



Since our creation in 1998, Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) has built thousands of best management practices (BMPs) across the District to improve water quality and grown to become a national leader in stormwater management.

OUR VISION: Cleaner waters through innovative, resilient, effective and equitable watershed management in collaboration with diverse partners.

WHO WE ARE: CRWD is a special purpose local government unit that manages water resources within portions of Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Maplewood, Roseville and Saint Paul, Minnesota.

WHAT WE DO: CRWD staff carry out a range of programs, projects and capital improvements designed to protect, manage and improve the resources within our boundaries, including creeks, wetlands, lakes, natural areas, and the Mississippi River.

Water Resources of the District

40 square miles

1 Mighty Mississippi

5 lakes — Como, Crosby, Little Crosby, Loeb & McCarrons

11 wetlands

19 miles of shoreline

500 miles of storm sewers



CRWD PROJECTS

McMurray Field Stormwater Improvements

CRWD and the City of Saint Paul are partnering on designs for a large stormwater treatment project at McMurray Field to reduce pollution flowing to Como Lake. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2026.

The project area drains **156 acres** flowing to Como Lake.

Trout Brook Storm Sewer Interceptor

CRWD owns, operates, and maintains the Trout Brook Interceptor (TBI), a 6-mile-long tunnel below ground that carries rainwater from city streets to the Mississippi River. In 2025, CRWD completed the five year inspection of the full pipe system under CRWD ownership.

More than **5,000 acres** of land drains to TBI

Climate Resiliency Framework

CRWD completed a Climate Resiliency Framework that identifies activities to help the District create climate resilience in our watershed for our water and natural resources, stormwater infrastructure, and communities.

The average annual precipitation in Minnesota has increased by **3.4 inches** since 1895.

Highland Bridge

CRWD helped plan and supported construction of the award-winning sustainable stormwater management systems and the reimagined Hidden Falls Creek at Highland Bridge in Saint Paul at the site of the former Ford Plant.

65 million gals. of water treated


145 lbs. of phosphorus removed

Water Environment Federation **2025 Project Excellence Award**

Art + Water Workshops

CRWD welcomed Sarah Peters as our new Watershed Artist-in-Residence. Sarah, along with CRWD Community Engagement Coordinator Maricella Xiong organized a series of artist-led Art + Water Workshops at our Watershed Learning Center.

In 2025, we hosted **three Art + Water Workshops** for **258 people**.



Mississippi River watershed projection art, Art + Water Workshop: Bodies of Water and Light with Boo McCaleb. Photo by Purpose Madison.

2025 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Monitoring and Research

Monitoring District lakes, wetlands, and stormwater runoff, along with stormwater best management practices helps us stay informed of conditions and determine water quality goals and successes.

5 lake water quality sites | **77** monitoring stations
459 water quality samples

Rules and Permitting

District Rules require permits on development projects greater than one acre to ensure erosion and sediment control during construction and installation of stormwater best management practices.

619 permit inspections
54 permit applications
26 permits closed

Grants

CRWD's grant programs support practices that protect local lakes and the Mississippi River. We work with residents, non-profits, schools, businesses, and public agencies to build clean water projects and lead programs that promote clean water actions.

11 Clean Water Project Grants: \$176,191
17 Native Landscape Grants: \$17,000
21 Maintenance Grants: \$25,766
9 Partner Grants: \$178,492

Facility Management

CRWD developed a comprehensive stormwater facility management program to assist public partners with the operation and maintenance of stormwater facilities.

Pooled BMP Maintenance Program supporting
23 rain gardens owned by
6 local government partners



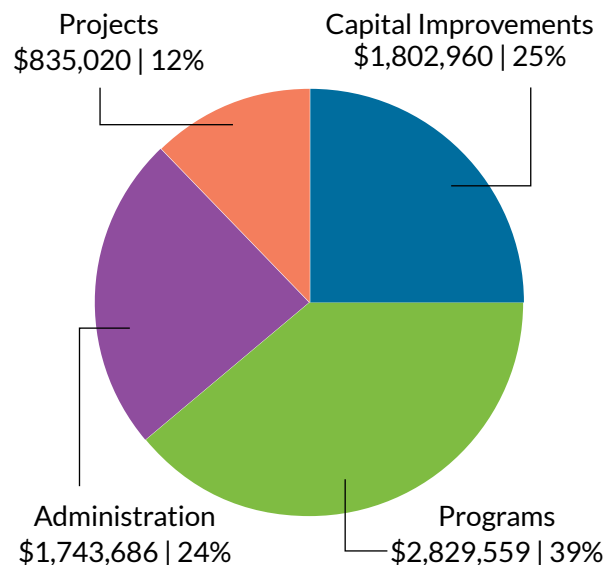
CRWD 2025 RightTrack WaterCorps intern monitoring lake water quality.

Communications and Engagement

CRWD participates in community events, leads hands-on activities for young people and invites residents and partners to increase knowledge about clean water and encourage participation to protect our water resources.

1,500+ residents engaged at **50+** public events
14 articles on capitolregionwd.org/news

2025 Expenditures



PEOPLE OF CRWD

People

Through collaboration with many people, from Board Managers and Community Advisory Committee members to volunteers and partners, we contribute towards cleaner waters to benefit all.

5 Board Managers
10 CAC members
27 staff members
212,000 residents
Countless partners



Community Advisory Committee

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) assists the Board of Managers with organizational development and strengthens connections between CRWD and its residents. Visit CRWD's website for information on how to join.



Board of Managers

CRWD is led by a five-person Board of Managers that sets policies, guides the implementation of goals and activities set forth in CRWD's Watershed Management Plan. Board Managers are appointed by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners and serve a three-year term.

Left to right: Joe Collins, President; Mary Texer, Vice President; Hawona Sullivan Janzen, Secretary; Shawn Mazanec, Communications and Engagement; Rick Sanders, Treasurer.

CRWD Watershed Learning Center

CRWD's Watershed Learning Center is LEED Gold v4 certified and uses green building principles. Our site has clean water features like rainwater harvesting and reuse, rain gardens, tree trenches and permeable pavement, and a pocket park with native plantings and an interactive educational exhibit.

3,000 gal. cistern collects rainwater from the roof to support building use and interactive exhibit

Solar panels provide **20% of electricity needs**

75,000 gal. underground infiltration system for stormwater runoff

2024 National Recognition Award, American Council of Engineering Companies and

2024 Grand Award Winner, American Council of Engineering Companies of Minnesota

All photos on this page by Ackerman + Gruber.