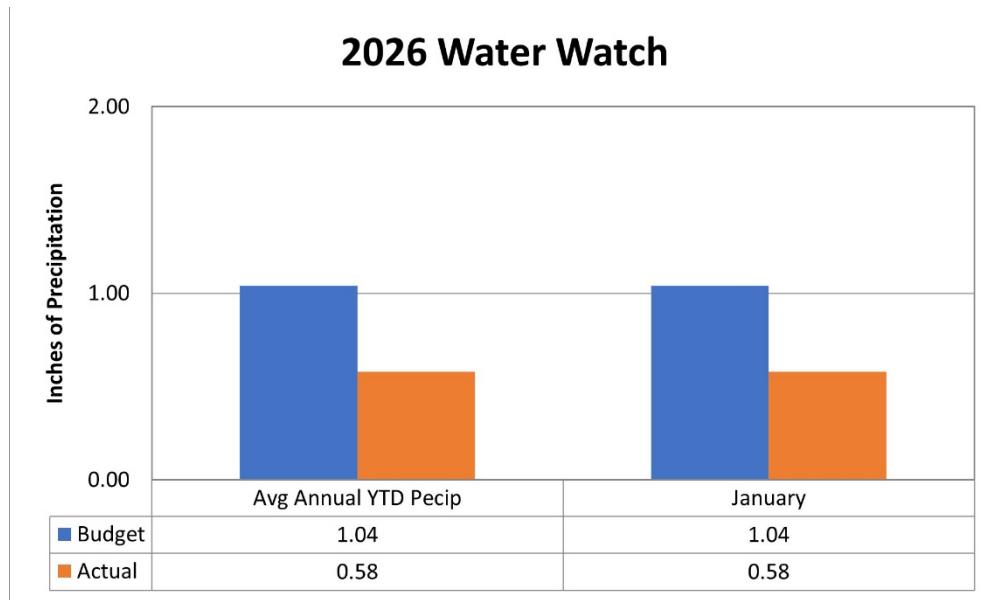
The addition of a Project Manager position, approved in the 2026 budget, is expected to help address some project management demands. Staff are also developing a broader staffing and capacity plan to inform future considerations, including existing vacancies, anticipated retirements, and future staffing needs.

MANAGEMENT SITUATION

Natural Environment

The District received an average of **0.6 inches** of precipitation (snow water equivalent) in the month of January. This puts the District *0.46 inches* (44%) below average for the month and year. January snowfall averaged 5 inches, with snowpack depths of 4 to 8 inches and snow water equivalent generally below 1 inch.

According to the latest [US Drought Monitor](#) release (Feb 5th), all of Anoka County is free of drought. Highly variable temperatures in January reduced snowpack and caused many streams and ditches to freeze over completely. Temperatures are expected to be above average in the coming weeks warranting attention to ice conditions in streams/ditches. It is still early to fully assess spring flood risk, but given minimal snowpack and low water conditions going into winter, the risk is currently low.



Economic Environment

According to Minnesota Management and Budget, net general fund revenues totaled \$2.1 billion in November, \$35 million (1.7%) more than forecast. Individual income tax, corporate franchise tax, and other revenues were all at or above forecast, while general sales tax revenues were slightly below. For fiscal year 2026, year-to-date receipts are now \$12.4 billion.

State general fund revenue reports for October–December 2025 will be included in Minnesota Management and Budget's January 2026 Revenue and Economic Update

Management Environment

Agency	Status
Federal Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The U.S. EPA has proposed revisions to Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification regulations aimed at clarifying the certification process and potentially affecting permit timelines and state roles, with public comment periods and anticipated 2026 rulemaking progress.
State Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minnesota legislators are considering water-quality and environmental priorities this session, including ongoing review of groundwater protection and nutrient management rules, potential Clean Water Fund investments, and related watershed planning and implementation support that may impact local watershed district operations.
Minnesota DNR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is coordinating with Minnesota Watersheds to discuss permit application completeness expectations and review timelines as part of broader efforts to improve permitting efficiency and consistency for water resource projects.
Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BWSR hired Josh Norman as the new Board Conservationist for the District, effective January 14, 2026, replacing Michelle

	Jordan. Staff plan to meet with Josh following the next TAC meeting.
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is reissuing the MS4 General Permit regulating municipal stormwater discharges. The current permit remains in effect until reissued, anticipated in late spring 2026, followed by updated application requirements and implementation timelines for permittees. Is now requiring state 401 water quality certification approval for bank stabilization projects over 100 feet, even when federal Army Corps permits are not required, lowering the previous 400 foot threshold and increasing review time, cost, and coordination for routine restoration projects.
Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MDA Seeks Public Comment on Groundwater Protection Rule, which includes restrictions on fall nitrogen fertilizer application
Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is advancing reconstruction of Highway 65 (97th–125th Avenues). Construction is planned to begin in 2026 and is anticipated to take approximately four years to complete, including safety, mobility, and drainage improvements.
Minnesota Watersheds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has been actively preparing for the upcoming legislative session, coordinating with lobbyists to advance legislative priorities adopted by member organizations in December and to support consistent messaging at the Capitol.

COLLABORATOR ACTIONS CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY

Collaborator	Description
Anoka County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has published a public notice of vacancy for upcoming appointments to the CCWD Board. The County administers the application, review, and appointment process for Board positions with expiring terms. Has reappointed Joe MacPherson to the CCWD Citizen Advisory Committee for 2026, continuing his role as the County's appointed representative.
Cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff continue meeting with city and county partners to build shared understanding around winter maintenance practices, focusing on opportunities to reduce salt use through improved techniques and technology while maintaining public safety and respecting the operational needs and expertise of maintenance staff.
Regional Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Metropolitan Council has initiated the next comprehensive plan cycle, which requires related agency plans to be updated for consistency. District staff are coordinating local water plan amendments so city, county,

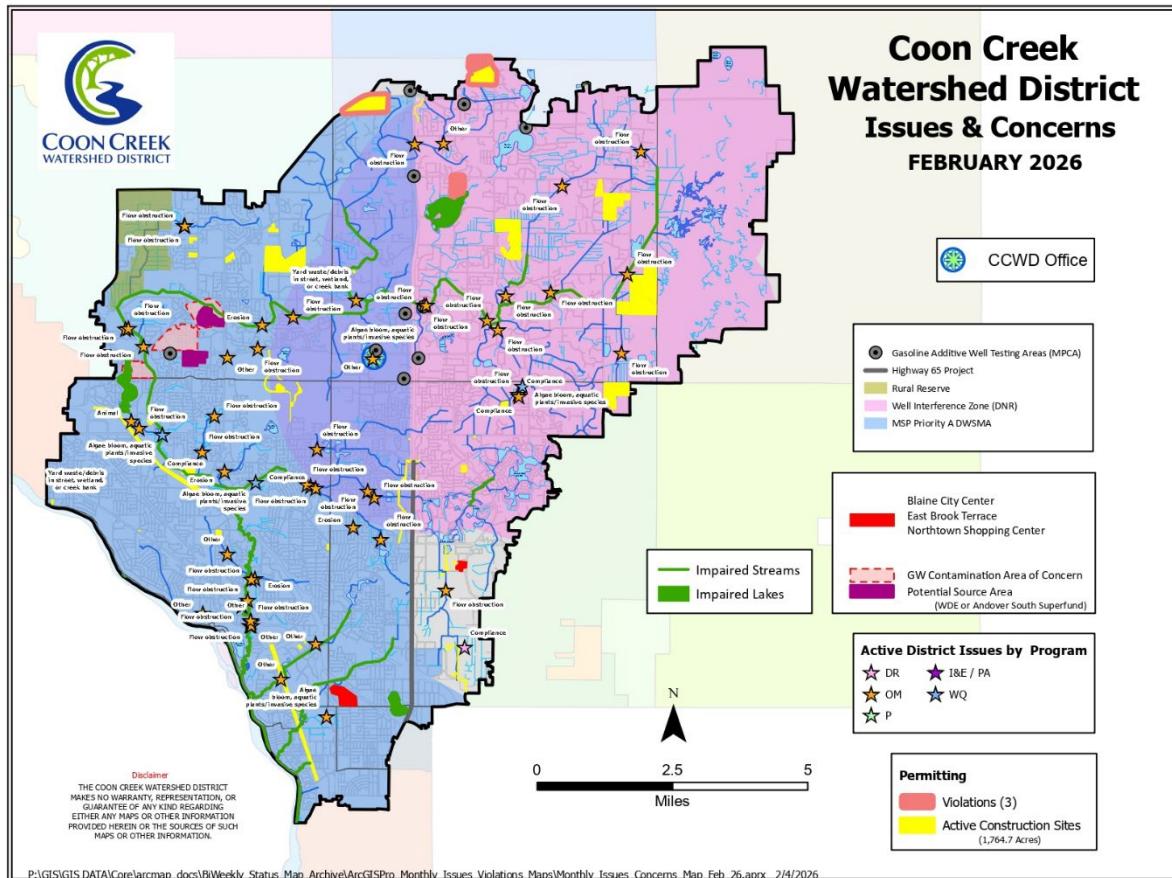
	Met Council, and CCWD plans are aligned through this process.
--	---

PROBLEMS, ISSUES, AND CONCERNS

Strategic Issues and Concerns

- **State Regulatory Inconsistency and Unevenness:**
 - Staff continue to experience increasing variability in state permitting implementation, including ongoing concerns with DNR permitting efficiency, the MPCA lowering the Section 401 certification threshold for bank stabilization projects to 100 linear feet, and DNR now requiring Public Waters permits in areas previously determined to need no permit. These areas meet the statutory definition of public waters but are not yet mapped as public waters. Historically, DNR issued “no permit needed” responses for projects in these areas. The shift to requiring permits affects project timelines, engineering scope, administrative effort, and costs, and may reflect evolving enforcement practices ahead of the upcoming DNR Public Waters Inventory update.
- **Minneapolis & St Paul Drinking Water Supply Area - Surface Water.**
 - No report

Operational Issues and Concerns



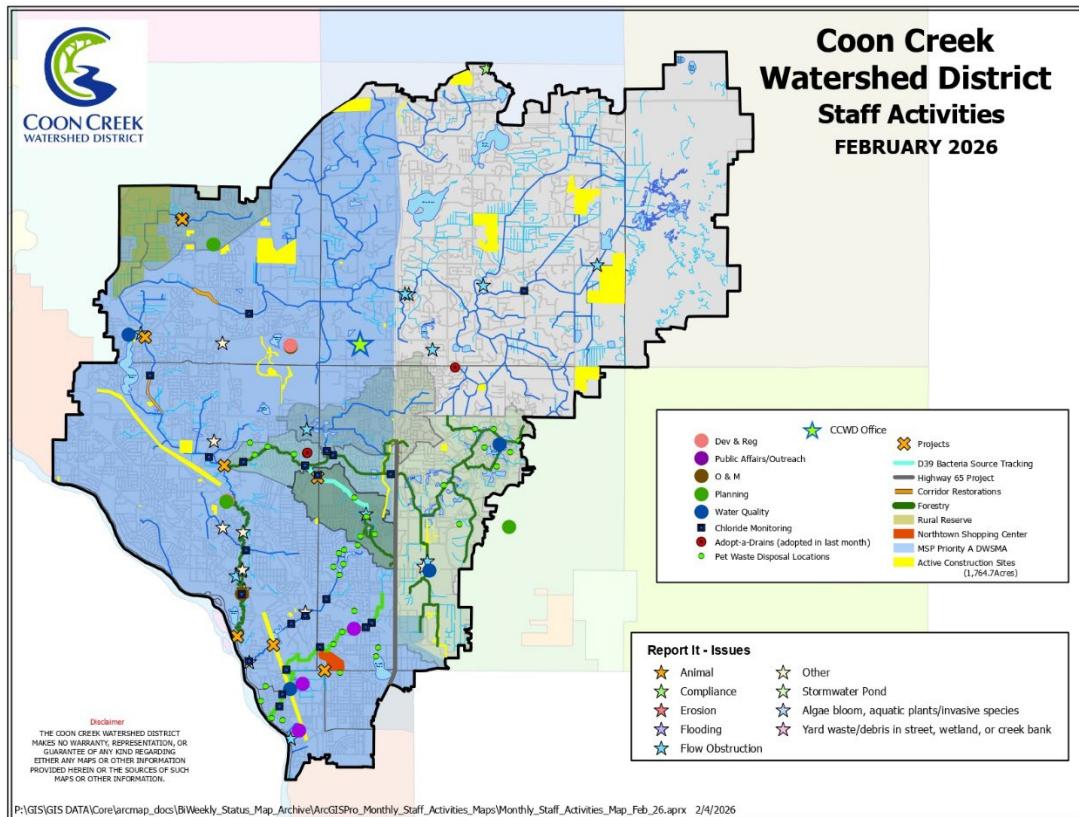
STAFF ACTIVITIES

Strategic Management Activities

- 1) **Goal: To Keep Comp Plan Current:** Staff are coordinating with the Metropolitan Council comprehensive plan update cycle to align local water plans with the District's adopted Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.
- 2) **Chloride reduction initiatives:** Winter Salt Awareness Week was January 26-30. The District completed its Grit Gritty campaign, successfully distributing salt alternatives and raising awareness of salt reduction practices. Staff continue coordination with the U.S. Geological Survey on groundwater modeling and the University of Minnesota on well monitoring to better understand chloride distribution, sources, and inform future mitigation strategies and potential chloride TMDL development.

3) **Ditch 39 Flood Modeling and Planning:** Staff applied for a \$177,236 MPCA planning grant (including a 10% local match) to expand flood modeling and planning in the Ditch 39 subwatershed. The project leverages existing District funds and responds to recent city needs. Based on the grant RFP timeline, funding decisions are anticipated in mid-February.

Operations Activities



DISTRICT CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY

Equipment:

- Equipment On Hand: Good condition
- Field and Hard Asset Condition:
 - Field assets are performing as expected
- Scheduled Equipment Purchases:
 - Annual water quality equipment repair and replacements-complete
 - Ford Ranger bed liner and topper installation-complete
 - Planning underway to initiate one fleet vehicle replacement in 2026

Facilities

- Winter rain resulted in sheet ice developing over parking lot. Required several days to clear.

Training

- Feb 5 DNR In-Person Floodplain Training, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Blaine Office
- Jan 27-29 Several staff attended the MN Erosion Control Association conference, Mankato

Staffing:

- Compliment & Strength: 12.8 FTEs
- Vacancies/New Hires: Assess staffing needs and solutions
- Project Manager/Watershed Restoration & Protection Coordinator: Conducting interviews.

Sustaining:

- Staff have completed most annual memberships and insurance renewals needed to maintain organizational services and program support, with a small number of less time sensitive items remaining.
- Stantec continues managing temporary staff availability changes. Coordination remains effective for now, and staff are monitoring the situation in case scheduling impacts emerge.

Benefits

- Some payroll and retirement reporting discrepancies from 2025 were identified and addressed.

Budget & Financials

- No significant budget or financial updates to report this month.

Coon Creek Watershed District CCWD - Budget Report

As of Date:

01/31/2026

	Year Ending 12/31/2026	Year To Date 01/31/2026				
	CCWD 2026 Budget	CCWD 2026 Budget	Actual Expenses	YTD	Variance YTD	
Revenue						
Property Taxes	6,924,414.00	577,035.00	57,856.41	519,178.59	-90%	
Fees & Charges	180,573.00	15,048.00	26,074.27	(11,026.27)	73%	
Grants	2,372,179.00	197,682.00	8,197.20	189,484.80	-96%	
Other Revenue	180,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	-100%	
Total Revenue	9,657,166.00	804,765.00	92,127.88	712,637.12	-89%	
Expense						
Salaries & Benefits	2,711,666.00	225,973.00	61,877.79	164,095.21	-73%	
Professional Services	527,084.00	43,923.00	7,848.35	36,074.65	-82%	
Operating Expenses	367,759.00	30,648.00	29,125.24	1,522.76	-5%	
Program Expense	6,713,313.00	559,446.00	82.00	559,364.00	-100%	
Capitalized Expenses	71,000.00	5,917.00	8.00	5,909.00	-100%	
Total Expense	10,390,822.00	865,907.00	98,941.38	766,965.62	-89%	

Created on : 02/04/2026 7:49 AM PST

Coon Creek Watershed District Cash Balance

As of Date:

01/31/2026

	Escrow Fund	General Fund	All Funds
	Month Ending	Month Ending	Month Ending
	01/31/2026	01/31/2026	01/31/2026
Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Cash	1,501,164.12	(1,871,656.36)	(370,492.24)
Petty Cash	0.00	250.00	250.00
Investment Account	20,570.00	6,792,425.56	6,812,995.56
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,521,734.12	4,921,019.20	6,442,753.32

Created on : 02/04/2026 7:49 AM PST

January started with an operational fund balance of approximately \$5,133,087.42

Change in net cash position was - \$212,068.22

Balance of the escrow trust fund is \$1,566,405.12

One month into the fiscal year, the budget variance is 0%

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: February 9, 2026

AGENDA NUMBER: 7

ITEM: Advisory Committees Report

AGENDA: Policy Discussion Information

ACTION REQUESTED

Receive Report

BACKGROUND

The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) met on January 14th. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on January 8th.

- The next CAC meeting is scheduled: February 11th from 4:30 p.m. hybrid with Zoom.
- The next TAC meeting is scheduled: February 12th at 8:30 a.m. hybrid with Zoom.

ISSUES/CONCERNS

Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

Half of the CAC was present at the meeting. Absent were Barbara Goodboe-Bisschoff, John Lilly, Gary Nereson, and Nathan Schneider

1. District Update

Jon Janke gave a brief update on various District activities including recent weather conditions and trends over the last year.

Jon introduced himself as the new District Administrator, taking over the role following the retirement of the previous Administrator, Tim Kelly. Jon has been with the District for 14 years in a variety of roles, most recently as Director of Operations. The CAC congratulated Jon on his new position.

Jon provided an update on the position of Water Restoration and Protection Coordinator. As mentioned at previous committee meetings, this is a project manager position that will primarily be in charge of developing project workplans and budgets, overseeing design and permitting, and managing construction activities.

2. Introduction to Subwatersheds

Erik Bye provided an overview of subwatersheds, including key terminology, what a subwatershed is, and how the District uses subwatersheds for planning and interagency coordination, modeling and source tracking, and water quality monitoring.

3. Pleasure Creek Spotlight

Erik Bye introduced the Pleasure Creek Subwatershed, stating that the subwatershed encompasses 2.8 square miles and has impairments for aquatic life. Many of the challenges the District faces with water management in this area stem from the fact that it was largely developed before modern day stormwater rules were put in place.

Erik walked the CAC through a virtual tour of the subwatershed, pointing out significant roadways, areas of interest, and notable landmarks in the area. Past projects in the area include the Pleasure Creek North and Pleasure Creek South Iron Enhanced Sand Filters that were constructed in 2019 and 2022 respectively.

There was general discussion about the recent pond work conducted by MnDOT near the intersection of HWY610 and HWY47.

Erik discussed recent chloride monitoring efforts undertaken in the Pleasure Creek Subwatershed, specifically groundwater monitoring. Pleasure Creek itself is impaired for chloride pollution which is putting stress on aquatic plants, animals, and insects while also affecting the turnover cycles in the water column due to changes in density.

There was general discussion about the different types of de-icers, the chemicals used, and how they are applied. Joe MacPherson shared some of the challenges the county has had with trying salt alternatives and some of the trade-offs those alternatives have.

Erik shared some discoveries from the District's groundwater chloride monitoring in the Pleasure Creek Subwatershed:

- Most streams exhibit high levels of chloride in the spring during snowmelt. However, monitoring data in the Pleasure Creek Subwatershed shows that chloride levels skyrocket during the summer in times of limited rainfall.
- These streams are largely fed by groundwater. The spike in chloride levels during the summer months, when rainfall is low, suggests that our shallow groundwater is also contaminated with chlorides.

Since making these discoveries, the District has partnered with a research team at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to conduct further in-depth monitoring of the area.

There was general discussion about the impacts of lawn fertilizers and the associated pollutants such as phosphorus and potassium. Jon Janke pointed out that many of our current best management practices, that address pollutants like phosphorus and potassium, are unable to address chlorides.

There was general discussion about the role public pressure, public perception, and public expectations have on municipal chloride use and how the Get Gritty Program may help encourage the public to adopt chloride alternatives.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The majority of the TAC was present at the meeting. Absent were Anoka Conservation District, the City of Columbus, the Department of Transportation, and the City of Spring Lake Park.

1. Announcements

Jon Janke provided updates on the CCWD Administrator and Project Manager positions. As of January 1, 2026 Jon Janke has taken over the role of District Administrator following Tim Kelly's retirement. The TAC congratulated Jon on his new role.

The District is currently accepting applications for the role of Water Restoration and Protection Coordinator through January 27th. The primary purpose of this role will be project management.

Mark Hansen announced that Bill Meek has left his position with Coon Rapids.

Jon Janke shared that BWSR has announced that Josh Norman will be the new Board Conservationist, replacing Michelle Jordan who left BWSR a few months back.

Rebecca Haug shared that Anoka County has been selected to host a Minnesota Sea Grant Science and Policy Fellowship from July 1st 2026 to June 30th 2027. This individual will be a graduate student and the position is paid for through the state.

Abby Shae shared that MDH will also be hosting a Minnesota Sea Grant Science and Policy Fellowship. They will be working primarily in the ambient monitoring program.

2. Situation

Hydrology

Jon Janke provided the TAC with a brief update on recent weather and hydrology, and asked TAC members to share how the season has been going.

Tim Himmer shared that Coon Rapids has been receiving a lot of calls and complaints from the public. The City has the same equipment, materials, and supplies they've had for the last several years and are addressing the roads the same way they always have, but it seems that public expectations are different. There are no perfect solutions when it comes to weather like this.

Dave Berkowitz shared that Andover hasn't received too many complaints but there has been a lot of salt put down.

Jim Kosluchar echoed the feedback from Tim and Dave. He added that many of Fridley's winter management practices are geared toward managing traditional-style snowstorms, but in recent years we've been seeing more ice-heavy storms, which require different management and preparation.

Megan Hedstrom shared that Blaine is ahead of schedule on the amount of salt used compared to previous years due to the icy conditions. Winter pond maintenance work has also been impacted. Weather conditions have kept the staff who would normally be conducting the maintenance work busy with plowing. This has pushed back a few maintenance projects.

Dave Krugler expressed similar issues for the Ham Lake crews.

Tyler Thompson reported on water levels throughout the District, stating that water is flowing in the lower reaches of the system and levels are average for this time of the year. There are some small obstructions, but no major issues at this time.

Legislative Update

Governor Walz announced he will not be seeking reelection, the state will also have a Senate and House seat up for election, as well as all of the Minnesota legislature. With all of this turmoil, getting things through the legislature will be a delicate balance.

3. Concerns

None.

4. Briefs

2026 Water Quality Cost-Share Program

Justine Dauphinais provided an overview of past projects funded by the cost-share program and asked for feedback and input from the TAC on the plans for 2026.

Since the program was introduced in 2019, it has helped fund 33 projects by 7 LGUs totaling \$868,566. The average grant award was around \$26,000.

Proposed changes for 2026 include an updated funding breakdown and proposed application deadlines of February 5th and August 26th. Other potential changes included increases to the max award, changes to the required match percentage, and updated categories and/or scoring rubric.

Rebecca Haug stated that the 50% match criteria is a pinch point for the County.

Tim Himmer stated that while a lower match percentage would be nice, it isn't a dealbreaker for them. Tim expressed his support for the proposed changes related to prioritizing chloride proposals.

There was general discussion about the potential use for street sweeping to target the removal of excess salt.

There was general discussion regarding eligibility for private entities. Justine confirmed that private projects could be eligible for these cost-share funds, but the cities would need to apply on their behalf.

View Justine's full presentation on the TAC Resource Webpage.

Chloride Tracking Follow-Up

Erik Bye reminded the TAC of the groundwater chloride presentation given at the November TAC mtg and the modeling work CCWD is undertaking with USGS. To help calibrate the USGS model, staff are looking to obtain historic chloride data from

Erik and Justine confirmed municipal contacts for this effort and plan to have one-on-one meetings with each city to obtain chloride info.

MS4 General Permit Reissuance

Jon Janke noted that the MPCA has released an initial pre-public draft of the revised MS4 general permit. Comments are due January 30th with the MPCA giving a presentation at the MECA conference on January 27th. However, the PCA has received pushback regarding the brevity of the comment period, including from the Minnesota Cities Stormwater Coalition (MCSC).

There was general discussion regarding PFAS language in the permit.

Justine Dauphinais touched on the topic of water quality trading. This is a new section added to the MS4 permit. This program will allow ‘trading’ between wasteload allocations (regulated sources) and load allocations (unregulated non-point sources). This is a big opportunity for projects in our area; however, the language in the permit is a bit convoluted. It is hard to say how easy or difficult ‘trading’ will be until we go through the process. Erik Bye noted that if are able to utilize this water quality trading program it could reduce the overall cost of achieving the TMDL by 30% due to the more cost-effective nature of streambank and wetland restorations.

Jim Kosluchar inquired about the potential for conducting a practice trade to see how the process will actually work.

Rebecca Haug noted her concern regarding the 90-day timeline for decision making and how that could impact project timelines.

Mark Hansen noted that he has read the permit redlines and found much of it to be convoluted.

There was general discussion regarding the past efforts Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) had with attempting to utilize credit trading.

Erin Margl highlighted a change in terminology on page 27, section 28.9, that has potential to cause issue depending on how it is interpreted. In the definition of construction activity, the language originally stated:

“pavement rehabilitation that does not disturb the underlying soils is not construction activity”

The new proposed language is:

“pavement rehabilitation that does not expose the underlying soils is not construction activity”

This change from using the word “disturb” to “expose” has the potential to cause issues for road projects and impact which projects need a permit. It is unclear how the MPCA and

their auditors interpret the difference between “disturb” and “expose.” This uncertainty in interpretation is the main reason for staff’s concern.

PWI Update

Erik Bye provided an update on the DNR’s Public Water Inventory (PWI) maps. They have finished updating draft maps for the first four counties. Based on CCWD review of posted drafts, it looks like their focus is mainly on adding watercourses, very few watercourses appear to have been removed. Many of the watercourses added to the PWI are public ditches. This is relevant to Anoka County due to the number of public ditches that are likely to meet the 2 sq/mi drainage definition.

5. Other Water Management Concerns

None.

RECOMMENDATION

Receive the report.

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: February 9, 2026

AGENDA NUMBER: 8

ITEM: Bills to Be Paid

FISCAL IMPACT: Budgeted

POLICY IMPACT: Policy

REQUEST

Approve bills

BACKGROUND

Claims totaling \$61,746.52 on the following disbursement(s) list will be issued and released upon Board approval.

Vendor	Amount
V0008--US BANK	17,894.46
V0010--A1 FLOOR AND CARPET CARE	1,119.30
V0026--CITY OF COON RAPIDS	3,170.00
V0054--MICHELLE J ULRICH PA	5,012.50
V0111--WELL GROOMED LAWNS INC	452.00
V0128--YTS COMPANIES LLC	12,777.50
V0242--METRO I NET	7,330.00
V0352--HEALTH EQUITY INC	768.99
V0362--PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION	7,865.02
V0363--MINNESOTA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM	1,215.00
V0427--LANDCO HOLDINGS OF MINNESOTA LLC	4,021.75
V0428--JESSICA LINDEMAYER	120.00
<u>61,746.52</u>	

Item 8: Bills to be Paid Page 2 of 3

Company name:	Coon Creek Watershed District									
Created on:	2/4/2026									
Vendor name	Bill number	Date	Fund name	Department name	Account	Capital Project ID	Grant ID	Transaction amount	Memo	
1302026										
MINNESOTA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM	01302026	2/2/2026	General Fund	Public & Governmental Affairs	60718			25.00	01302026 MSRS pgr	
MINNESOTA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM	01302026	2/2/2026	General Fund	Water Quality	60718			435.00	01302026 MSRS WQ	
MINNESOTA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM	01302026	2/2/2026	General Fund	Administration	60718			300.00	01302026 MSRS ADM	
MINNESOTA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM	01302026	2/2/2026	General Fund	Planning	60718			200.00	01302026 MSRS PLAN	
MINNESOTA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM	01302026	2/2/2026	General Fund	Watershed Development	60718			150.00	01302026 MSRS WD	
MINNESOTA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM	01302026	2/2/2026	General Fund	Operations & Maintenance	60718			105.00	01302026 MSRS OM	
Sumfor 01302026								1,215.00		
0226CCWD										
A1 FLOOR AND CARPET CARE	0226CCWD	2/2/2026	General Fund	Administration	61105			1,119.30	FEB 2026 CLEANING SERMCE	
Sumfor 0226CCWD								1,119.30		
27390										
WELL GROOMED LAWNS INC	27390	1/29/2026	General Fund	Administration	61250			452.00	CCWD-PLOW & SHOVEL JAN 2026	
Sumfor 27390								452.00		
3261										
METRO1NET	3261	2/1/2026	General Fund	Administration	63066			7,330.00	FEB 2026 IT SERVICES	
Sumfor 3261								7,330.00		
40629										
YTS COMPANIES LLC	40629	1/27/2026	General Fund	Operations & Maintenance	61549	PROJ-26-401		9,547.50	26 NONROUTMAINTD594 LAKE ANDOVER	
YTS COMPANIES LLC	40629	1/27/2026	General Fund	Operations & Maintenance	61251	PROJ-26-400		2,280.00	26 D&M FORESTRY D41 ISS-25-093 25-087	
YTS COMPANIES LLC	40629	1/27/2026	General Fund	Water Quality	63595	PROJ25-509		950.00	LCCCR FORESTRY	
Sumfor 40629								12,777.50		
Charge payoffs - 2791										
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			-42.59		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			14.86		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Water Quality	20020			20.00		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Operations & Maintenance	20020			26.80		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Water Quality	20020	PROJ24-519		28.99		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Water Quality	20020			31.66		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Operations & Maintenance	20020			33.88		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			34.23		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			36.75		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			38.78		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			45.00		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Public & Governmental Affairs	20020			47.00		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Water Quality	20020	PROJ24-519		53.01		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			66.93		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Public & Governmental Affairs	20020			71.82		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			72.66		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			82.79		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			86.45		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			108.53		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			112.38		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			136.64		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			144.16		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			146.33		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			158.75		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Public & Governmental Affairs	20020			168.12		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Water Quality	20020			210.00		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			256.97		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Public & Governmental Affairs	20020			285.05		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			295.52		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			300.00		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Public & Governmental Affairs	20020			302.18		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Planning	20020			330.00		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Public & Governmental Affairs	20020	PROJ24-619		358.00		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Public & Governmental Affairs	20020	PROJ25-601		470.11		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			511.84		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			533.48		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			699.37		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Public & Governmental Affairs	20020	PROJ23-602		859.20		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			1,052.44		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			1,162.04		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Watershed Development	20020			1,320.00		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Water Quality	20020	PROJ25-504		1,500.00		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			2,469.33		
USBANK	Charge payoffs - 2791	2/9/2026	General Fund	Administration	20020			3,255.00		
Sumfor Charge payoffs - 2791								17,894.46		
Jan-26										
JESSICALINDEM	JAN2026	1/29/2026	General Fund	Administration	61557			120.00	EE REIMB-NOTARY RENEWAL	
MICHELLEJULRCHPA	JAN2026	2/2/2026	General Fund	Administration	63453			5,012.50	LEGAL-JAN2026	
Sumfor JAN2026								5,132.50		
PAN23-075										
CITY OF COON RAPIDS	PAN23-075	2/9/2026	Escrow Fund	Administration	24210			3,170.00	ESCROW REF-COON CREEK TRAIL	
Sumfor PAN23-075								3,170.00		
PAN23-078										
LANDCO HOLDINGS OF MINNESOTA LLC	PAN23-078	2/9/2026	Escrow Fund	Administration	24210			3,100.00	ESCROW REF-SUITE LIVINGHAM LAKE	
LANDCO HOLDINGS OF MINNESOTA LLC	PAN23-078	2/9/2026	General Fund	Watershed Development	53191			921.75	REVIEW/REF-SUITE LIVINGHAM LAKE	
Sumfor PAN23-078								4,021.75		
SOMPER000835455										
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION	SOMPER000835455	2/2/2026	General Fund	Administration	21050			7,865.02	01302026 PERAPYRL	
Sumfor SOMPER000835455								7,865.02		
V2Q7IDC										
HEALTHTHEQUITYINC	V2Q7IDC	2/2/2026	General Fund	Planning	60713			144.23	01302026 HSAEE DEDUCTIONS	
HEALTHTHEQUITYINC	V2Q7IDC	2/2/2026	General Fund	Water Quality	60713			144.00	01302026 HSAEE DEDUCTIONS	
HEALTHTHEQUITYINC	V2Q7IDC	2/2/2026	General Fund	Watershed Development	60713			100.00	01302026 HSAEE DEDUCTIONS	
HEALTHTHEQUITYINC	V2Q7IDC	2/2/2026	General Fund	Public & Governmental Affairs	60713			73.07	01302026 HSAEE DEDUCTIONS	
HEALTHTHEQUITYINC	V2Q7IDC	2/2/2026	General Fund	Administration	60713			307.69	01302026 HSAEE DEDUCTIONS	
Sumfor V2Q7IDC								768.99		
SumTotal								61,746.52		

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: February 9, 2026
AGENDA NUMBER: 9
ITEM: 2026 MS4 General Permit Comments

AGENDA: Policy

REQUEST

Authorize staff to submit the attached letter providing comments on the early draft 2026 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permit

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is currently accepting comments on an [early draft version of the proposed 2026 MS4 General Permit](#). Staff are seeking authorization to submit comments as part of this pre-public notice review period through February 13, 2026.

BACKGROUND

The District was designated as a non-traditional Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) in 2004 under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program. This designation is related to the District's role in operating stormwater conveyance and drainage features, including portions of the public ditch system, that convey stormwater to receiving waters consistent with the Federal Clean Water Act.

In Minnesota, the NPDES program is administered by MPCA through five-year permit cycles. The 2020 MS4 General Permit expired on November 15, 2025, but coverage was extended until the next permit is issued with a target date of late spring 2026. The MPCA is currently seeking stakeholder input on an early draft of the 2026 MS4 General Permit during a pre-public notice period through February 13th. There will be a formal public notice period to follow.

The MPCA is requesting the following information be submitted via email:

- 1) Your interest in the permit
- 2) The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the permit item(s) you believe should be changed
- 3) The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the positions

COORDINATION

Each District staff member responsible for administering portions of the permit have reviewed applicable sections of the early draft MS4 General permit. Questions and concerns were compiled, shared, discussed, and refined at the District's Technical Advisory Committee Meeting on January 8th, 2026 and at the Countywide MS4 taskforce meeting on January 13th, 2026. Staff also attended the MS4 permit update session hosted by MPCA at the 2026 Minnesota Erosion Control Association (MECA) Conference. The attached comment letter reflects outstanding questions and concerns staff would like addressed by MPCA permit staff.

ISSUES/CONCERNS

Staff attended the MECA pre-conference training session covering updates to the MS4 Permit hoping to gain clarity on some of the new provisions and for an opportunity to ask questions of MPCA permit staff. Unfortunately, staff left this session with more questions than answers, prompting a greater need to participate in the stakeholder input gathering process.

OPTIONS

1. Authorize staff to submit the attached letter providing comments on the early draft 2026 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permit
2. Authorize staff to submit comments with the following revisions:
3. Do not authorize staff to submit comments

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize staff to submit the attached letter providing comments on the early draft 2026 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permit

February 9, 2026

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Municipal Stormwater Unit
520 Lafayette Road North
Saint Paul, MN 55155
Ms4permit.pca@state.mn.us

Re: Early draft MS4 General Permit Comments

Dear MPCA permit staff:

The Coon Creek Watershed District (CCWD) appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the Early draft 2026 MS4 General Permit. As a non-traditional MS4 working jointly with our municipal partners, we share a common desire for effective and efficient management of regulated stormwater to protect and restore our receiving waters. The following are our comments organized by Minimum Control Measure (MCM):

MCM 1 Public Education and Outreach

16.8 subpart b. We request MPCA remove the requirement to document quantities and dates of educational materials distributed. It is an onerous task to keep track of quantities of materials distributed over time and often does not reflect the quality of engagement. We feel this is also redundant with 16.8 subpart c which requires estimated audiences reached per outreach activity.

MCM 2 Public Participation/Involvement

MCM 3 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

MCM 4 Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

19.12 "The Permittee must implement a written checklist to document each site inspection... At a minimum, the checklist must include the permittee's inspection findings on the following areas... h. owner/operator of construction activity self-inspection records.

We request deleting item h as this has been a point of contention in our past inspections and feel it should be enforced by MPCA staff under the Construction Stormwater General Permit Item 11.12. Asking for records which we do not enforce changes the tone of the inspection and can strain the relationship between site managers and inspection staff.

MCM 5 Post-Construction Stormwater Management

MCM 6 Pollution Prevention/ Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

21.13 "The Permittee must evaluate whether the permittee applies pesticides outdoors that contain one or more ingredients which meet the definition of PFAS..."

We request the MPCA provide further clarification on this new requirement. What does such an evaluation entail? Does this apply only to pesticides applied directly by permittee staff or also by contractors? We have hired certified pesticide applicators to control target species, but do not dictate the selection of chemicals. It is our understanding that the

Minnesota Department of Agriculture regulates pesticide use including record-keeping requirements.

Section 22 Discharges to Impaired Waters

General: At the MECA Pre-Conference session covering updates to the MS4 permit, the MPCA presenter indicated that no BMPs constructed to meet NPDES permit requirements, including for redevelopment or road reconstruction projects, would be eligible for TMDL WLA credits. Can you clarify that BMPs constructed after the applicable TMDL baseline year that receive runoff from existing or fully reconstructed impervious surface, despite being required to meet today's stormwater management rules, are indeed eligible towards achieving applicable WLAs (i.e., see 22.5 subpart a). If not, this creates a major disincentive to thoroughly pursuing and exhausting all options to meet and exceed stormwater treatment requirements as part of municipal redevelopment and reconstruction projects.

22.3 Unlike for structural BMPs where applicants are required to provide an estimate of TSS and/or TP load reduction (subpart a), this is not required for non-structural BMPs (subpart b). Can the MPCA clarify that TSS and/or TP load reductions calculated for non-structural BMPs such as enhanced street sweeping can be reported and are eligible towards achieving applicable WLAs. We feel strongly that enhanced street sweeping is an effective and efficient BMP for reducing TSS and TP and that eligibility towards meeting WLAs is an important incentive for implementing enhanced sweeping programs.

22.4 Is a calibrated Soil & Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) model considered an Agency-approved method for determining estimated TSS and TP load reductions? If not, we request that SWAT be added to the list of Agency-approved methods as we have found it performs better compared to approved models like P8 for drainage systems with significant in-channel and in-line pond pollutant loading sources. SWAT outputs, on a daily timestep, are also easier to compare against complex TMDL WLAs calculated as daily loads across stream flow regimes versus summarized annual load reduction estimates from simplified calculators.

Section 23 Water Quality Trading

General: CCWD is in favor of establishment of a water quality training program; we especially appreciate the flexibility of allowing applicants to develop a preliminary trade plan that includes a single project, multiple projects, or a trading program.

23.6 Can a trading plan be approved any time prior to construction of a trading project or is there a maximum allowable period between approval of the plan and construction of the BMP?

Other

3.3 Prior to authorizing a non-stormwater discharge... the permittee must consider factors such as volume, temperature, suspended solids, pH, and concentration of any chemical additives in the discharge, such as chlorine/chloramine in potable water..."

We request the MPCA clarify what it means to consider these factors and how to document consideration for common occurrences like residential irrigation, hydrant flushing, etc.

28.9 ...“Pavement rehabilitation that does not ~~disturb~~ expose the underlying soils (e.g., mill and overlay projects) is not construction activity”

In defining "Construction Activity", we recommend retaining the original language of "disturb" versus "expose" as this is a more straightforward threshold to evaluate and enforce. We also value consistency between the MS4 General Permit and Construction Stormwater Permit.

Finally, CCWD staff acknowledges the significant undertaking by MPCA staff to develop an eService for annual reporting under this permit. We ask that prior years of deferred reporting under the 2020 MS4 General Permit be forgiven to focus on learning this new reporting system and making improvements to record-keeping going forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jim Hafner
Board President

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: February 9, 2026

AGENDA NUMBER: 11

ITEM: 2026 Projects and Activities

AGENDA: Discussion

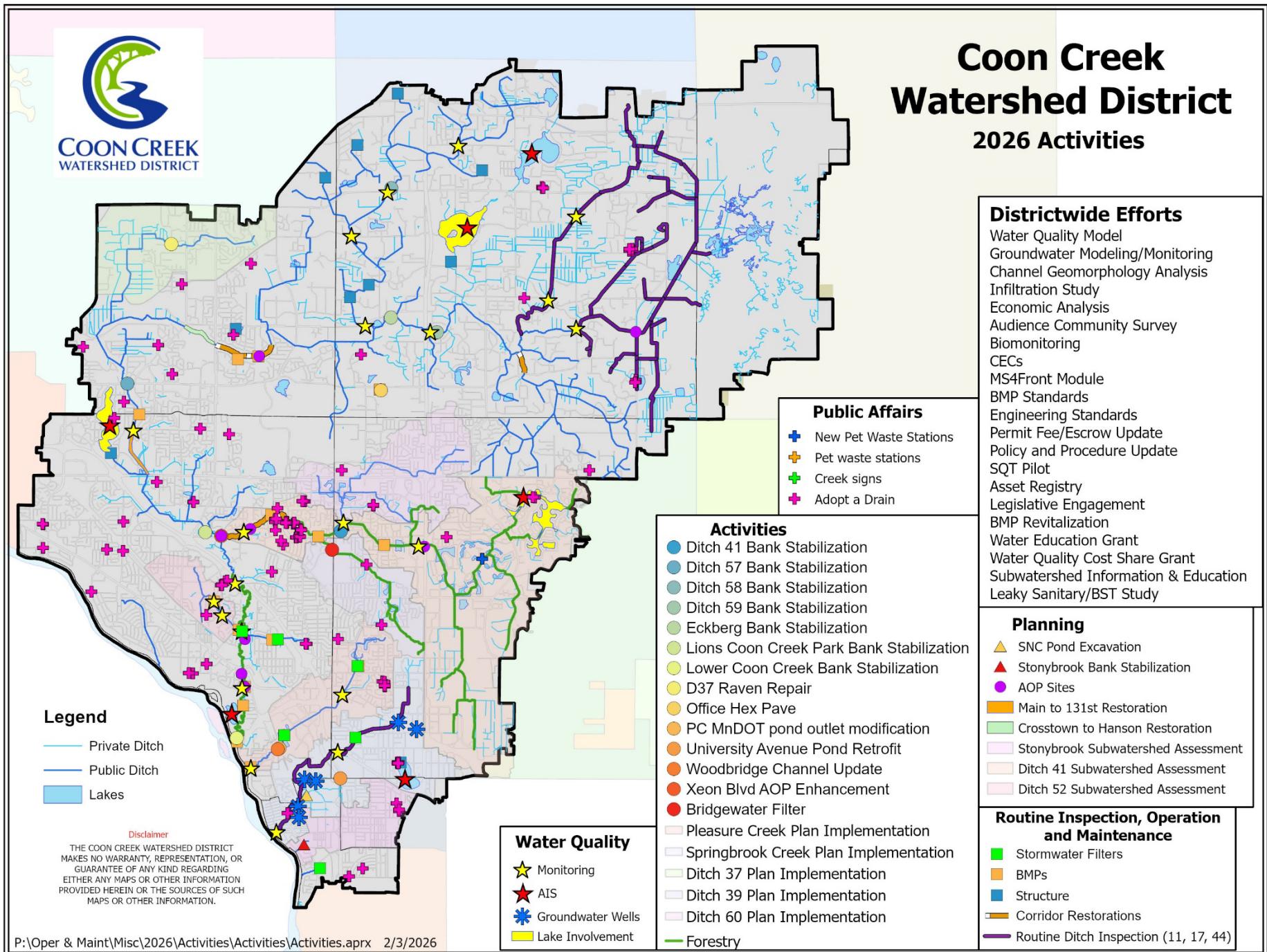
ACTION REQUESTED

None

BACKGROUND

On December 8, 2025, the Board approved the District's 2026 budget and associated activities.

This map provides a visual overview of the planned 2026 activities. Illustrating the distribution of activities across the District. includes monitoring, planning, projects, grants, inspections, and maintenance. It is intended to serve as a general update and reference. Not all District responsibilities are location-based or reflected on the map.



COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MEETING DATE: February 9, 2026

AGENDA NUMBER: 12

ITEM: MN Watersheds Legislative Briefing

AGENDA: Discussion

ACTION REQUESTED

Identify any Board members interested in attending the Minnesota Watersheds 2026 Legislative Briefing so staff can coordinate registration and participation.

PURPOSE

Provide awareness of the upcoming Minnesota Watersheds Legislative Briefing and facilitate discussion regarding potential Board attendance.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

Minnesota Watersheds has scheduled its annual Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol for March 3-4, 2026, in St. Paul. This annual event provides participating watershed organizations with legislative updates, opportunities to engage with state agencies and legislators, and time to discuss active legislative priorities.

Registration is \$106.29 for the entire event.

Staff is requesting to identify any Board members who plan to attend so registration and participation can be coordinated and to confirm whether Board attendance may constitute a quorum, in which case staff will provide public notice consistent with open meeting law requirements.

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MEETING DATE: February 9, 2026
AGENDA NUMBER: 13
ITEM: DNR Permit Application Completeness Meeting

AGENDA: Discussion

ACTION REQUESTED

Identify any Board members interested in attending a free February 25 meeting with the DNR on permit application completeness.

PURPOSE

Provide awareness of an upcoming virtual interagency meeting and allow staff to coordinate Board attendance in advance.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

In December 2025, Minnesota Watersheds met with the MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR) during which the DNR provided an update on an internal presentation given to DNR permit writers on permit application completeness expectations. MN Watersheds requested the DNR give the presentation to MN Watersheds members.

MN Watersheds has scheduled a free virtual meeting for Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. to present the DNR permit application completeness expectations and associated review timelines. The meeting is open to watershed board members, administrators, staff, and engineers from participating organizations.

Staff is requesting to identify any Board members who plan to attend this virtual meeting so that meeting access information can be shared directly and to confirm whether Board attendance may constitute a quorum, in which case staff will provide public notice consistent with open meeting law requirements.

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

MEETING DATE: February 9, 2026
AGENDA NUMBER: 14
ITEM: Watershed Management Videos

AGENDA: Discussion

ACTION REQUESTED

None

PURPOSE

Provide Board members with accessible watershed management training resources to strengthen understanding of District roles, responsibilities, and governance and support more informed decision making.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

In December 2025, a video series developed by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for members of local government boards and commissions was shared with the Board.

At the January 12, 2026, Board meeting, the Board expressed interest in reviewing the video series at future meetings as time allows. This staff report is intended to serve as a standing reference so the Board may review the videos incrementally over time.

[Who's Who? An Overview](#) {4:29} Minnesota's water management involves multilevel partnerships—federal, tribal, state, and local governments, as well as others.

[Who's Who? Local Governments](#) {9:15} Minnesota's local governments for water management include municipalities, counties, soil and water conservation districts, and watershed authorities, each with unique funding, skills, relationships, and terminology.

[Who's Who? State Agencies](#) {12:00} Minnesota's state water agencies—BWSR, DNR, MDA, MDH, MPCA, and Met Council—collaborate on conservation, regulation, monitoring, grants, and planning for surface/groundwater quality and quantity, often overlapping to support local governments.

[Who's Who? BWSR](#) {5:03} The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), with a 20-member governor-appointed board and 130 staff, partners with locals via grants, conservation easements, wetland regulation, and water plan reviews to protect Minnesota's land, water, and wetlands.

[What is a Watershed?](#) {8:06} A watershed is land that drains to a common water body. Key concepts: land-water connections, nested scales, and relationship to political units for watershed management.

[Watershed Authorities: Types and Statutes](#) {11:57} Minnesota's watershed management authorities include watershed districts, joint powers WMOs, and county-based WMOs—each shaped by chapters 103B and 103D—to address water issues across natural boundaries.

[Watershed Authorities: Purpose and Power](#) {8:56} Watershed authorities are special purpose units of government with powers including tax levies, planning, rules, and contracts under chapters 103B and 103D.

[Watershed Authorities: Boards and Policies](#) {7:45} Boards are appointed by counties or cities and they have specific their policy-setting duties and governance responsibilities.

[Watershed Authorities: Structure and Roles](#) {10:41} Clearly defined roles for boards, administrators, are important for effective watershed operations.

[Watershed Authorities: Meetings, Committees, and Public Input](#) {11:12} Boards must follow open meeting laws, use advisory/technical committees for input, hold public hearings, and ensure data access.

[Watershed Authorities: Budgeting and Finance](#) {10:13} The budget must connect to the watershed plan and be developed with public input, implemented through a statutorily defined fund structure, and audited annually.

[Watershed Authorities: Planning](#) {12:54} The plan is a process with robust public involvement and a product, based on science, that clearly signals goals and intended actions.

[Watershed Authorities: Implementation](#) {9:54} Watershed authorities execute plans through projects (e.g., flood control, restorations), regulations via permits and rules under and programs like cost-share, outreach, monitoring.

Additionally, the Anoka Conservation District has produced similar videos related to general watershed management.

[ACD Our Watershed and Stormwater Connection](#) {9:56} This video explains complex concepts about watersheds and stormwater in simple terms using engaging animation. It's beneficial for all ages, from an elementary classroom to a city council chamber. Learn what watersheds are, why they are important, and some of the challenges watershed managers face. This ties into stormwater management and what public officials are doing to prevent flooding and improve water quality as well as what we all can do to become part of the solution.