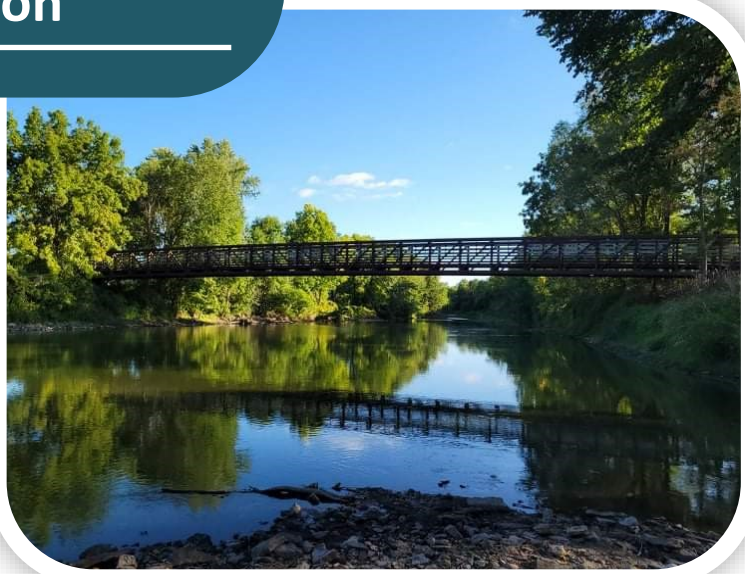
Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Organization

2022 Annual Report

Partners across the watershed are working together to address priorities within the Cannon River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. Activities in the Plan are split into three categories to include Resource Concerns, Landscape Concerns and Socioeconomic Concerns. In 2022 work began on 11 of the 22 Resource Concerns, 16 of the 36 Landscape Concerns and 9 of the 22 Socioeconomic Concerns.

Within this Annual Report there are high level summaries of projects, events, studies, monitoring and funding.



Mission Statement:

Work collaboratively to improve and protect the natural resources within the Cannon River Watershed to ensure prosperity of our urban and agricultural communities.

Projects

- 33 agricultural structures including basins and grade stabilization structures
- 356 acres of agricultural management practices, primarily cover crops
- Prevented 1,400 tons of sediment from reaching priority streams each year
- Prevented 160 pounds of phosphorus from reaching priority lakes each year

Events

- 1 Soil Health Event in each of the 3 lobes of the watershed
- 6 peer-to-peer soil health gatherings hosted at farms
- Summer tour held for elected officials with information on septic systems, lake management plans and stream water quality monitoring

Construction of a grade stabilization structure in Goodhue County that will slow the flow of water and reduce sediment downstream.

Contact Us

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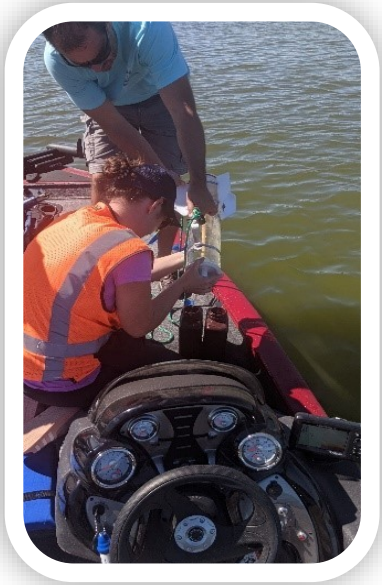
Studies & Plans

- 1 Lake Management Plan completed and 6 in progress. Plans help prioritize watershed work and in-lake treatments.
- Modeling through PTMapp completed for Straight River and Lower Vermillion River. Allows for pollutant tracking and project prioritization.
- Shoreline Surveys completed on 8 lakes. Establishes baseline conditions and identifies potential projects.
- Septic Inventory completed on Volney-Gorman Lakes.
- Adopted Education & Outreach Plan.

Snapshot from the drone flight of Tustin Lake in Elysian. Each lake surveyed received a score using the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Score Your Shore criteria.



Staff monitored temperature and oxygen profiles in Fox Lake.

Monitoring & Tracking

- Partnered with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for water monitoring on 18 streams and 15 lakes in the watershed.
- Tracked progress towards plan goals by compiling individual project data and coordinated with partners to identify and record other water quality projects completed within the watershed.

Grants & Funding

The CRWJPO is 75% done with the first round (FY20-21) of Watershed Based Implementation Funding. The workplan for the second round (FY22-23) was developed in 2022 and it is anticipated that $1,028,658 will be available for CRWJPO in 2023.

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

An interactive map of the watershed with priority areas and completed projects is available online. Scan the QR code or visit www.riceswcd/crwjpo