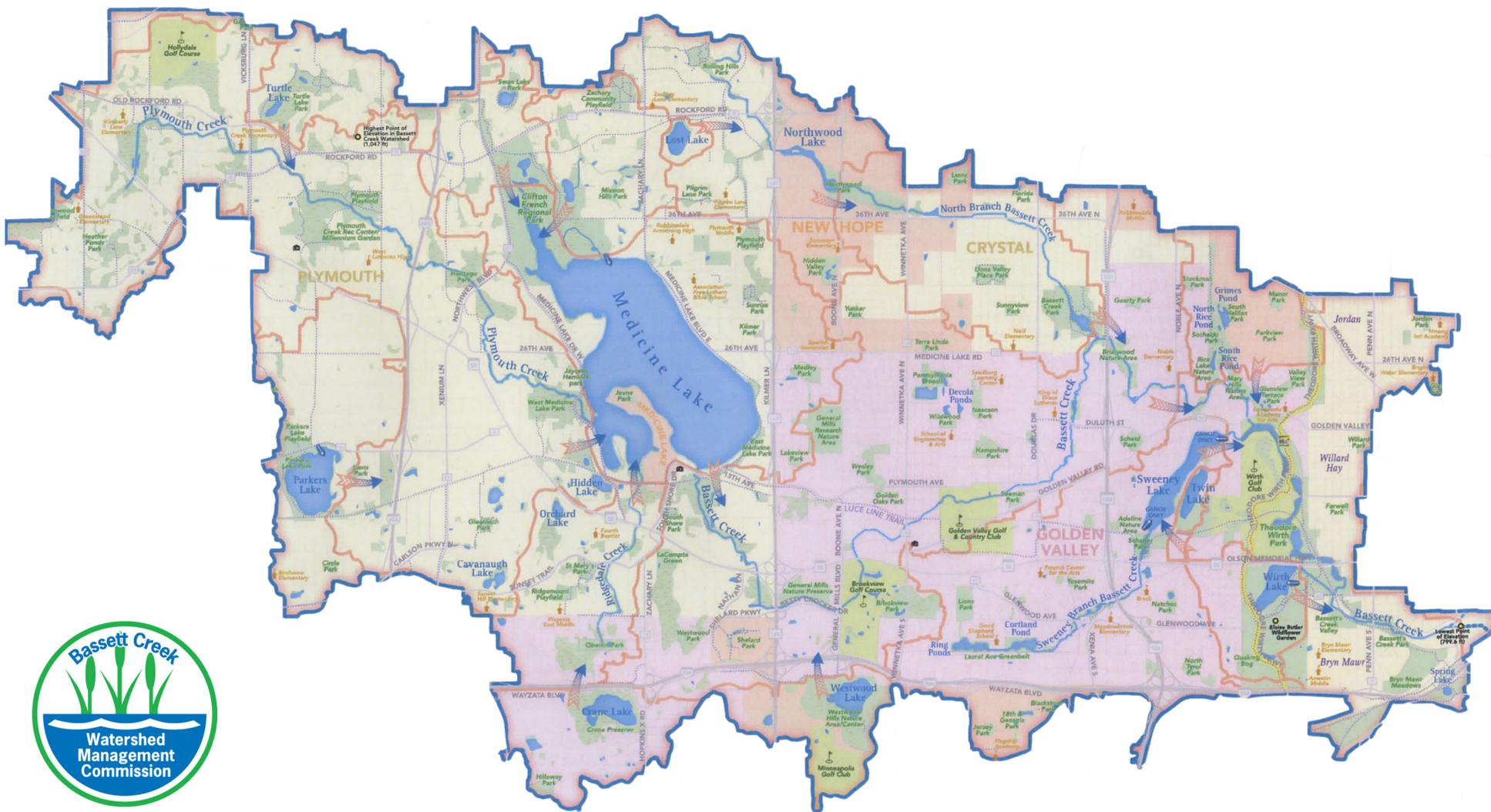


About the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC)

The vision: stewardship of water resources to protect and enhance our communities



WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

A watershed is all the land draining to a common location or waterbody - in this case Bassett Creek. Precipitation falling or snow melting on the land generates runoff that flows over land, through storm sewers, and through wetlands, ponds, lakes, and streams before reaching Bassett Creek. At the downstream end of the watershed, the creek enters a 2.7-mile tunnel that flows into the Mississippi River near the Stone Arch Bridge.



Bassett Creek

About the BCWMC

- **Regional government organization** formed in 1969 to focus on flood control along Bassett Creek
- **Operates under 1982 Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act**
- **Focused on providing flood management and improving and protecting the water quality** of Bassett Creek and lakes/streams
- **Nine member cities:** Crystal, Golden Valley, Medicine Lake, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, New Hope, Plymouth, Robbinsdale, St. Louis Park,
- **Area:** approximately 40 square miles

Commission funding

- Contributions from nine member cities (approximately \$600,000 per year)
- Hennepin County tax levy for major projects (approximately \$1.5–2 million per year)
- Grant funds and application fees (varies)

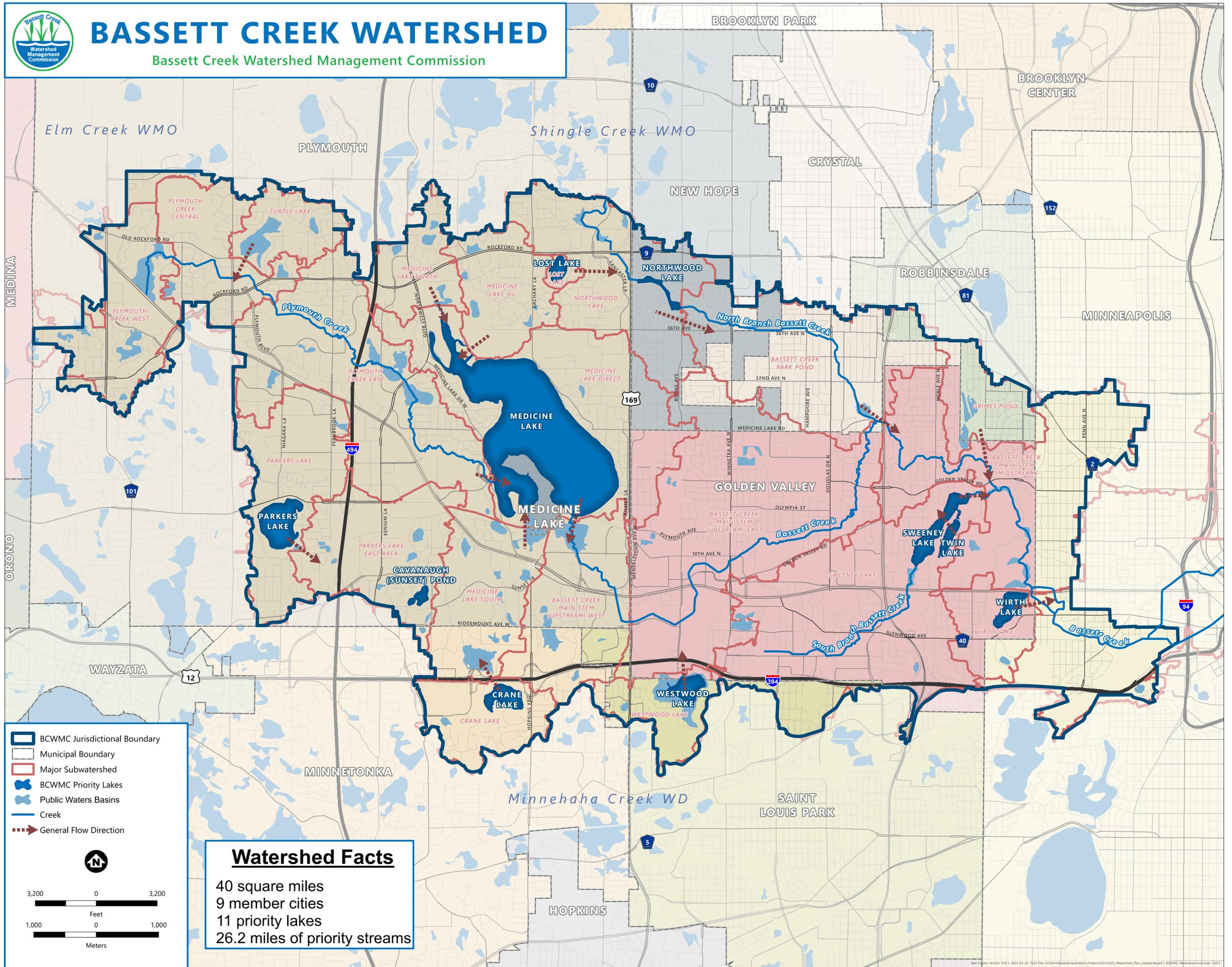
Commission activities

- Implements capital improvement projects that reduce flooding and improve lakes, streams, and wetlands throughout the watershed
- Monitors water quality, performs studies, maps resources
- Provides water resource education and watershed-wide coordination
- Reviews developments for compliance with standards and requirements

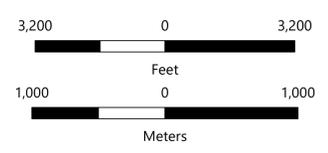


BASSETT CREEK WATERSHED

Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission



- BCWMC Jurisdictional Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Major Subwatershed
- BCWMC Priority Lakes
- Public Waters Basins
- Creek
- General Flow Direction



Watershed Facts

40 square miles
 9 member cities
 11 priority lakes
 26.2 miles of priority streams

What is a Watershed Management Plan and how is it developed?

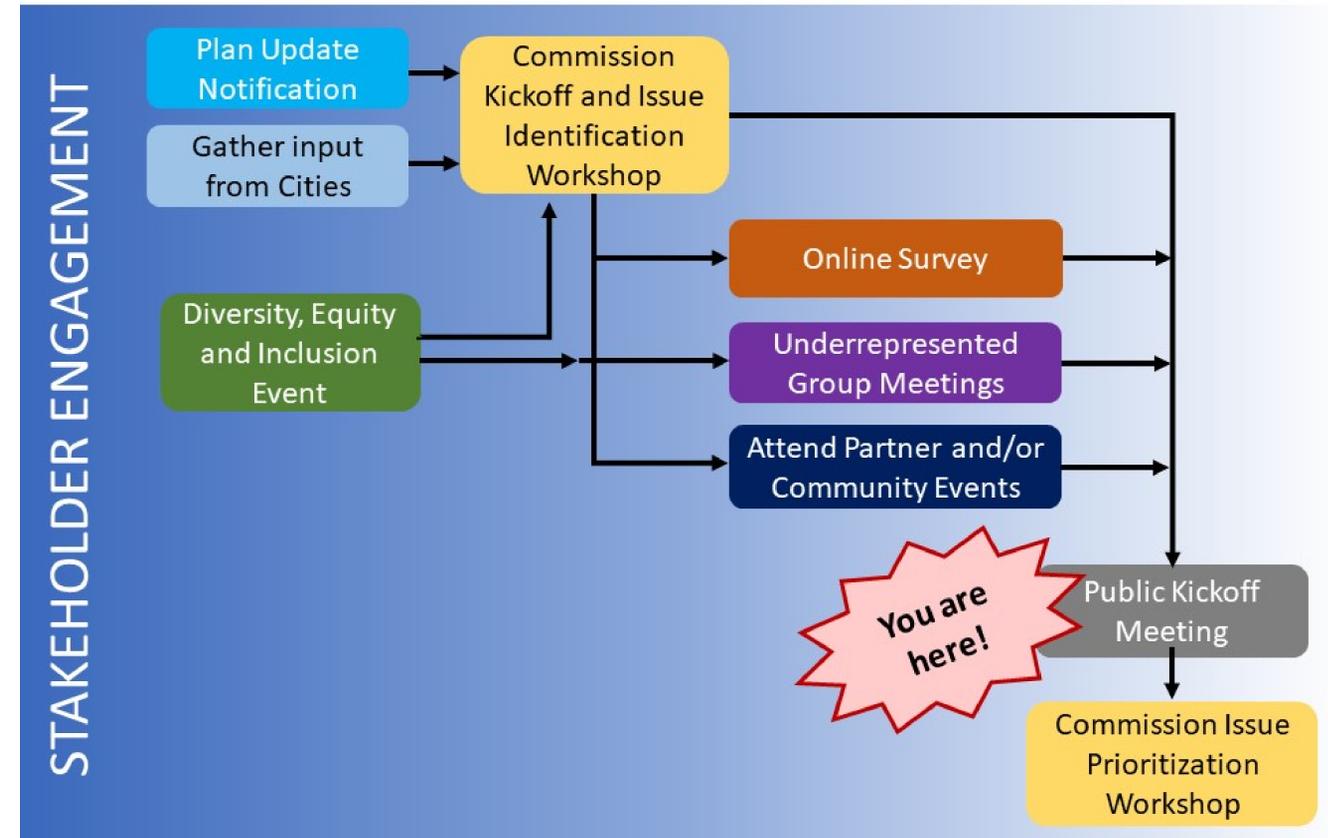
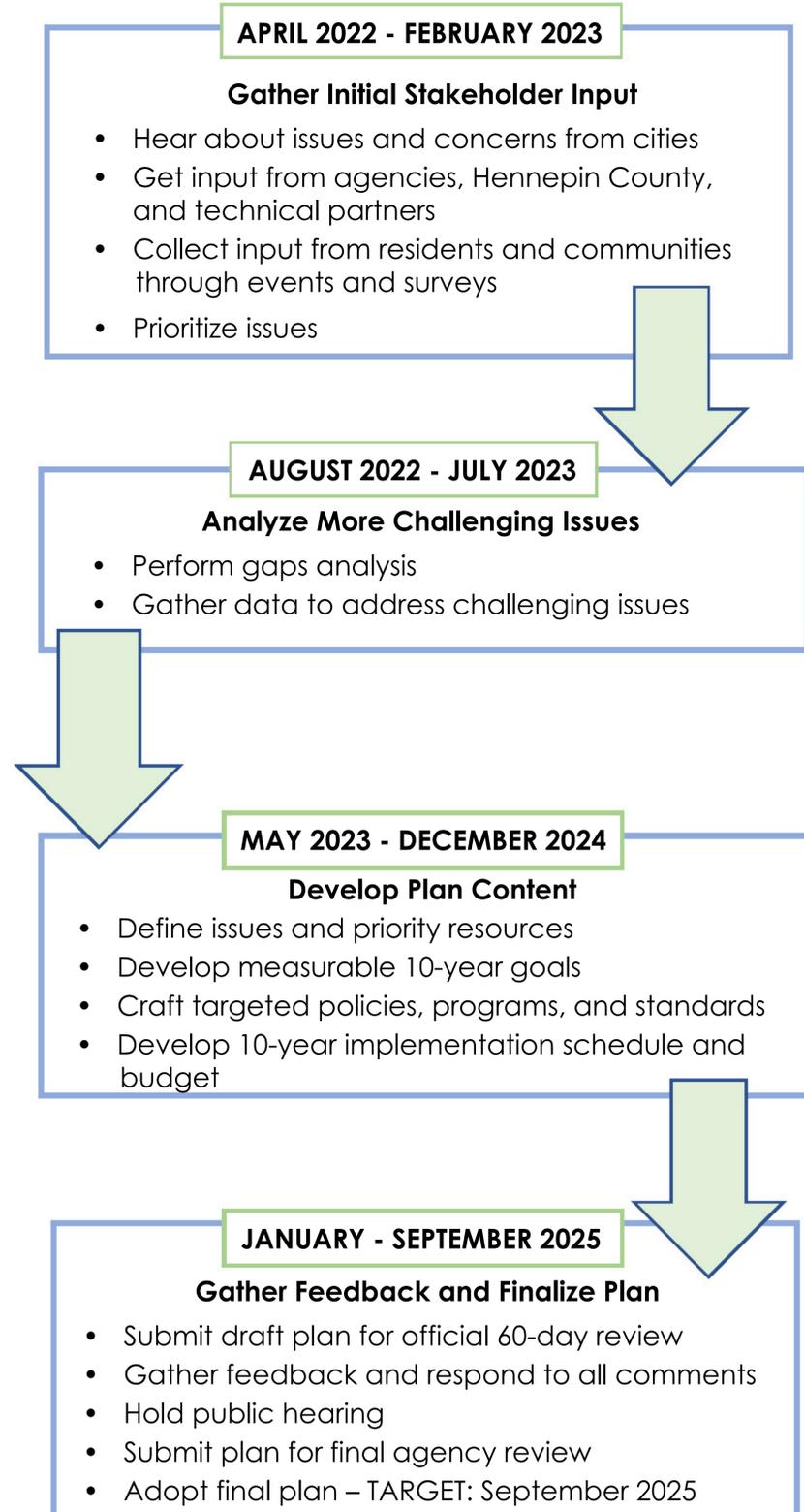
WHAT IS A WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN?

Watershed management organizations like the Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC) are required to develop a plan that lays out the organization's priorities and planned activities over a 10-year period. The BCWMC Plan will identify priority issues and resources, establish measurable goals, and outline projects and programs to address water resource challenges from 2025-2035.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS TO WRITE A WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN?

Plan development follows a specific process that takes about three years. Plan development begins with an intensive stakeholder engagement process, including this public kickoff meeting.

Planning Timeline



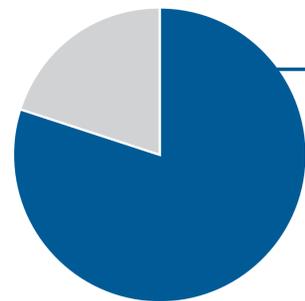
Capital Improvement Projects

Ref_Num	Type	Project_Num	Project_Name	Status	Project_Loc
1	Water Quality	2012 CR-M	Main Stem Restoration Project, Wirth Park (stream resto)	Completed	Golden Valley
2	Water Quality	2011 CR-NB	North Branch Bassett Creek Restoration Project, 200' Upstream of Douglas Dr to 32nd Ave N	Completed	Crystal
3	Water Quality	2011 CR-M	Main Stem Restoration Project, Wisconsin Ave to 10th Ave & Duluth St to the Crystal Border	Completed	Crystal
4	Water Quality	2010 CR-M	Main Stem Restoration Project Golden Valley-Crystal Border to Regent Ave	Completed	Golden Valley
5	Water Quality	2010 PC-1	Plymouth Creek Restoration Project, Medicine Lake to 26th Ave	Completed	Plymouth
6	Water Quality	2017 CR-P	Plymouth Creek Stream Restoration - Annapolis Lane Through Plymouth Creek Park	Completed	Plymouth
7	Water Quality	2015 CR-M	Bassett Creek Main Stem Stream Restoration Project, 10th Ave to Duluth St	Completed	Golden Valley
8	Water Quality	2017 CR-M	Main Stem Channel Restoration, Cedar Lake Road to Irving Ave	Completed	Minneapolis
9	Water Quality	2008	Sweeney Lake Branch Channel Restoration, Cortlawn Pond to Turner's Crossroad	Completed	Golden Valley
10	Water Quality	2014 SL-3	Schaper Pond Diversion Project	In Progress	Golden Valley
11	Water Quality	2012 WTH-4	Wirth Lake Outlet Structure	Completed	Golden Valley
12	Water Quality/Flood Control	2019 BC-2,3,8	DeCola Ponds B & C Improvement Project	In Progress	Golden Valley
14	Water Quality	2018 BCP-2	Bassett Creek Park Pond Phase I Dredging Project, Winnetka Pond	Completed	Crystal
15	Water Quality	TW-2	Twin Lake Alum Treatment	In Progress	Golden Valley
16	Water Quality	2014 BC-7	Briarwood/Dawnview Water Quality Improvement Project	Completed	Golden Valley
17	Water Quality	2013 NL-2	Four Season Area Water Quality Project/Agora Development	Hold	Plymouth
18	Water Quality	NL-1	Northwood Lake Water Quality Improvement Project (Underground)	Completed	New Hope
18	Water Quality	NL-1	Northwood Lake Water Quality Improvement Project (Underground)	Completed	New Hope
19	Water Quality	2019 WST-2	Westwood Lake Water Quality Improvements	Completed	St. Louis Park
20	Water Quality	2020 BC-5	Bryn Mawr Meadows Water Quality Improvement Project	In Progress	Minneapolis
21	Water Quality	2016 BC-4	Honeywell Pond Expansion Project	Completed	Golden Valley
22	Water Quality	2009 WST-1	Flag Ave Pond (Pond)	Completed	St. Louis Park
23	Water Quality	2009 NL-7	Northwood Lake East Water Quality Project	Completed	New Hope
24	Water Quality	2007 WTH-1	Dredge Detention Pond in Subwatershed FR-5	Completed	Golden Valley
25	Water Quality	2007 NL-4	Construct Ponds NB-36A, NB-37A, and NB-38A	Completed	New Hope
26	Water Quality	2006 ML-4	Medicine Lake East Beach Wet Detention Pond (Subwatershed BC-107)	Completed	Plymouth
27	Water Quality	2004 ML-5	Construct Wet Detention Pond for Subwatersheds BC98, BC98A, and BC98B	Completed	Plymouth
28	Flood Control	2012 FC-1	Sweeney Lake Outlet Replacement	Completed	Golden Valley
29	Water Quality	2010 ML-11	West Medicine Lake Park Ponds Water Quality Project	Completed	Plymouth
30	Water Quality	2010 PL-6	Parkers Lake/Circle Park Pond Improvements	Completed	Plymouth
31	Water Quality	ML-7	In-Lake Herbicide Treatment of Medicine Lake	Completed	Plymouth
32	Water Quality	2006 ML-3	Reroute Flows from Subwatersheds BC94 to Wet Detention Pond for BC92	Completed	Plymouth
33	Flood Control	2008	Flood Proofing Projects	Completed	Golden Valley
34	Water Quality	2020 ML-21	Jevne Park Stormwater Improvement Project	In Progress	Medicine Lake
35	Water Quality	BC-7	Bassett Creek Main Stem Lagoon Dredging Project	In Progress	Minneapolis
36	Water Quality/Flood Control	BC-2,3,8,10	DeCola Pond - Wildwood Park - SEA School Flood Storage Project	In Progress	Golden Valley
37	Water Quality/Flood Control	ML-12	Medley Park Stormwater Treatment Facility	In Progress	Golden Valley
38	Water Quality	2020 SL-8	Sweeney Lake Water Quality Improvement Project	In Progress	Golden Valley
39	Water Quality	ML-20	Mt Olivet Stream Restoration Project	In Progress	Plymouth
40	Water Quality	PL-7	Parkers Lake Drainage Improvement Project	In Progress	Plymouth
41	Water Quality	PL-7	Parkers Lake Chloride Reduction Project	In Progress	Plymouth
42	Water Quality	2020 CL-3	Crane Lake Improvement Project	Completed	Minnetonka
43	Water Quality	ML-23	Cost Share Purchase of High Efficiency Street Sweeper	Completed	Plymouth
44	Water Quality	ML-22	Ponderosa Woods Stream Restoration Project	In Progress	Plymouth
45	Water Quality	2024-CRM	Bassett Creek Main Stem Stream Restoration Project - Regent Ave to Golden Valley Rd	In Progress	Golden Valley

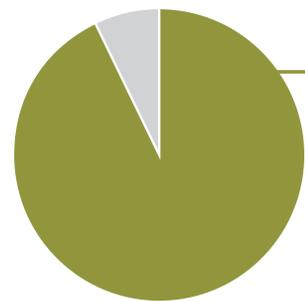
Bassett Creek Public Input Survey Results

Survey open June 2022 - January 2023

165 Respondents



80% indicate natural resources like lakes, streams, and wetlands are very important to their quality of life



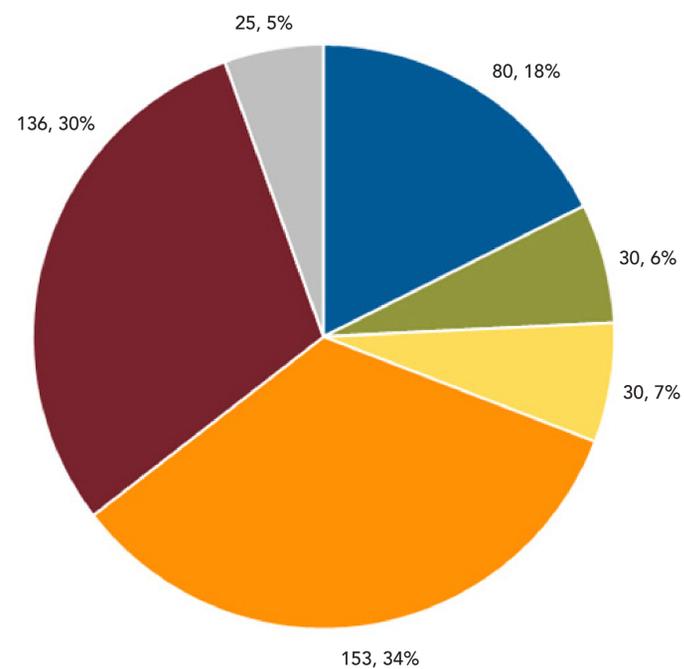
93% of respondents indicate they have adequate access to natural resources in their community; 7% DO NOT have adequate access

SUGGESTIONS

on what could be improved in the watershed included the following:

- Less trash in lakes and along streams
- Lower chloride levels (less salt!)
- More logs for turtles
- Less streambank and shoreline erosion
- More education of residents
- Better access to the creek for paddlers and enjoying nature
- Incentives for native plantings and other best practices

How do you interact with the water and natural resources (lakes, streams, wetlands, natural areas) in the BCWMC?

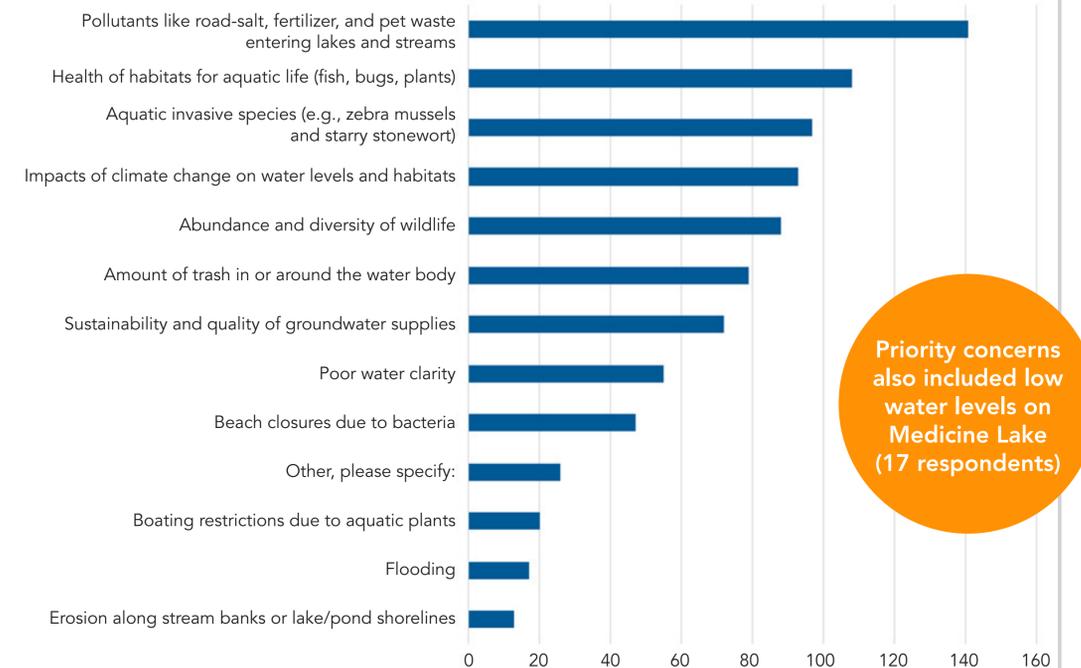


- Boat (power or paddle) on lakes
- Paddle streams
- Fish from pier or shore
- Bike/walk/run on trails near water
- Watch birds or wildlife / enjoy nature
- Other activity



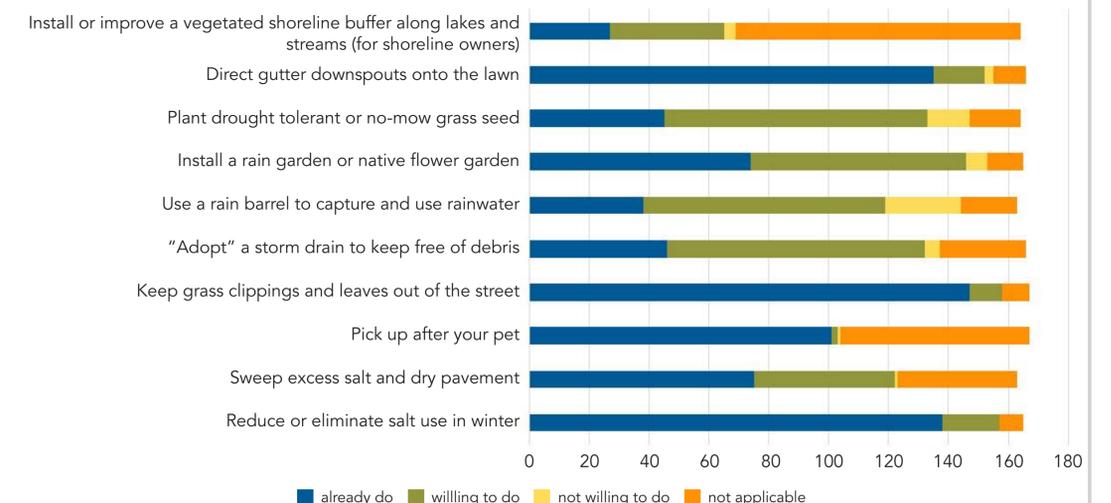
*These results do not include a similar survey about water resources from the City of Plymouth that had 220 responses from across the city, including areas outside the Bassett Creek watershed.

Of the following, what concerns you about the condition of lakes, streams, and natural areas in the Bassett Creek Watershed? (select top five concerns)



Priority concerns also included low water levels on Medicine Lake (17 respondents)

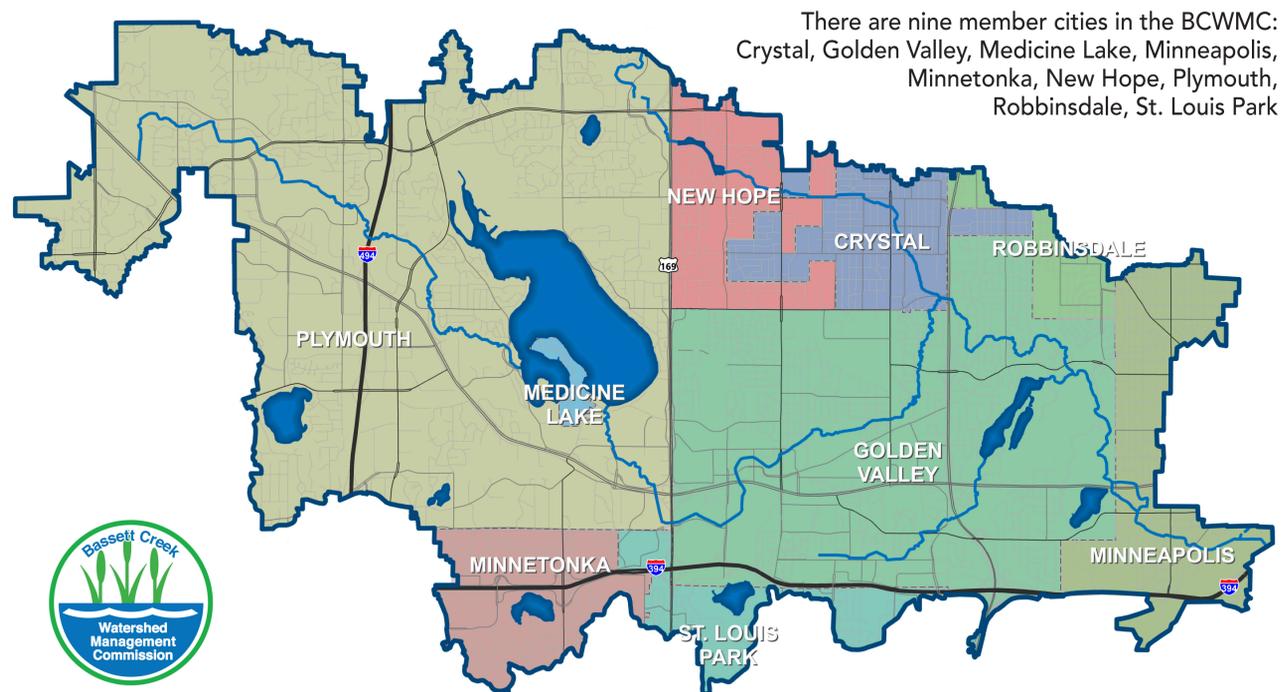
How willing are you to take the following actions around your home and yard to improve surface water and groundwater quality?



City and Agency Early Input for Plan Development

Overall, the planning process provides an opportunity for upfront issue identification to affirm, align, or change priorities relative to the current Plan.
— MN Board of Water and Soil Resources

Multiple agencies and organizations are responsible for reviewing and providing comments on Watershed Management Plans. At the beginning of the planning process, these agencies submit information on important issues and priorities to consider in the Plan. These same agencies will provide additional input by participating in a Plan Advisory Committee later this year.



The BCWMC asked for perspectives from city staff and elected or appointed officials on water resources in their community and the role of the Commission. Six cities responded to the survey.

KEY MESSAGES

- Expand education programming including outreach to diverse communities
- Continue core programs such as water monitoring, hydraulic and hydrologic modeling, Flood Control Project inspections, and Capital Improvement Program
- Consider starting a cost share or grant program for installation of best management practices by residents, businesses, and cities

Areas of high or moderate concern and where most cities want some level of BCWMC involvement include:

- A. Pollution from winter deicers (chlorides) and potential need for additional regulations
- B. Addressing and incorporating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion principals
- C. Stormwater management (flooding and water quality) in the Bassett Creek Valley and implementation of the Bassett Creek Valley plan to create regional flood
- D. Carbon footprint or climate impact of BCWMC projects and programs

Issue or Opportunity	BWSR	MDNR	MPCA	Met Council	Hennepin Co.	TRPD
Prioritize issues, establish measurable goals, assess progress	X		X	X		
Address chloride pollution	X	X	X			X
Focus on lakes and streams do not meet water quality standards			X	X	X	X
Consider impacts and opportunities related to building climate resiliency	X		X	X	X	
Continue development requirements and investigate new stormwater management techniques		X	X			
Seek opportunities for managing aquatic invasive species and protecting native species		X			X	X
Consider equity issues in watershed planning			X	X		
Leverage partnerships and existing programs of agencies and organizations	X	X	X	X	X	X
Consider grant funding for small-scale best management practices					X	X

When asked what existing BCWMC programs are working well, some cities listed:

- Water monitoring program
- Hydraulic and hydrologic modeling
- Capital Improvement Program for flood reduction and water quality improvements
- Reviewing developments/redevelopments
- Flood Control Project inspections
- Education and outreach programs
- Collaboration on Capital Improvement Projects
- Curly-leaf pondweed control on Medicine Lake

When asked what programs could be improved, some cities listed:

- Education/outreach
 - Focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion
 - Finding ways to be more effective and reach different audiences outside of people around lakes and streams
- Could use additional assistance with routine maintenance of Flood Control Project components
- More coordination to reduce duplication
- More focus on floodplain management
- Capital Improvement Program process is time consuming and too extensive
- Process for reviewing developments and redevelopments

AGENCIES who provided early comments:

