



*Restored creek and underground stormwater treatment at Cottageville Park, Hopkins
Erdahl Aerial Photos*

2018 BUDGET & LEVY

SUMMARY DOCUMENT | SEPTEMBER 2017

2018 will mark the beginning of the sixth decade of our work to protect and improve the land and water resources within our boundaries. It will be guided by a new Watershed Management Plan that was developed in partnership with our communities and is in the final stages of review. To fulfill the goals of the Plan, we will be implementing an organizational philosophy that supports the development of high-impact capital projects and a change in the land use/water policy environment to increase early, value-added partnerships.



The 2018 Budget & Levy allows us to continue the progress we have made in our clean water work while ensuring funds are put to their highest and best use. The operating budget is being reduced for the third consecutive year and we will continue looking for opportunities to leverage public funds through partnerships and grant dollars.

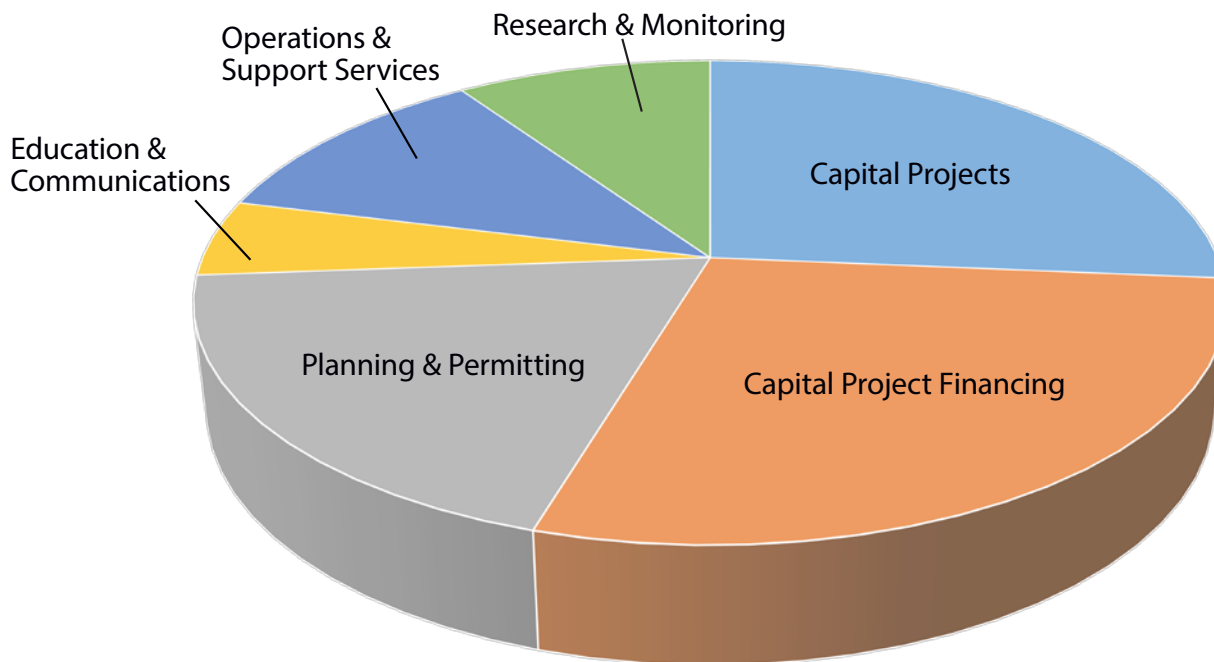
OUTCOMES FOR 2018

- » **High-impact capital projects:** A majority of District funds will be used to fund projects that improve natural resources, provide economic value, and support thriving communities.
- » **Ecological balance:** Land use and water planning will be integrated to achieve balance between the natural and built environments, boosting ecological health and community vitality.
- » **Leveraging outside funds:** More grants and partner support are being secured to leverage the public's investment in building significant, lasting water quality improvements that also meet partners' goals.
- » **Realigned programs:** District activities are being aligned and economized to maximize efficient use of District resources, resulting in the third consecutive operating budget reduction since 2016.

2018 BUDGET & LEVY

BUDGET	2017	2018
Capital Projects	\$3,177,776	\$3,223,326
Capital Project Financing	\$4,064,169	\$3,448,984
Planning & Permitting	\$2,445,047	\$2,341,933
Education & Communications	\$1,086,680	\$624,257
Operations & Support Services	\$1,601,776	\$1,403,430
Research & Monitoring	\$1,084,805	\$1,099,962
TOTAL	\$13,460,253	\$12,141,892

View detailed workplans for each program at www.minnehahacreek.org/budget



REVENUE	2017	2018
Preliminary levy	\$9,315,286	\$9,675,993
Interest earned	\$0	\$65,000
Grants and partner funds	\$130,000	\$1,284,414
Reimbursements and other	\$58,462	\$100,000
Unexpended funds	\$3,956,505	\$1,016,485
TOTAL	\$13,460,253	\$12,141,892

The District's 3.9% levy increase would raise annual property taxes by approximately \$2.35 per year on a \$300,000 home.

WHAT WE DO

The MCWD collaborates with public and private partners to protect the land and water resources within its boundaries. It leverages resources and aligns goals with others to build high-impact water quality improvement projects and integrates land use and water policy to ensure successful, sustainable communities. All of the District's programs - Planning, Permitting, Education, and Research & Monitoring - work together to support these activities.

DEVELOPING HIGH-IMPACT CAPITAL PROJECTS

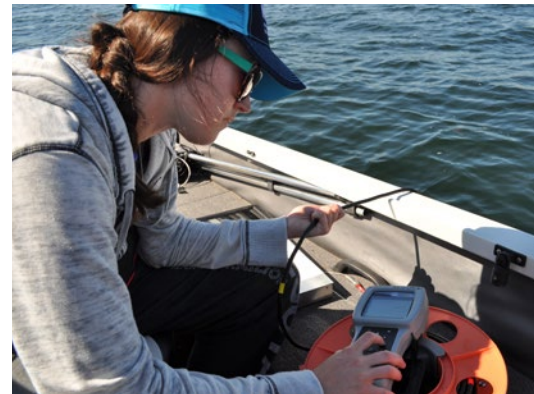
In 2018, MCWD will be focusing on three focal geographies within the watershed for developing high-impact capital projects:

- Minnehaha Creek Subwatershed
 - Minnehaha Creek Greenway - Hopkins, St. Louis Park
 - Arden Park Restoration - Edina
 - Minnehaha Creek Restoration - Minneapolis
- Six Mile - Halsted Bay Subwatershed
 - Carp Management
 - Wetland Restoration Prioritization
 - Halsted Bay Alum Treatment
- Painter's Creek - Jennings Bay Subwatershed

In 2018, MCWD staff will continue to foster strong relationships with our public and private partners to move forward on projects in our focal geographies and elsewhere. At the same time, we will remain open and flexible for opportunities that present themselves throughout the year. For more detailed information on 2018 projects and program activities, visit www.minnehahacreek.org/budget.



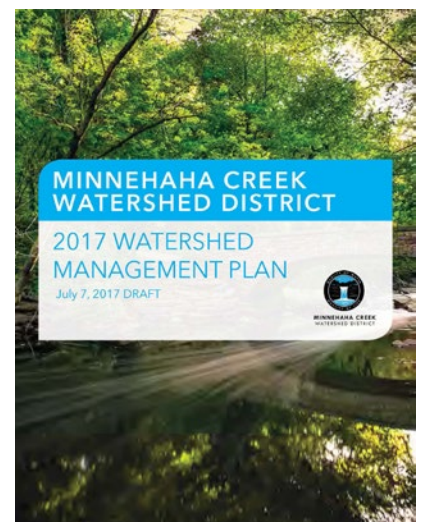
Aerial view of Six Mile Creek draining to Halsted Bay, Erdahl Aerial Photos



CHANGING LAND USE/WATER POLICY ENVIRONMENT

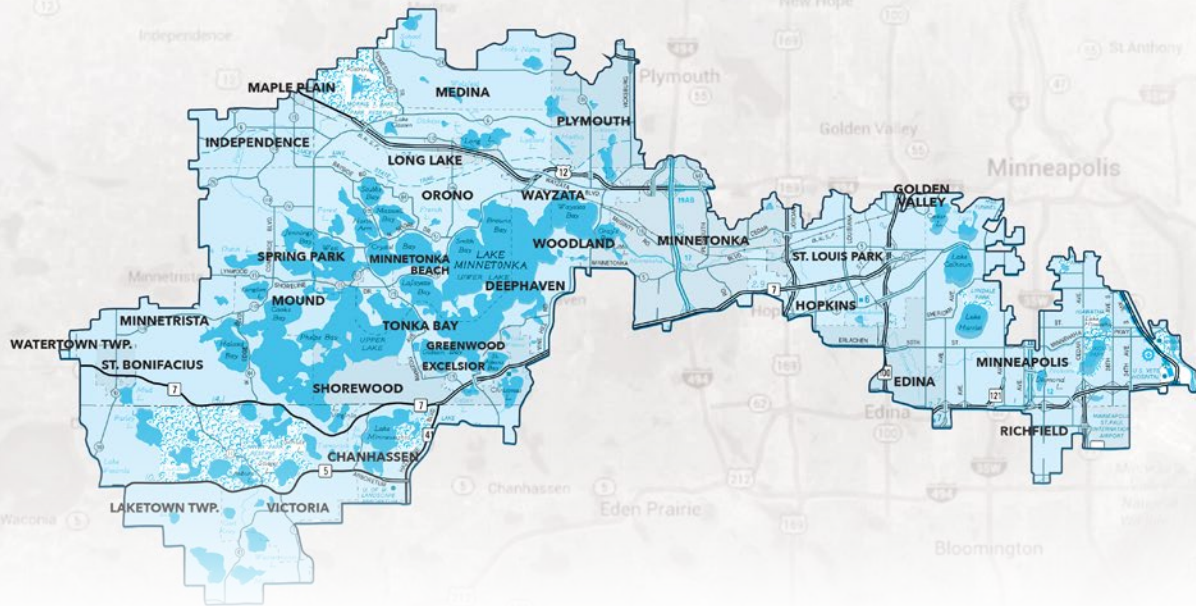
MCWD's philosophy of balanced urban ecology recognizes the relationship between the natural and built environments and the need for partnering with public and private partners to achieve both community development and water resources goals. MCWD is working to change the land use and water policy environment so that early, value-added collaboration becomes the norm, making it easier to bring the natural and built environments in balance throughout the watershed.

All programs will work to support changing the land-use and water policy environment and position MCWD as a preferred partner by developing relationships and partnerships with municipalities, developers, policymakers, associations, and other stakeholders. As part of this work, MCWD's draft 10-year update to our Watershed Management Plan emphasizes collaboration with communities to align water resource goals with local land use goals.



The draft Watershed Management Plan is currently in the formal review process and is scheduled to be adopted in December 2017. It was developed with robust input from municipalities, counties, agencies, lake associations, and other interested stakeholders. The draft Plan and more information about the process can be found at www.minnehahacreek.org/2017.

ABOUT MCWD



Minnehaha Creek Watershed District is a local unit of government responsible for managing and protecting the water resources in one of the largest urban watersheds in the state of Minnesota.

The watershed stretches 181 square miles from Minnetrista to south Minneapolis and includes Lake Minnetonka, the Minneapolis Chain of Lakes, Minnehaha Creek, and Minnehaha Falls. There are eight major creeks, 129 lakes, and thousands of wetlands within the MCWD.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- » **Partnership:** We seek to understand the goals of others so that we can meaningfully integrate our work to add broader value to the community.
- » **Innovation:** We are flexible and creative in our approach and strive for continuous improvement.
- » **Excellence:** We commit to work that achieves outstanding results and honors our partners.
- » **Sound Science:** We are a trusted source of scientific data and analyses that provide the foundation for wise decisions.
- » **Service:** We are responsive and accountable to our communities and careful stewards of public funds.

STAY CONNECTED

Keep up to date with us at www.minnehahacreek.org, or follow us:

Facebook: @minnehahacreek
Twitter: @minhahackwd
Instagram: @minnehahacreekwd
YouTube: MinnehahaCreekWtshd
LinkedIn: MinnehahaCreekWD

2018 BUDGET & LEVY TIMELINE

- » **September 14, 2017:**
MCWD Board holds public hearing on preliminary budget & levy
MCWD Board votes on preliminary budget & levy
- » **September 15, 2017:**
MCWD sends preliminary budget & levy to counties
- » **December 14, 2017:**
MCWD Board holds public comment period on preliminary budget & levy
- » **December 21, 2017:**
MCWD Board approves final 2018 budget & levy

APPROVED**2018 MCWD BUDGET SUMMARY**

2018 EXPENSES	2017 Budget	2018 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
OPERATIONS & SUPPORT SERVICES				
General Operations	\$ 1,463,713	\$ 1,195,230	\$ (268,483)	-18.34%
Information Technology	\$ 101,063	\$ 176,700	\$ 75,637	74.84%
Government Relations	\$ 37,000	\$ 31,500	\$ (5,500)	-14.86%
Sub-Total	\$ 1,601,776	\$ 1,403,430	\$ (198,346)	-12.38%
PLANNING & PERMITTING				
Permit Administration	\$ 631,651	\$ 663,607	\$ 31,956	5.06%
Planning & Projects	\$ 1,114,973	\$ 912,310	\$ (202,663)	-18.18%
Project Maint. & Land Mgmt	\$ 683,310	\$ 754,198	\$ 70,888	10.37%
Habitat Restoration Initiative	\$ 15,113	\$ 11,818	\$ (3,295)	-21.80%
Sub-Total	\$ 2,445,047	\$ 2,341,933	\$ (103,114)	-4.22%
EDUCATION & COMMUNICATIONS				
Cynthia Krieg	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ (100,000)	-100.00%
Education	\$ 266,790	\$ 417,052	\$ 150,262	56.32%
Communications	\$ 174,914	\$ 207,205	\$ 32,291	18.46%
Cost Share	\$ 544,976	\$ -	\$ (544,976)	-100.00%
Sub-Total	\$ 1,086,680	\$ 624,257	\$ (462,423)	-42.55%
RESEARCH & MONITORING				
Water Quality	\$ 675,354	\$ 967,962	\$ 292,608	43.33%
E-Grade	\$ 199,451	\$ -	\$ (199,451)	-100.00%
Lake Nokomis Project	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Joint Watershed Research Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
Aquatic Invasive Species Program	\$ 210,000	\$ 132,000	\$ (78,000)	-37.14%
Research & Monitoring General Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Sub-Total	\$ 1,084,805	\$ 1,099,962	\$ 15,157	1.40%
Program & Operations Subtotal:	\$ 6,218,308	\$ 5,469,582	\$ (748,726)	-12.04%
CAPITAL PROJECTS				
Capital Projects Total	\$ 3,177,776	\$ 3,223,326	\$ 45,550	1.43%
Sub-Total	\$ 3,177,776	\$ 3,223,326	\$ 45,550	1.43%
DEBT SERVICE				
Land Conservation	\$ 4,064,169	\$ 3,448,984	\$ (615,185)	-15.14%
Sub-Total	\$ 4,064,169	\$ 3,448,984	\$ (615,185)	-15.14%
Capital Projects & Debt Service Total:	\$ 7,241,945	\$ 6,672,310	\$ (569,635)	-7.87%
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 13,460,253	\$ 12,141,892	\$ (1,318,361)	-9.79%
2018 REVENUE & AVAILABLE FUNDS				
Preliminary Levy	\$9,315,286	\$ 9,675,993	\$ 360,707	3.87%
Interest earned	\$0	\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000	
Grants and Partner Funds	\$130,000	\$ 1,284,414	\$ 1,154,414	888.01%
Reimbursements & other	\$58,462	\$ 100,000	\$ 41,538	71.05%
Balance available due to carry-forward	\$3,956,505	\$ 1,016,485	\$ (2,940,020)	-74.31%
TOTAL REVENUE & AVAILABLE FUNDS:	\$13,460,253	\$12,141,892	\$ (1,318,361)	-9.79%