

**Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Organization
Education and Outreach Plan
2022-2030**



Adopted on xx, xx, 2022

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Introduction

The Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (CRWJPO) was created in 2019 to bring together local government units within the Cannon River Watershed for planning, approving, and implementing a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (CWMP). The Cannon River Watershed Planning Area involves portions of Dakota, Goodhue, Le Sueur, Rice, Steele, and Waseca counties.

A 10-year CWMP was approved by the State of Minnesota and adopted by the Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Board (CRWJPB) on October 7, 2020. Within this adopted CWMP, a number of education and outreach activities were identified to engage citizens and stakeholders for increasing implementation of water quality practices throughout the Cannon River Watershed Planning Area. More information regarding the Cannon River Watershed Planning Area and the CWMP can be found at <http://www.riceswcd.org/cannon-river-comprehensive-watershed-plan/>

One activity identified in the CWMP was development of an Education and Outreach Plan that identifies partnerships, recognizes existing efforts and past successes, is implemented in conjunction with other entities and takes a regional approach. Education and outreach will be an important component for advancing the desired outcomes identified in the CWMP.

At the time the CWMP was developed, uncertainty existed with who would be able to coordinate each education and outreach activities identified in the CWMP, how the activities would be implemented, what funding sources would be eligible and how the activities would be measured. This Plan will serve as a road map for the Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Board and Member staff to help identify the entity who will be responsible for the education and outreach activities listed in the CWMP and the process used for both implementing the activity and defining the expected outcomes.

This Education and Outreach Plan was funded through Membership Dues of the CRWJPO and can be amended by the Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Board at any time.

Purpose

Development of the CWMP involved a citizen and stakeholder engagement process that resulted in water management goals, actions, and priorities for the Cannon River Watershed Planning Area. The purpose of this Education and Outreach Plan is to:

- Evaluate existing education and outreach efforts among Members, stakeholders and partners
- Clarify action steps needed to advance implementation goals of the CWMP
- Identify partnerships that can assist with implementing education and outreach activities
- Establish preliminary expenses for education and outreach activities and eligible funding sources
- Clarify methods used to evaluate and measure outcomes of education and outreach activities identified in the CWMP
- Create a process for effective communication among members, stakeholders and partners that advance the identity of the CRWJPO and the accomplishments of all partners.

This Education and Outreach plan is not intended to identify specific program information. Education and outreach information used to pursue each action step to advance the implementation goals of the CWMP will be developed independently and will be an adaptive process.

Education and Outreach Activities

The CWMP listed 39 education and outreach activities under twelve different priority concerns. Each priority concern has been listed to provide the general goal of implementation activities, geographical area of focus, existing efforts occurring, funding source that will be used to implement action steps and anticipated cost, responsible party to accomplish goal and how each goal will be reported and measured. The intention is to clarify language in the CWMP and develop a process to carry out the listed education is outreach activities.

Process for Partner Communications

All press release, event flyers, and other outreach materials created by staff and contracted parties for the purpose of communicating CWMP events and programs will be sent to the Education and Outreach (E/O) Host (Rice SWCD) for approval.

Press Releases- The E/O Host will send press release to media outlets in the watershed after approval. Press releases will also be published on the CRWJPO website. The E/O Host will also send press releases as links to the CRWJPO, Cannon Implementation Group (CIG), Technical Advisory Committee (TAG), and Education and Outreach Committee (EOC). Members are encouraged to post these links on their website or in their local newsletters by linking to the post on the CRWJPO website.

Social Media – The E/O Host and Plan Administrator (Rice SWCD) will be administrators of the CRWJPO Facebook page. Press releases, events, and program implementation photographs will be shared on the Facebook page. District, county, and stakeholder organizations will be tagged in posts with hopes that they will share content to their Facebook pages.

Statistics from the webpage and Facebook page will be collected quarterly and reported to the CRWJPB annually.

Handling External Requests

Speaking Requests - Local SWCDs and counties may field inquiries from civic groups, schools, and other organizations to talk locally about the CWMP. Staff may speak to those requesting presentations about the plan and implementation activities. Dates of presentations as well as audience numbers should be reported to the E/O Host.

As developed under this plan, staff may use the CRWJPO Powerpoint presentation and table display for field days, fairs, and other events. The display can be checked out from the E/O Host, Rice SWCD.

Limitations of the E/O Plan The goals stated in this plan are limited by the funding available to pay for materials, staff time, and other expenses. **The CIG Committee prioritizes the goals of the plan yearly and chooses several to accomplish.** Efforts will be made, as staff time allows, to seek additional funding to accomplish the goals of this plan.

Acronyms

1W1P	1 Watershed 1 Plan
BWSR	Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources
BMP	Best Management Practice
CIG	Cannon Implementation Group
CLID	Clear Lake Improvement District
CRP	Clean River Partners
CRWJPO	Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Organization
CRWJPB	Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Board
CWMP	Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan
DWSMA	Drinking Water Supply Management Area
E/O	Education/Outreach
EOC	Education and Outreach Committee
GRAPS	Groundwater Restoration and Protection Strategies Report
JAA	Job Approval Authority
LGU	Local Government Unit
LID	Low Impact Development
MDA	Minnesota Department of Agriculture
MDH	Minnesota Department of Health
MPCA	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
MRWA	Minnesota Rural Water Association
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
SWCD	Soil and Water Conservation District
TAG	Technical Advisory Group
TSA	Technical Service Area
WBIF	Watershed Based Implementation Funding

Maps (Figures Referenced in this plan)

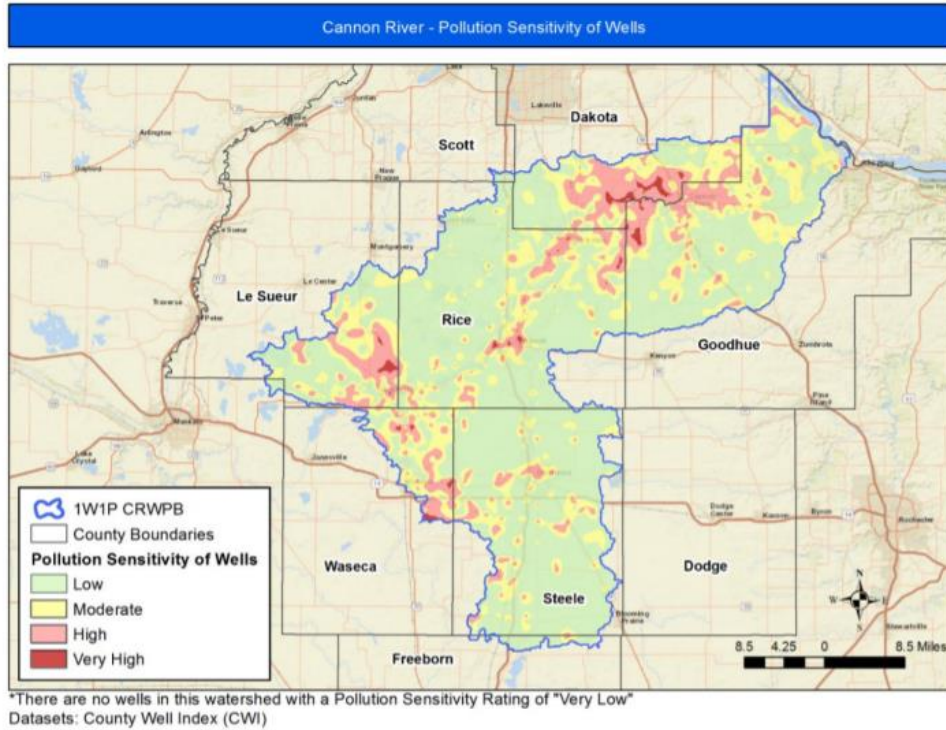


Figure 10: Cannon River Watershed Planning Boundary-Geologic Sensitivity of Wells

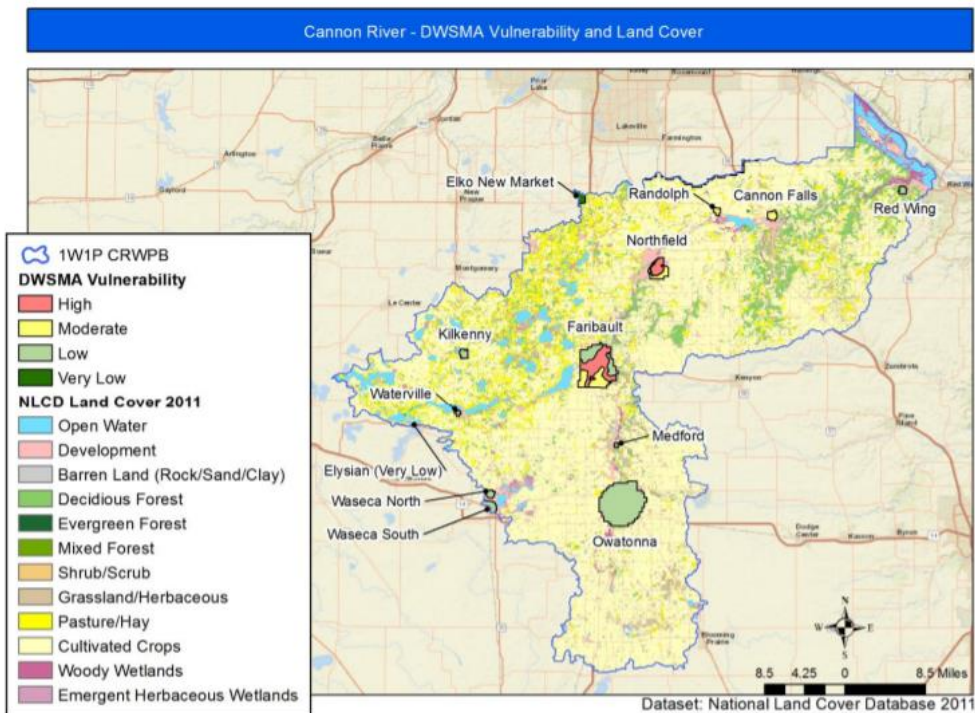
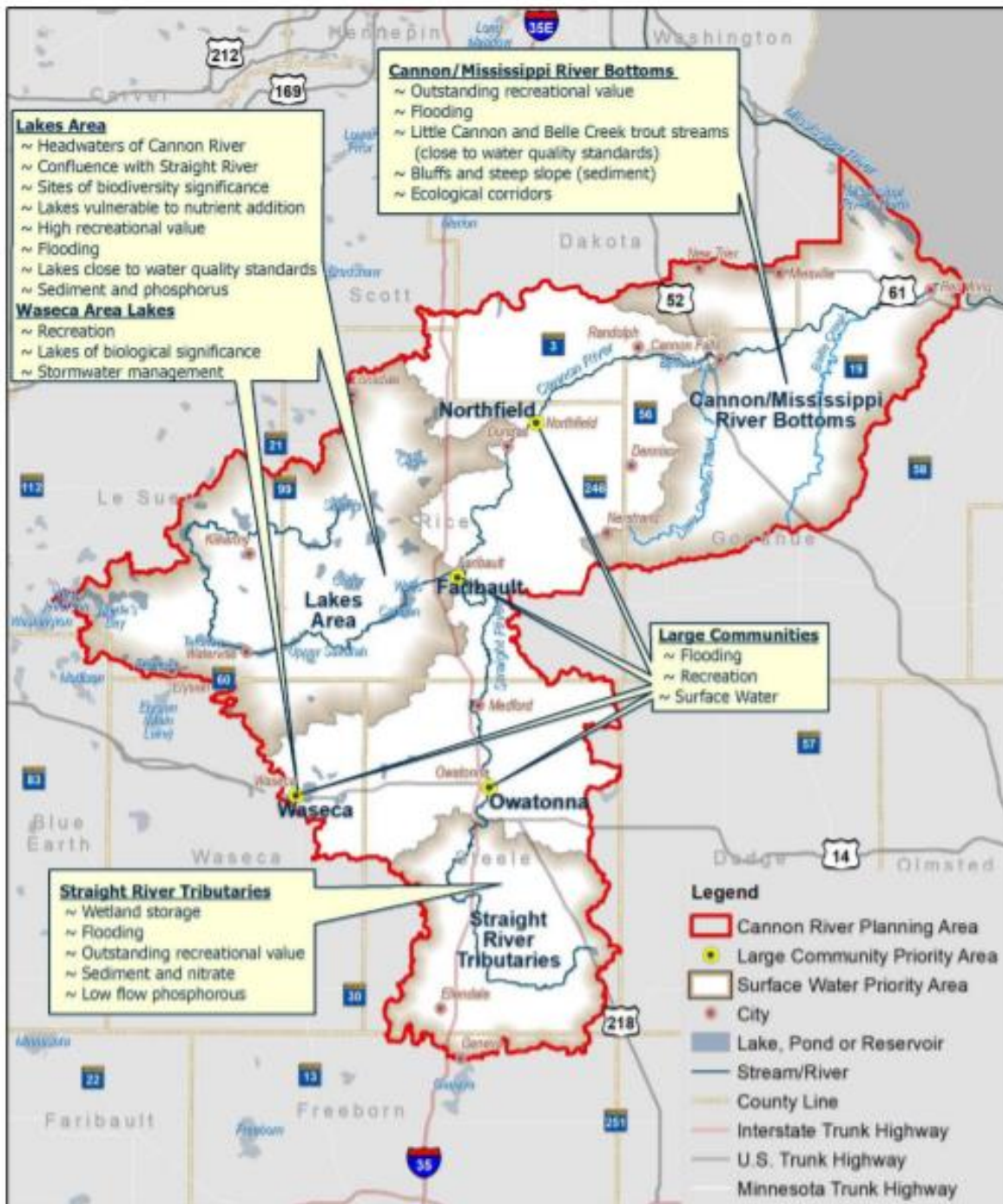


Figure 12: Cannon River Watershed Planning Boundary-Vulnerability of Drinking Water Supply Management Areas and Land Cover



Cannon River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan



Surface Water Priority Areas

Figure 2-10. Cannon River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan criteria used to select surface water priority areas.

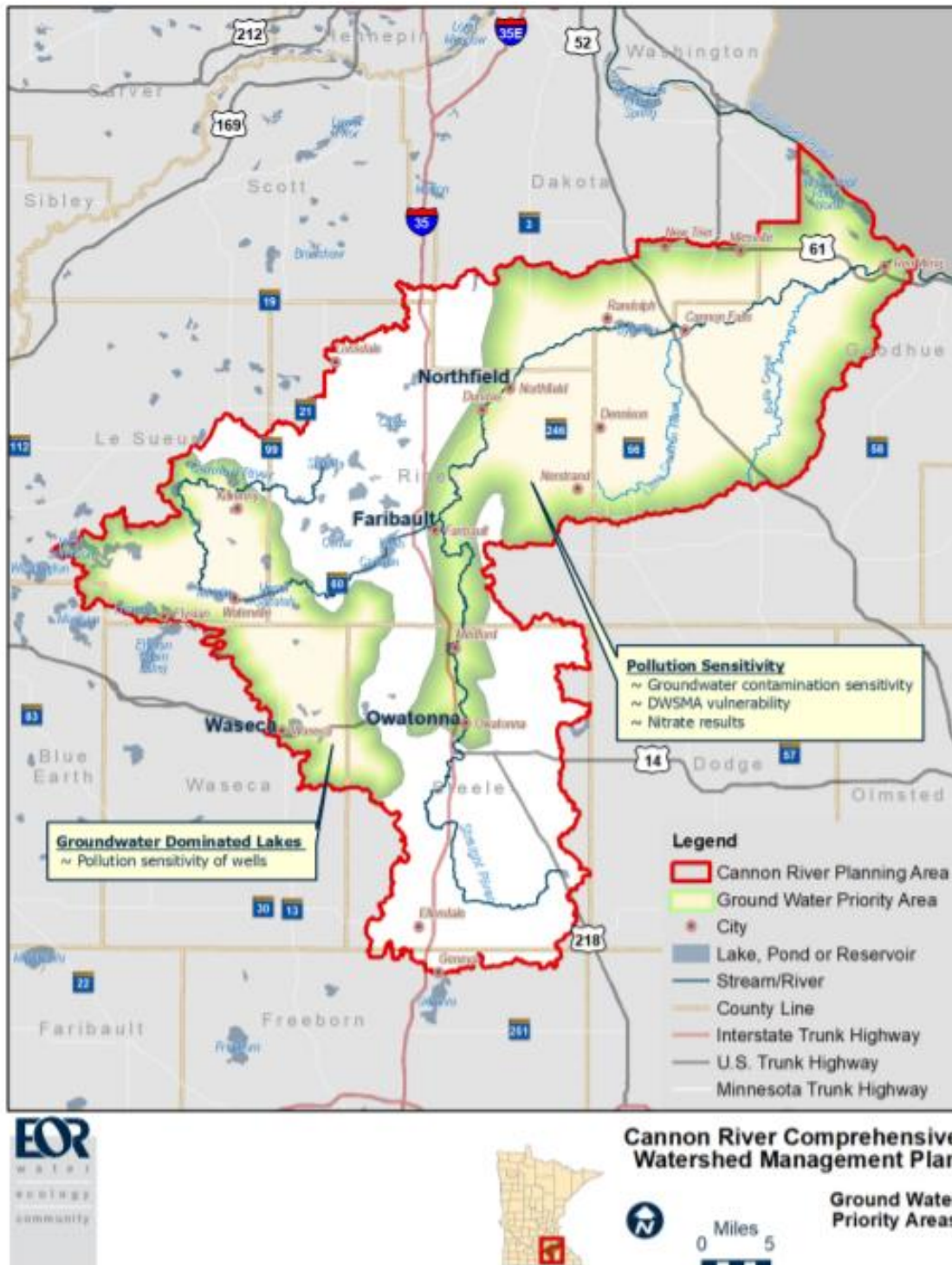


Figure 2-11. Cannon River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan criteria used to select groundwater priority areas.

Internal Capacity (Plan reference 3.3.2-B)

Goal: Create an organization that effectively meets the goals and objectives of the Cannon River Watershed Management Plan.

1. Implementation Activity: 3.3.2-B-1

Develop and maintain Cannon River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan website.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. The website will be hosted by the Rice SWCD on their website. There will be a tab for the CRWJPO. The CWMP will be posted within its pages. Meeting minutes and agendas will also be posted at this site.
 2. The website will be updated as needed by the E/O Host.
 3. The logo image of the CRWJPO will be posted on all member partners websites with a link included back to the CRWJPO page.
 4. Create Facebook page account for the CRWJPO. Share landowner stories, links to conservation program information, and outreach events to keep the public informed of the activities of the organization.
 5. Share Facebook and website insights and page statistics of outreach activities with elected officials, citizens, and other stakeholders.

Existing Efforts: The CRWJPO webpages have been created and are updated as needed.

Proposed Lead Organization: E/O Host

Project Partners: Districts, Counties

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$1500 *Funding Source:* Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF)

Outcome: Create website/webpages and annually maintain website.

2. Implementation Activity: 3.3.2-B-2

Establish a regular meeting schedule, for the lifespan of the Plan, of a working group comprised of members of the Cannon River 1W1P Policy and Advisory Committees, joined by County and SWCD staff, to track progress of the Plan, make modifications, discuss and identify alternative sources of funding for both staff and project resources, and assess effectiveness toward Plan implementation.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. The workgroup, known as the Cannon Implementation Group (CIG), was established in 2020.

2. The CIG shall meet every first Wednesday of the month, as needed, to discuss modifications, track progress, explore funding, access success of implementation and report back to the CRWJPB.

Existing Efforts: Setup complete, ongoing

Proposed Lead Organization: Plan Administrator

Project Partners: SWCDs, Counties

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$5000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: minimum of 4 meetings per year

3. Implementation Activity: 3.3.2-B-3

Prioritize SWCD staff getting Job Approval Authority (JAA) or certifications to increase the capacity of SWCDs to provide technical assistance for conservation practices.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. SWCD staff will fill out Individual Development Plans to list their training needs.
 2. SWCD will utilize and attend Board of Soil & Water Resources (BWSR) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservation module trainings.
 3. SWCD will work with NRCS and other TSA's to create and participate in on-the-job training opportunities.
 4. Provide Scholarships to SWCD staff to complete training.

Existing Efforts: SWCDs have developed Individual Education Plans and are working with NRCS and other SWCD's to facilitate on the job training.

Proposed Lead Organization: SWCDs

Project Partners: BWSR, NRCS

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$2500 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: 12 staff receiving review per year

Status of Implementation: Setup complete, ongoing

4. Implementation Activity: 3.3.2-B-4

Assess each Local Government Unit's (LGU) strengths and weaknesses for implementation to identify gaps and strengthen technical capacity through training of existing staff, adding staff, or utilizing municipal staff and others for implementing projects making funds available for 12 individuals to receive training annually.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. Develop LGU conservation delivery and implementation survey to determine strengths and needs of the LGU's.
 2. Based on the results, identify highest priority needs and select individuals to receive training.
 3. Provide scholarships to individuals to attend training opportunities.

Existing Efforts: Counties discuss internally but not formal process

Proposed Lead Organization: CIG

Project Partners: Counties, SWCDs

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$6000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Annual Training for 12 individuals

5. Implementation Activity: 3.3.2-B-5

Provide staff training in outreach and communication to more effectively communicate with locally elected and appointed decision-makers, landowners, crop consultants, private well owners, and conservation partners.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. Designate one staff person at each SWCD and one county representative as a communications contact with the E/O Host.
 2. The communications contacts will form an Education and Outreach Workgroup (EOW) that will meet at least twice/year or as needed to discuss potential landowner stories and come up with a schedule of news releases for landowner stories mentioned in this plan.
 3. When content is created for the CWMP E/O plan, the E/O Host will send content links or Facebook tag the communications contacts. The communications contacts may then share the content through their newsletters and social media accounts.
 4. The EO Host will provide outreach and communications training to the EOW on various topics to improve communications and media infrastructure, as needed.

Existing Efforts: Most of the SWCD's and counties send out news releases, newsletters, and maintain Facebook and other social media accounts. With mindfulness of the CRWJPO and CWMP, language can be added to the news releases, articles, and blog posts to promote implementation efforts in the watershed. These efforts will help accomplish most of the landowner stories and news articles mentioned in this plan.

Proposed Lead Organization: E/O Host

Project Partners: SWCDs, Counties, CRP

Annual Funding Estimate: \$3000 Funding Source: WBIF

Project Years: All

Outcome: 12 participants per year

6. Implementation Activity: 3.3.2-B-6

Meet with member Boards to provide biannual (every other) updates on accomplishments and water quality trends.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

Action Steps: 1. Each CIG Representative will meet with their respective County or SWCD boards biannually to give a presentation on the accomplishments and water quality trends.

Existing Efforts: District and County CIG members discuss implementation efforts and accomplishments with their respective boards at least yearly, and some report monthly discussions.

Proposed Lead Organization: CIG

Project Partners: Counties, SWCDs

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$2,400 Funding Source: WBIF

Outcome: Biannual updates to SWCD and County boards every other year.

Total Funds Needed for Internal Capacity (Yearly)

Funding Estimate	Membership Dues	WBIF
\$20,400	\$0	\$20,400

Educating Local Land Use Decision Makers (Plan reference 3.3.1-A)

Goal: Provide information annually to locally elected and appointed decision-makers to strengthen leadership and make better-informed land use decisions as they relate to potential water quality and water quantity impacts.

7. Implementation Activity 3.3.1-A-1

Encourage attendance by local decision-makers at training sessions hosted by Stormwater U on ordinances, development planning strategies, and development techniques that protect natural resources and benefit water quality (shoreland management, etc.).

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

Action Steps: 1. Compile list of local decision makers.

2. Monitor University of Minnesota's Water Resources Center website monthly. When workshop/training opportunities arise, email them to local decision makers.
3. Provide scholarships for local decision makers to attend training.

Existing Efforts: Some districts/counties reported occasionally inviting member boards to training opportunities.

Proposed Lead Organization: E/O Host

Project Partners: U of MN Extension, Counties, Districts

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$3000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: 12 training participants per year

8. Implementation Activity 3.3.1-A-2

Annually lead one community conversation on stormwater management Best Management Practices (BMPs) that focuses more on brainstorming and solution development.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. Invite locally elected officials, representatives from environmental commissions, other stakeholders and citizens to a Stormwater Management BMP Summit.
 2. Provide information about BMP's and host community discussions about improving local stormwater conservation. Collect ideas and send to local county boards, city councils, and commissions.
 3. Write article after the event highlighting stormwater BMP's and solutions/ideas developed from the community discussion.

Existing Efforts: None

Proposed Lead Organization: Steps 1 & 2 – CIG - Contract with Third Party, Step 3 – E/O Host

Project Partners: SWCDs, CRP, University of Minnesota Extension, Colleges

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$2000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Annual community conversation

9. Implementation Activity 3.3.1-A-3

Host biannual (every other) field day or tour for locally elected and appointed decision-makers, or their appointed citizen advisory committee. Rotate the location of this annual field day throughout the Cannon River Watershed planning Area.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

Action Steps: 1. Invite County Commissioners, District Supervisors, and State and National Representatives and Senators, City Officials, advisory committee members, to conservation tour or field day highlighting conservation practices/projects. Rotate location around watershed.
2. Write story after the tour to highlight outreach to elected officials and others, as well as the conservation projects. Share watershed wide.

Existing Efforts: Several districts reported hosting a tour for their district and county boards, elected officials

Proposed Lead Organization: Steps 1 – CIG, Step 2 – E/O Host

Project Partners: SWCDs, CRP, University of Minnesota Extension

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$2000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Annual community conversation

Total Funds Needed for Educating Local Land Use Decision Makers (Yearly)

Funding Estimate	Membership Dues	WBIF
\$7,000	\$0	\$7,000

Planning Area Partnerships (Plan reference 3.3.2-A)

Goal: Strengthen and expand collaborative relationships and partnerships.

10. Implementation Activity: 3.3.2-A-1

Encourage the Clean River Partners and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) cities to continue participating on the Cannon River Technical Advisory Group during plan implementation

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

Action Steps: 1. The Plan Administrator will send notifications of the Cannon River Technical Advisory Group annual meeting to Clean River Partners and MS4 city officials.

Existing Efforts: Completed by Plan Administrator

Proposed Lead Organization: Plan Administrator

Project Partners: SWCDs, Counties, CRP

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$1200 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Phone calls and invitations to TAG meetings

11. Implementation Activity: 3.3.2-A-2

Invite stakeholder groups to an annual meeting to explore shared visions and goals for watershed management. Identify opportunities to create partnerships for education and outreach, project implementation, and monitoring and data collection.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:
1. Host annual "State of the Cannon" Summit. Invite elected officials, stakeholders, and citizens. Provide a presentation about the accomplishments of conservation implementation, struggles of implementation, and future needs.
 2. Include landowner panel that would share their story of conservation implementation and reasons why they chose conservation.
 3. Invite attendees to share attitudes and vision to improve watershed. Promote opportunities for outreach and citizen monitoring programs.
 4. Invite other conservation organizations to have tables for a conservation resources fair.

Existing Efforts: None

Proposed Lead Organization: CIG - Contract with Third Party

Project Partners: SWCDs, Counties, Clear Lake Improvement District (CLID), CRP

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$1200 Funding Source: WBIF

Outcome: One annual meeting with stakeholder groups

Total Funds Needed for Planning Area Partnerships (Yearly)

Funding Estimate	Membership Dues	WBIF
\$2,400	\$0	\$2,400

Citizen Engagement (Plan reference 3.3.1-B)

Goal: Increase the adoption of BMPs and conservation practices in the watershed by creating a more uniform education and outreach program amongst Planning Partners that leverages the efforts of others working in the Cannon River Planning Area while using volunteers to help with monitoring and project implementation.

12. Implementation Activity: 3.3.1-B-1

Develop an education and outreach plan for the Cannon River Planning Area that identifies partnerships, recognizes existing efforts, past successes, is implemented in conjunction with other entities, and takes a regional approach.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

Action Steps: 1. Write Education and Outreach Plan that identifies partnerships, recognizes existing efforts, and develops action steps to complete implementation activities.

2. Review plan yearly and determine which implementation activities and action steps can be funded and accomplished.

Existing Efforts: Over the past two years, the CIG committee has discussed, prioritized, and approved education and outreach needs for the Cannon River Planning Area based on existing funding.

Proposed Lead Organization: CIG

Project Partners: Counties, Districts, Cities, CRP

Project Years: 2020 and 2021

Annual Funding Estimate: \$10,000 *Funding Source:* Membership Dues

Outcome: Development of a plan that will be implemented

13. Implementation Activity: 3.3.1-B-2

Inform absentee landowners that the health of their land and local natural resources is part of an absentee owner's long-term investment. Create and communicate explicit guidance in flyer with property tax assessment.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

Action Steps: 1. Create absentee landowner list for priority areas.

2. Create informational letter/flyer that informs the landowner about conservation programs and practices that improve soil health, improve water quality, and protect their investment.

3. Send out flyer with property tax assessments.

Existing Efforts: Completed in 2021. Ongoing.

Proposed Lead Organization: CIG - Contract with Third Party

Project Partners: Districts, Counties, CRP

Project Years: 2020, 2022, 2024, 2026, 2028

Annual Funding Estimate: \$2500 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Develop and print flyer with property tax assessments for all Planning Area residents every other year.

14. Implementation Activity: 3.3.1-B-3

Educate homeowners and lake associations through news releases, workshops, presentations to organizations and one-on-one communications on: (1) shoreland property and the need to restore shoreline

to a more natural state; (2) septic improvements and maintenance; (3) benefits of conservation and working lands easements; (4) BMP installation and implementation.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. Write an article about a landowner who has restored their shore to native plantings. Share watershed wide.
 2. Write article about septic improvement project and maintenance. Share watershed wide.
 3. Write an article about CREP wetland restoration and with a focus on water storage after heavy rains. Share watershed wide.
 4. Write an article about BMPs for lakeshore owners. Share watershed wide.
 5. Create a video on lakeshore/septic BMP's. Share watershed wide.
 6. Develop internet/radio target marketing campaign, as needed, to reach shoreland property owners.
 7. Hold "Restore Your Shore" education workshop for lakeshore owners.
 8. Attend annual lake association meetings and present information about the CRWP and BMPs for lakeshore owners.

Existing Efforts: Districts reported writing articles about CREP. Some districts and counties reported meeting with area lake associations.

Proposed Lead Organization: Steps 1-6 – E/O Host, Step 7 - CIG – Contract with Third Party, Step 8- SWCDs/Counties

Project Partners: MNDNR, CLID, CRP

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$2500 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: 4 news releases, 1 workshop, 1 video, and 5 presentations to organizations per year

15. Implementation Activity: 3.3.1-B-4

Host periodic educational workshops for design and construction professionals including (1) licensed Septic Professionals; (2) drainage contractors; (3) design engineers; and (4) landscaping professionals.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. Host one workshop every other year for contractors to educate them about the construction of conservation practices, process of working with SWCDs/NRCS, the different conservation programs, and the state and federal wetland regulations.
 2. Host one workshop every other year for landscape professionals. Provide information on - shoreland, wetlands, Lawns to Legumes, and examples of different projects, changes in ordinances/rule.

3. Host one workshop every other year for septic contractors to educate them about rule changes/ordinance revisions, updates with the county, common mistakes we keep seeing, changes with our forms.
4. Advertise continuing education credits opportunities to design engineers.
5. Offer to be a host location to organizations that offer continuing education credits for septic professionals, drainage contractors, design engineers, and landscape professionals.

Existing Efforts: Some counties/districts hold meetings for septic contractors yearly.

Proposed Lead Organization: Step 1 – SWCDs, Steps 2 through 5 - Counties

Project Partners: U of M Extension, CRP, CLID

Project Years: 2021, 2023, 2025, 2027, 2029

Annual Funding Estimate: \$4000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Workshop every other year

16. Implementation Activity: 3.3.1-B-5

Develop educational opportunities to encourage stewardship and increase awareness of the interconnected nature of land, surface water, and groundwater through (1) curriculum development and (2) hosting classroom presentations and outdoor education.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. Host one field day that highlights conservation practices and programs that protect groundwater resources.
 2. Host one field day or workshop that highlights agricultural conservation practices that improve surface water quality.
 3. Each year, write six news release featuring landowner stories sharing the impact of agricultural conservation practices on the landscape. (One from each county in the watershed). Share watershed wide.
 4. Each year, write six news releases featuring landowner or urban stories sharing the impact of stormwater conservation. Share watershed wide.
 5. Develop internet/radio target marketing campaign, as needed, to encourage conservation stewardship throughout the watershed.

Existing Efforts: Most districts write landowner conservation stories every year. In addition, conservation districts hold field days that highlight conservation practices.

Proposed Lead Organization: Step 1 and 2 -CIG- Contract with Third Party, Step 3, 4, & 5 E/O Host

Project Partners: SWCDs, MNDNR, CLID, CRP

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$5,000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Two presentations per year

17. Implementation Activity: 3.3.1-B-6

Develop and install one demonstration project per year to highlight stormwater management practices, Low Impact Development (LID), Green Infrastructure, natural resources protection methods, and resource stewardship.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. Develop list of potential stormwater demonstration projects, LID, Green Infrastructure, and other resource protection projects.
 2. Work with cities or local colleges to find locations for each project and plan them at various locations across the watershed.
 3. For each project, take photographs before, during, and after completion of the project.
 4. Write an article that highlights the process/development of the project and the conservation benefits to water quality and other natural resources. Share watershed wide.
 5. Design, fabricate, and display an outdoor sign to educate the public about the demonstration project
 6. Host an Open House at the demonstration site. Invite elected officials, other stakeholders, and citizens to educate them and answer questions about the demonstration project and conservation of natural resources.

Existing Efforts: Dakota County works with urban landowners to implement SWCD Landscaping for Clean Water Program for rain gardens, shorelines, and native plantings. Rice SWCD worked with Wild Ones Northfield Chapter to bring neighborhood Lawns to Legumes project.

Proposed Lead Organization: CIG - Contract with Third Party

Project Partners: SWCDs, CRWP, Cities, CLID

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$25,000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: One demonstration project per year

18. Implementation Activity: 3.3.1-B-7

Promote volunteer network by recruiting additional volunteers for the citizen monitoring program, hosting one river cleanup project and one land stewardship project per year.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. Write one news release per year featuring a citizen monitor to recruit Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Water Quality Monitors across the watershed, but especially in all Tier 1 Lakes. Promote watershed wide.
 2. Recruit volunteers when attending annual Lake Association meetings.
 3. Become a sponsor for Clean River Partners for their Annual River Cleanup Project.
 4. Host one community native prairie garden planting event to promote the use of native plants and their positive impact on water quality and benefits for pollinators. Promote Lawns to Legumes program. Rotate event around watershed.

Existing Efforts: Clean River Partners hosts annual river cleanup. In Dakota County, there are some citizens monitoring thru MPCA program. Also have the Wetland Health Evaluation Program that is citizen volunteers. Rice SWCD promotes the Lawns to Legumes through volunteers from Northfield Wild Ones.

Proposed Lead Organization: Step 1 – E/O Host, Step 2 – SWCDs/Counties, Step 3 & 4- CIG - Contract with Third Party

Project Partners: SWCD, CRP, MPCA, area colleges

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$5000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: One river cleanup project and one land stewardship project per year.

19. Implementation Activity: 3.3.1-B-8

Develop an Annual Recognition Program to recognize citizen efforts and leaders in the communities in water resource and natural resource protection.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. Choose landowner from completed projects that received JPO funding to receive a Watershed Hero award. The award will be a sign that can be displayed at their farm.
 2. Write news release to share their stories of conservation. Share watershed wide.

Existing Efforts: SWCDs and CRP have landowner recognition programs that provide awards.

Proposed Lead Organization: Step 1 - CIG, Step 2 – E/O Host

Project Partners: SWCDs, CRP

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$3000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Highlight project/ site on field tour

20. Implementation Activity: 3.3.1-B-9

Conduct surveys “before” and “after” targeted outreach to measure the influences of outreach on residents, local landowners, and farmers to better understand implementation issues, fiscal and operational barriers, communicate the benefits of implementation and measure adoption rates over time.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. Develop a before and after survey that will be used at events to gauge the attitudes and implementation issues and barriers of those attending.
 2. Develop a questionnaire for targeting conservation areas that technicians can use when meeting with landowners that will identify basic attitudes about conservation and barriers to implementation.
 3. Conduct surveys at events and with landowners.

Existing Efforts: A couple of Districts reported surveying those who attend field days.

Proposed Lead Organization: E/O Host

Project Partners: SWCDs, CRP

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$500 Funding Source:

Outcome: Utilize a tool (e.g. Mentimeter) to gauge engagement and change in understanding per event

Total Funds Needed for Citizen Engagement (Yearly)

Year	Total Funding Estimate	Membership Dues	WBIF
2020	\$53,500	\$10,000	\$43,500
2021	\$55,000	\$10,000	\$45,000
2022	\$43,500	\$0	\$43,500
2023	\$45,000	\$0	\$45,000
2024	\$43,500	\$0	\$43,500
2025	\$45,000	\$0	\$45,000
2026	\$43,500	\$0	\$43,500
2027	\$45,000	\$0	\$45,000
2028	\$43,500	\$0	\$43,500
2029	\$45,000	\$0	\$45,000

Drinking Water Protection (Plan reference 3.1.3-A)

Goal: Protect drinking water quality from pollutants with a focus on nitrate

21. Implementation Activity: 3.1.3-A-1

Serve on wellhead protection plan teams for all public water suppliers with Moderate and Highly Vulnerable Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMAs) to assist with planning and implementation activities that address land use concerns.

Area of Focus: Communities with moderate or high vulnerabilities (Figure 12 from the 2017 GRAPS). Drinking water supply management areas (DWSMA's) of Cannon Falls, Randolph, Northfield, and Faribault and private wells within groundwater pollution sensitive areas.

Action Steps: 1. The Plan Administrator and/or CIG Committee will provide comment as needed as cities of Moderate and Highly Vulnerable DWSMAs: Cannon Falls, Randolph, Northfield, and Faribault develop and update their wellhead protection plans.

Existing Efforts: Currently, the CWMP plan administrator receives notification when DWISMA's update or change their wellhead protection plans. The plan administrator provides comment or brings issues to the CIG committee for further discussion and action, if needed. Furthermore, staff from counties/districts also review plans as stakeholders.

Proposed Lead Organization: CIG

Project Partners: Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Minnesota Rural Water Association (MRWA), LGUs, Public Water Suppliers, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)

Planning Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$500 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Record of submitted comments to DWISMAs

22. Implementation Activity: 3.1.3-A-2

Assist the public water suppliers to develop educational materials tailored to each community for distribution and public events including Best Management Practices for fertilizer and pesticide application in developed areas. Examples include printed materials, groundwater models for schools and hazardous waste collection events.

Area of Focus: Communities with moderate or high vulnerabilities (Figure 12 from the 2017 GRAPS). Drinking water supply management areas (DWSMA's) of Cannon Falls, Randolph, Northfield, and Faribault and private wells within groundwater pollution sensitive areas.

Action Steps:

1. Take an inventory of local flyers and pamphlets. If needed, create flyer for Best Management Practices tailored to the community for fertilizer and pesticide application in urban areas. Complete for one DWISMAs/year. (Cannon Falls, Randolph, Northfield, Faribault)
2. Create flyer for general public and farmers about "What is a DWISMA" tailored to each community and list BMPs that can keep groundwater safe. Complete one DWISMAs/year. (Cannon Falls, Randolph, Northfield, Faribault).
3. Share flyers at county fair, Earth Day events, nitrate test clinics, and other community events.

4. Write one landowner story/year that highlights their effort to recycle hazardous material and its impact on the watershed. Share watershed wide.
5. Create webpage on CRJPB website and link existing and created flyers. List links to county hazardous waste programs and promote county hazardous collection days.

Existing Efforts: Most counties reported that they hold an annual hazardous waste collection day and have pamphlets for BMPs

Proposed Lead Organization: Step1, 2, 4, and 5 – E/O Host, Step 3 – SWCDs/Counties

Project Partners: MDH, MRWA, CRP, LGUs, SE MN Water Resource Board, Public Water Suppliers, MDA

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$5500 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: # of educational events or materials created, # of outreach materials distributed, # of activities & events, # of households, business or land treated, # of demo sites

23. Implementation Activity: 3.1.3-A-4

Host 2 well testing or screening clinics per year for private well owners. Provide nitrate test results and/or water testing kits, and information on best practices for well maintenance and water quality.

Area of Focus: Private well owners in areas of moderate or high pollution sensitivity (Figure 10 from the 2017 GRAPS)

- Action Steps:*
1. Hold two well testing clinics for private well owners across the watershed. Market watershed wide.
 2. Share information about BMPs at clinics and other community events.
 3. Write one article and create YouTube video about a landowner getting the test kit, collecting the well water, submitting the test kit, and getting the results. Share watershed wide.
 4. Use testing data to determine where vulnerable wells are and focus conservation outreach to the landowners surrounding the wells.

Existing Efforts: Most districts/counties reported hosting testing clinics every year at their county fair and other events.

Proposed Lead Organization: Step 1- Counties, Step 2 – Counties/Districts, Step 3 – E/O Host, Step 4 - CIG

Project Partners: MDH, MDA, CRP

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$3,000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: 2 clinics hosted/year; 40 test kits distributed/yr., 40 participants; 40 samples collected

24. Implementation Activity: 3.1.3-A-4

Create tailored outreach/information packets for homeowners in priority areas that provides education on drinking water quality, maintenance of private wells and septic systems, and BMPs for homeowners. Create a centralized web page that members can link to for public access.

Area of Focus: Private well owners in areas of moderate or high pollution sensitivity (Figure 10 from the 2017 GRAPS)

Action Steps:

1. Take an inventory of local flyers and pamphlets. Create tailored information packets for homeowners in priority areas that provides education on drinking water quality, maintenance of private wells and septic systems, and BMPs for homeowners. Send to fifty landowners per year.
2. Create Factsheet and map that shows sensitive groundwater areas of the Cannon River Watershed. Include in packet.
3. Create a webpage under CRJPB webpage and link packet information/flyers along with other resources about wells and septic systems. Have all members link to this information on their websites and promote watershed wide.

Existing Efforts: Most counties reported having existing pamphlets.

Proposed Lead Organization: E/O Host

Project Partners: BWSR, MDH, MDA, LGUs, CRP

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$4000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Drinking Water Protection page provided on CRWJPO and/or Clean River Partners website, 50 mailings/yr.

25. Implementation Activity: 3.1.3-A-7

Educate and protect 'edge' recharge areas like Decorah Shale edge where groundwater easily moves past confining shale layers and areas often are wooded and steep.

Area of Focus: Groundwater Pollution Sensitivity Area (Figure 2-11)

Action Steps:

1. Review current local ordinances to see if language is included to protect the groundwater pollution sensitive areas.
2. If more language is needed within local ordinances to protect groundwater pollution sensitive areas, create workshops/work sessions for local boards to provide more education about why these areas should be protected.

Existing Efforts: None

Proposed Lead Organization: Rice, Steele, Goodhue Counties

Project Partners: Counties, WMO, WD, MNDNR, Cities, Townships, CRP

Project Years: 2020

Annual Funding Estimate: \$8,000

Funding Source: WBIF

Outcome: Create with Land Use regulators, incorporate protection language in local zoning ordinances. Develop map layer showing where edge is present.

26. Implementation Activity: 3.1.3-A-8

Create a Planning Area well sealing program and prioritization process, implemented by each County, for residents who wish to voluntarily seal wells using a priority process. Start by conducting an unused-well inventory by mailing a homeowner survey asking people if they have an unused well on their property that they would like assistance sealing.

Area of Focus: Groundwater Pollution Sensitivity Area (Figure 2-11)

- Action Steps:
1. Create homeowner unused well survey and create homeowner mailing list within the target area.
 2. Review existing county well sealing programs to determine what funding is available and determine if it is adequately meeting the needs of well sealing.
 3. Develop fact sheet about the Well sealing program.
 4. Write an article featuring a landowner who has sealed an unused well, the benefits to drinking water protection, and share the details of the well sealing program. Share with landowners in the target area and watershed wide.

Existing Efforts: SWCD’s and counties reported having some well sealing programs. A few counties keep a list of unsealed wells, but they are incomplete.

Proposed Lead Organization: Steps 1 through 3 - Counties and SWCDs, Step 4 – E/O Host

Project Partners: MDH, BWSR

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$30,000 Funding Source: WBIF

Outcome: Unused-well inventory completed; 120 abandoned wells sealed in the Planning Area

Total Funds Needed for Drinking Water Protection (Yearly)

Year	Funding Estimate	Membership Dues	WBIF
2020	\$51,000	\$0	\$51,000
2021-2029	\$43,000	\$0	\$43,000

Soil Health (Plan reference 3.2.1-B)

Goal: Create cultural change by establishing a core Soil Health Team that can disseminate research, conduct demonstrations and provide outreach that will shift the standard thoughts and practices in the watershed.

27. Implementation Activity: 3.2.1-B-4

Develop a Soil Health Team

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

Action Steps: 1. Create Soil Health Team- members shall include a representative from each SWCD, agribusiness, and other stakeholders interested in promoting soil health.

2. The Soil Health Team will meet four times/ year or more if needed, to develop the following:

- a. Develop or identify soil health educational materials to move beyond cost-share to cultural change
- b. Establish three or more demonstration sites for soil health practices over a range of agricultural conditions. Measure change in soil conditions at the sites over the ten-year period of the plan.
- c. Monitor the change in soil health organic matter and other economic benefits of conservation practices on multiple farms that are already implementing soil health practices.
- d. Organize one soil health event in each of the three lobes of the Cannon River Watershed. The lobes are: Straight River, Lakes Area, and Lower Cannon.

3. Create four or more Peer to Peer Soil Health Groups for farmers beginning to make the transition from conventional farming to regenerative farming.

- a. The Peer-to-Peer Soil Health Groups shall consist of local SWCD/NRCS staff, as well as 1 - 2 mentor farmers per group. Other interested organizations may also participate or present at each meeting.
- b. The meetings will be held once per month at the same location which could be a farm or a coffee shop. The meetings will be designed to be an hour long. The meeting will consist of a round table discussion between the farmers about what they are planning in their fields for soil health practices and what they are seeing as a result of the practices. It is a time for them to ask questions of one another. Staff will be there to facilitate the meeting, get the discussion started and answer questions where needed. Occasionally, agency staff can present information, but this is mainly meant to be peer to peer support. This is not a field day. This is a casual discussion over coffee.

4. Apply for additional grants as needed.

Existing Efforts: Demonstration sites to build upon: Rice Creek Watershed Project has testing for nitrogen in tile lines, farmers also tracking costs of cover crops and change in organic matter? CRP 60" corn and cover crop study with four farms in Goodhue and Rice counties.

Proposed Lead Organization: Steps 1 and 2 – CIG – Contract with Third Party, Step 3 and 4 - Districts

Project Partners: NRCS, BWSR, MDA, CRP

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$10,000 *Funding source:* WBIF

Outcome: Two Soil Health Team meetings per year

- creation of soil health education curriculum materials
- develop three demonstration sites
- change in soil health organic matter

Total Funds Needed for Soil Health (Yearly)

Funding Estimate	Membership Dues	WBIF
\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000

Drainage System Management (Plan reference 3.2.3-A)

Goal: Expand local knowledge and confidence in multi-benefit drainage management practices.

28. Implementation Activity: 3.2.3-A-4

Facilitate web access to publicly available drainage system records.

Area of Focus: Lakes Priority Area and Straight River Priority Area (Fig 2-10)

- Action Steps:*
1. List drainage system records on each county website.
 2. Provide a link to each county drainage records page on the CRWJPB webpage.
 3. Create portal to Drainage DB (Database) for public access

Existing Efforts: Ditch inspector’s annual reports are listed on most county websites.

Proposed Lead Organization: Steps 1 and 3 - Counties, Step 2 – E/O Host

Project Partners: SWCDs

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$200 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Web access to publicly available drainage system records

29. Implementation Activity: 3.2.3-A-6

Conduct annual meetings with all drainage authorities in the Planning Area to provide the group an update on each entity's drainage system management program and to discuss advancements in drainage science.

Area of Focus: Straight River Tributaries Area Lakes Area (Figure 2-10)

Action Steps: 1. County ditch inspectors will meet with drainage authorities yearly to provide updates on drainage systems and advancements in drainage science.

Existing Efforts: Most counties reported that drainage inspectors meet with drainage authorities yearly.

Proposed Lead Organization: Counties/SWCDs of Le Sueur, Rice, Steele, Waseca

Project Partners: Counties, SWCDs

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$2000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Annual meeting with drainage authorities

Status of Implementation: Completed, ongoing for Rice and Steele. Not started for Le Sueur and Waseca

30. Implementation Activity: 3.2.3-A-10

Host co-op workshops in the priority areas regarding multi-purpose and multi-benefit drainage management.

Area of Focus: Straight River Tributaries Area Lakes Area (Figure 2-10)

Action Steps:

1. Identify all public drainage systems within priority areas and create landowner mailing list.
2. Identify local farmers who have installed multi-purpose drainage management conservation practices. Write two articles/year featuring their story of conservation within the drainage system. Share with farmers within target area and watershed wide.
3. Host two conservation field days featuring installed multi-purpose drainage management practices.

Existing Efforts: All districts host soil health and conservation field days, write articles about conservation implementation, and promote conservation practices, which includes the watersheds of ditch systems.

Proposed Lead Organization: CIG - Contract with Third Party

Project Partners: SWCDs, Counties, CRP

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$4000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: 2 co-op workshops per year

Total Funds Needed for Drainage System Management (Yearly)

Funding Estimate	Membership Dues	WBIF
\$6,200	\$0	\$6,200

Shoreland Management (Plan reference 3.2.2-B)

Goal: Increase areas of natural shoreline in the Lakes Area while improving land use decisions related to shoreland management by providing information that compares and analyzes local government decisions and their impacts to water quality.

31. Implementation Activity: 3.2.2-B-2

Promote an increase in acres of sensitive shoreland, bluffs and steep slopes preserved by connecting local landowners with conservation groups and explore creating an easement program in the future.

Area of Focus: Lakes Area (Figure 2-10)

Action Steps:

1. County staff will have one on one conversations with landowners seeking permits to determine if permanent conservation easements are available for shoreland protection
2. County staff will record their findings and meet to develop or determine easement strategy, and report back to the CIG.

Existing Efforts: Counties reported having one on one conversations with shoreland owners about restoration efforts, BMPs, land use decisions, etc.

Proposed Lead Organization: Counties

Project Partners: Minnesota Land Trust, CRP, NRCS, BWSR

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$500 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: 10 conversations per year; strategy developed on an easement program or documentation as to why an easement program is not feasible.

32. Implementation Activity: 3.2.2-B-4

Review local shoreland ordinances, the permitting process, and ongoing enforcement to ensure resource protection needs are met by hosting a shoreland management summit with County staff every 3 years.

Area of Focus: Lakes Area (Figure 2-10)

Action Steps:

1. Host a shoreland management summit. Invite county boards and staff, other elected officials, and other stakeholders. Present information about shoreland projects and ordinances.
2. Include breakout sessions into small groups to discuss various topics.

3. Write an article about the shoreland management summit and the effort to protect shorelines on area lakes. Share watershed wide.

Existing Efforts: Some training opportunities offered to county boards

Proposed Lead Organization: Steps 1 and 2 - CIG - Contract with Third Party, Step 3 - E/O Host

Project Partners: Counties, SWCDs, MNDNR, CRP

Project Years: 2021, 2024, 2027

Annual Funding Estimate: \$5,000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: 1 County staff summit every 3 years

33. Implementation Activity: 3.2.2-B-5

Promote voluntary actions for buffer establishment along SWCD adopted “other watercourses” maps/inventories for the protection or improvement of water quality.

Area of Focus: Lakes Area (Figure 2-10)

- Action Steps:*
1. Identify other watercourses in Tier one or Tier two areas.
 2. Develop targeted landowner mailing list to promote buffers on "other watercourses.
 3. Write one landowner story/year that highlights how an installed buffer protects the stream bank, provides habitat for pollinators and improves water quality. Share with targeted landowners and watershed wide.
 4. Develop internet/radio target marketing campaign, as needed, to promote buffer establishment and other conservation practices that will improve the water quality of “other watercourses.”
 5. Hold one workshop/year near targeted "other watercourses" that promote the use of buffers to landowners.

Existing Efforts: None

Proposed Lead Organization: Step 1, 2, and 5 - CIG - Contract with Third Party, Step 3 and 4 – E/O Host

Project Partners: SWCDs, Counties, CRP

Project Years: 2024, 2025, 2026

Annual Funding Estimate: \$2500 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: 3 workshops with public to promote establishment of buffers

Total Funds Needed for Shoreland Management (Yearly)

Year	Funding Estimate	Membership Dues	WBIF
2020	\$500	\$0	\$500

2021	\$,5500	\$0	\$,5500
2022	\$500	\$0	\$500
2023	\$500	\$0	\$500
2024	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000
2025	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
2026	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
2027	\$5,500	\$0	\$5,500
2028	\$500	\$0	\$500
2029	\$500	\$0	\$500

Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (Plan reference 3.2.2-D)

Goal: To protect high quality lakes in the Groundwater Pollution Sensitivity Area and the Groundwater Dominated Lakes Area, identify and address water quality problems stemming from inadequate wastewater treatment systems in four lake systems.

34. Implementation Activity: 3.2.2-D-2

Inventory existing programs to identify programmatic gaps across the Cannon River Planning Area and develop solutions to fill the gaps.

Area of Focus: Groundwater Pollution Sensitivity Area and the Groundwater Dominated Lakes Area (Figure 2-11)

- Action Steps:**
1. In order to create more uniformity with existing septic programs, host four Sewage Treatment Systems Workshops.
 2. Invite township and county officials, staff, lake associations, other stakeholders, and interested citizens.
 3. Present examples of septic system inventories, ordinances, and septic improvements. Include breakout sessions into small groups to discuss ordinance changes and development.
 4. Write an article about the Sewage Treatment System Workshop and the benefits of fixing failing septic systems on area lakes. Share watershed wide.

Existing Efforts: Most counties reported that education and outreach is provided and experienced staff oversee County SSTS programs

Proposed Lead Organization: CIG - contract with Third Party

Project Partners: SWCDs, Counties, CRP

Project Years: 2023

Annual Funding Estimate: \$10,000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: 4 workshops; Existing program inventory and solutions to fill gap

Total Funds Needed for Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems [2023 (one year)]

Funding Estimate	Membership Dues	WBIF
\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000

Stormwater Management (Plan reference (3.2.2-C))

Goal: Promote the adoption of stormwater management and erosion control standards in all of the communities, including MS4 communities.

35. Implementation Activity: 3.2.2-C-1

Encourage Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS) Adoption by all non-MS4 communities in the Cannon River Planning Area

Area of Focus: Non-MS4 communities (All cities and townships in the watershed except for Faribault, Northfield, Owatonna, Red Wing, and Waseca. They are MS4 communities)

- Action Steps:
1. Hold four MIDS workshops with non MS4 communities. Invite city, county, and township elected officials, staff, and other interested stakeholders.
 2. Present examples of MIDS stormwater practices to illustrate benefits for improving water quality. The workshops would also show how to integrate stormwater management practices to policy through effective stormwater ordinances, using the MIDS Community Assistance ordinance package.
 3. Include breakout sessions into small groups to discuss ordinance changes and development.
 4. Write an article about the MIDS Workshop and the benefits of improving storm water management to the water quality of the watershed. Share watershed wide.

Existing Efforts: None

Proposed Lead Organization: Steps 1 through 3 - CIG. Recommend having someone who has experience with MIDS to lead. Contract with Third Party to organize event. E/O Host -article

Project Partners: MPCA, cities, townships, CRP

Project Years: 2024, 2025

Annual Funding Estimate: \$75000 in 24-25 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: MIDS workshops with all nonMS4 communities

Total Funds Needed for Storm water Management (2024-2025)

Funding Estimate	Membership Dues	WBIF
\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000

Recreational Value (Plan reference 3.3.3-A)

Goal: Increase recreational opportunities in the Cannon River Planning Area by improving access and protecting, preserving and enhancing natural resources and recreational opportunities.

36. Implementation Activity: 3.3.3-A-1

Communicate location and explanation of water quality impairments that may affect recreational opportunities or quality of experience.

Area of Focus: Cannon River Planning Area

- Action Steps:*
1. Write three news releases/year detailing an impaired water in the watershed. Within the story, highlight a landowner’s effort to use conservation to improve water quality of the impaired water. Share watershed wide.
 2. Create Fact Sheet that lists and shows locations of impaired waters in the watershed. Share on website and disseminate at county fairs and other events.
 3. Develop internet/radio target marketing campaign, as needed, to promote conservation of impaired waters.
 4. Design and fabricate educational signs for riverside and lakeside parks/landings that teach the public about the impaired waters and conservation practices that can help improve water quality.

Existing Efforts: Districts reported sharing information about impaired waters in news articles and during field days when appropriate.

Proposed Lead Organization: Step 1-3 - E/O Host, Step 4 – CIG – Contract with Third Party

Project Partners: MPCA, CRP, River recreation groups

Project Years: 2021, 2023, 2025, 2027, 2029

Annual Funding Estimate: \$2500 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Post or links on website, brochures distributed

Total Funds Needed for Recreational Value(Yearly in 2021, 2023, 2025, 2027, 2029)

Funding Estimate	Membership Dues	WBIF
\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500

Community Resilience to Climate Change (Plan reference 3.2.4-A)

Goal: Build climate literacy amongst Planning Partners so they can successfully carry out their work in an era of rapidly changing climatic conditions and increase resiliency of the Cannon River Planning Area by evaluating the impact of climate change on the watershed and collaborating on projects.

37. Implementation Activity: 3.2.4-A-1

Conduct climate training and education needs assessment.

Area of Focus: All communities

- Action Steps:*
1. Develop Climate Change Needs Assessment survey
 2. Survey communities throughout the watershed to gauge impacts of increased rainfall/flooding to infrastructure, housing, and natural resources.
 3. Develop summary of findings and share with elected officials, staff, other stakeholders, and citizens. Share watershed wide. Use results to enhance Education and Outreach Plan and design components of implementation activities.

Existing Efforts: Dakota County utilizes state level trainings and resources as needed. Rice County has newly formed a sustainability committee which will include discussions/topics surrounding climate issues. Le Sueur, Steele, Waseca, and Goodhue reported no efforts.

Proposed Lead Organization: CIG – Contract with Third Party

Project Partners: CRP, U of M Extension

Project Years: 2022

Annual Funding Estimate: \$5000 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Survey of five representative communities in the Planning Area and needs assessment summary

38. Implementation Activity: 3.2.4-A-2

Have at least one policy or staff members to attend an intensive seminar or workshops per year.

Area of Focus: All communities

- Action Steps:*
1. Select policy or staff member(s).
 2. Attend one of the following Climate change workshops:
 - Minnesota Climate Adaptation Annual Conference
 - North Central Climate Collaborative Conference/Workshops
 - Others as they arise
 3. Report back to the CRWJPB

Existing Efforts: None

Proposed Lead Organization: CIG

Project Partners: SWCDs, Counties

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$400 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Attendance at climate related conference per year

39. Implementation Activity: 3.2.4-A-5

Establish or participate in a Climate Change Team that meets annually to promote monitoring, research, and modeling to predict impacts of climate change in the Planning Area.

Area of Focus: All communities

Action Steps: 1. Select three representatives to attend local environmental commission meetings. The commissions include:

- Faribault Environmental Commission
- Northfield Environmental Quality Commission
- Redwing Sustainability Commission

2. The representatives shall report back to the CIG or CRWJPB

Existing Efforts: Environmental commissions have formed for several cities and are tackling the issue of climate change. Northfield has a Climate Action Plan. Redwing also has a Climate Action Plan.

Proposed Lead Organization: CRJPB, CIG

Project Partners: SWCDs, CRP, Cities

Project Years: All

Annual Funding Estimate: \$2200 *Funding Source:* WBIF

Outcome: Participation by one local representative on climate change team that meets annually

Total Funds Needed for Community Resilience to Climate Change (Yearly)

Year	Funding Estimate	Membership Dues	WBIF
2022	\$7,600	\$0	\$7,600
Annually	\$2600	\$0	\$2,600