



## Capitol Region Watershed District

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For Immediate Release

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### Your voice needed to improve Como Lake

**Saint Paul, Minn. (July 24, 2018)** – Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) seeks public input to help develop plans for a healthier Como Lake. The Como Lake Strategic Management Plan (2002) has served as the blueprint for efforts to protect, manage and improve the lake. The plan is being updated to reflect the latest science, innovations in stormwater management and the community’s goals for the lake. Learn more about why Como Lake is a valued community resource in this new 2:18 minute video: <https://vimeo.com/280400989>.

CRWD and partners have installed numerous projects in recent years to capture nutrient-laden runoff and allow it to soak into the ground. Lake area residents also coordinate neighborhood leaf clean-ups to reduce excess nutrients flowing into the lake. Excess nutrients from decomposing leaves and grass clippings fuel algal growth leaving the lake green, and in some cases, smelly in the summertime. Despite all this work, water quality improvements are still needed.

*“There is a remarkable power in a bunch of volunteers banding together to clean up the lake by sweeping leaves from the streets. Doing these small things may seem insignificant, but when we as a community do them together, it makes all of the difference in the world.” -Mike Ireland, Como Area Resident*

The updated Como Lake Management Plan will be developed through an adaptive process, combining the best science with community input to create a shared understanding of the historical and current conditions, as well as a vision of what a healthy Como Lake looks like. CRWD is developing a Public Advisory Group (PAG) to aid in this process. This is an important opportunity for residents who care about the lake to help shape its future.

*“Como Lake is a regional resource loved by many of our residents. We hope you will join us to improve water quality in the lake by bringing your energy, knowledge and ideas to the planning process.” – Mark Doneux, Administrator*

The first of three meetings is scheduled for Thursday, August 9, from 6-8 pm at Como Lakeside Pavilion. The second meeting will be held in November 2018, and the third in February 2019. Residents participating in the PAG are encouraged to attend all three meetings if possible. RSVP at <https://www.facebook.com/CapitolRegionWD> and learn more about Como Lake and the planning process at <http://capitolregionwd.org/comolake>.

### **About Capitol Region Watershed District**

[CRWD](#), established in 1998, covers 40 square miles and includes portions of Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Maplewood, Roseville and Saint Paul, protecting water sources such as Como Lake, Crosby Lake, Loeb Lake, Lake McCarrons and the Mississippi River. CRWD is governed by a five-member Board of Managers that work to protect, manage and improve the water resources of the District.

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