

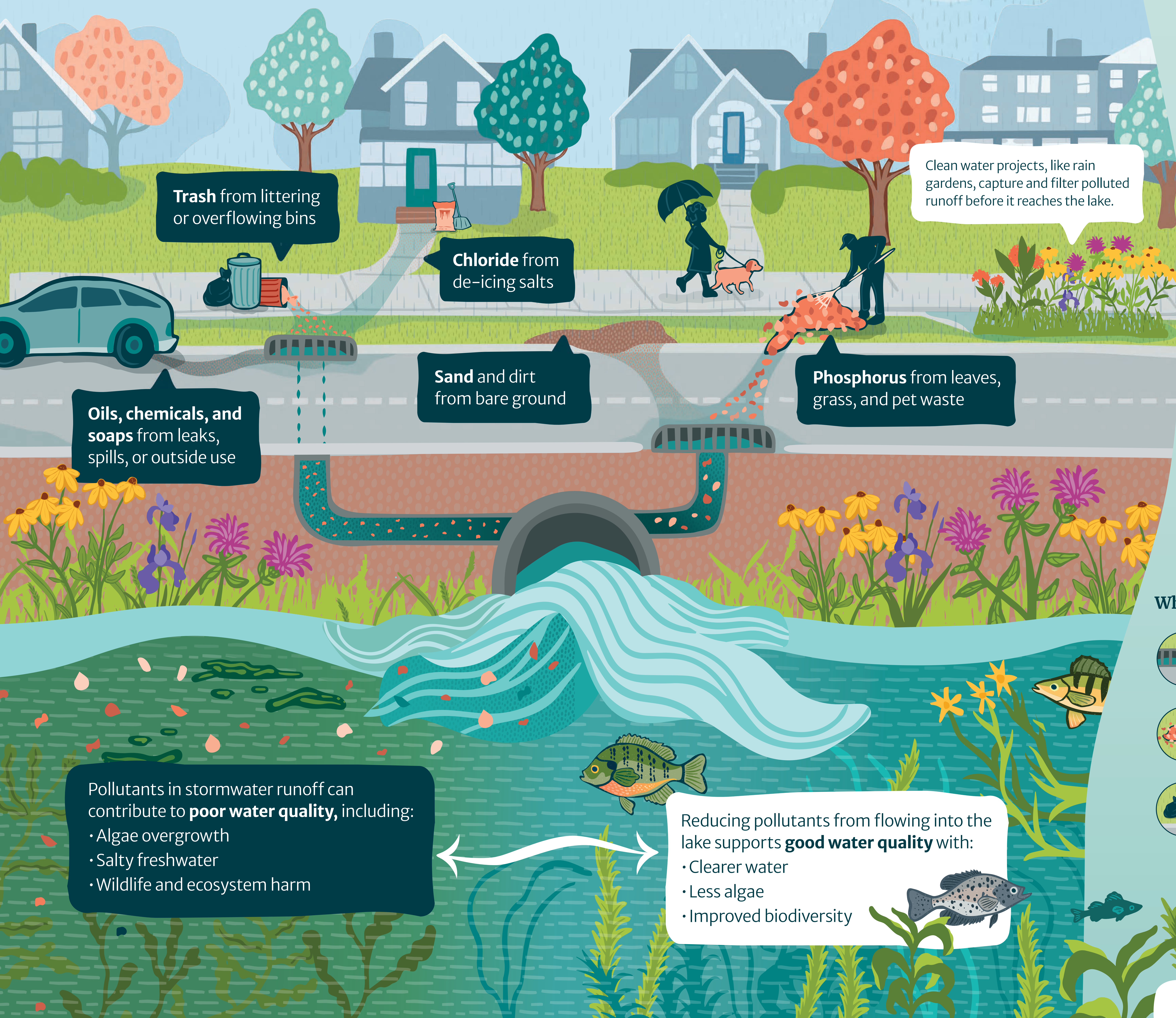
The Watershed's Influence on Como Lake

The water quality in Como Lake has been significantly affected by stormwater runoff from its urban watershed. Over the last century, polluted runoff has flowed into the lake through storm sewers, degrading water quality and ecosystem health. Impacts to the lake from pollution include algae blooms, low water clarity, fish kills, and lack of biodiversity. In recent years, Como Lake's water quality has improved through ongoing strong community support and strategic management activities led by Capitol Region Watershed District, the City of Saint Paul, and partners.

Runoff Brings Pollutants to the Lake

When it rains or snow melts, water flows over rooftops and paved surfaces into storm drains, picking up pollutants along the way and carrying them to the lake.

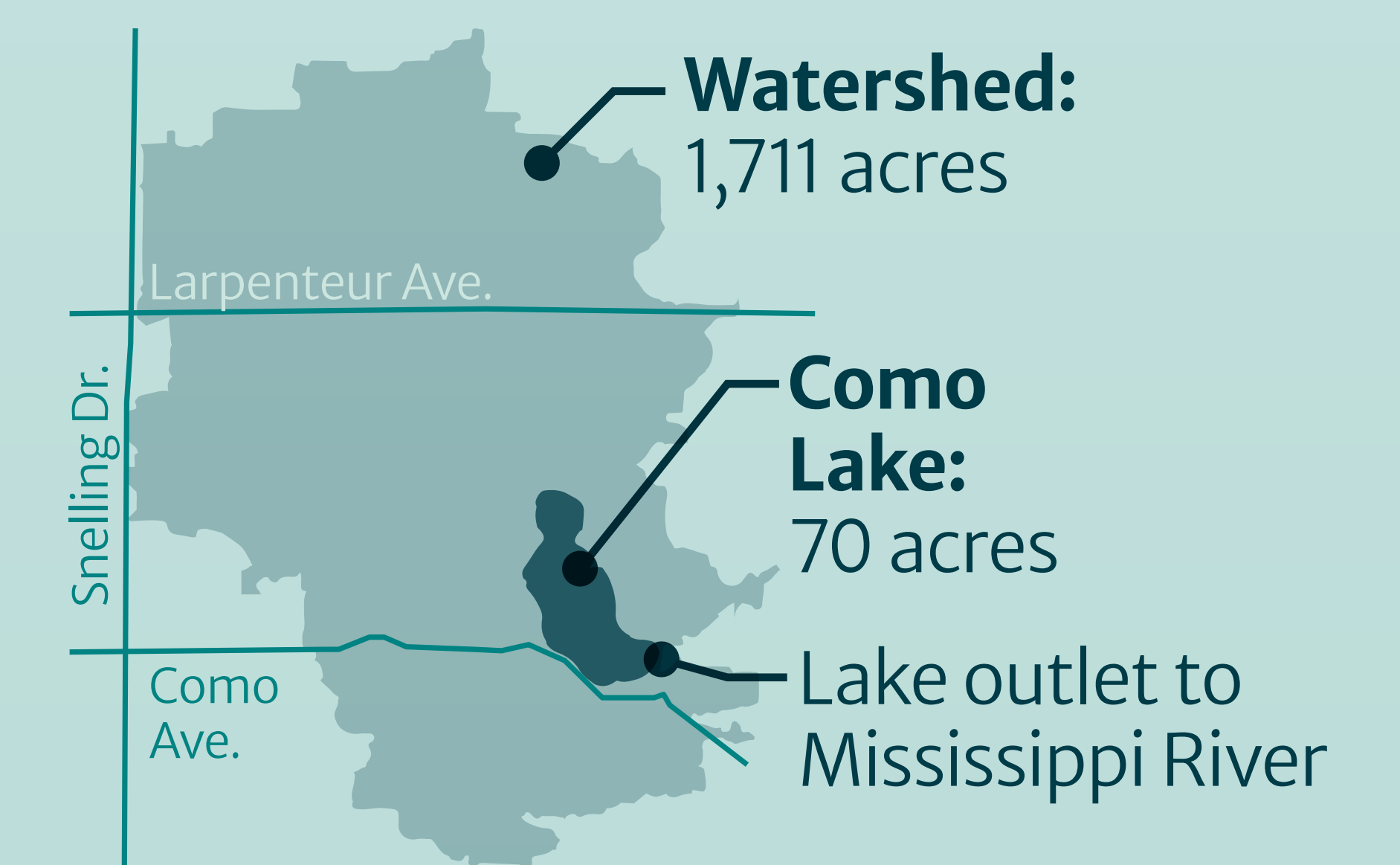
Common pollutants include:



What is a Watershed?

An area of land that drains to a single water body, like a lake or river.

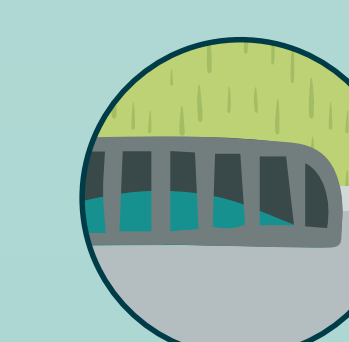
Como Lake's watershed is nearly 25 times bigger than the lake itself and includes portions of Saint Paul, Falcon Heights, and Roseville. The entire watershed drains into Como Lake through 22 storm sewer outfalls.



Como Lake's Mississippi River Connection

Water moves through an outlet in the southeast bay of the lake and into a 6-mile tunnel that flows to the Mississippi River near downtown Saint Paul.

What Can You Do To Protect Como Lake?



Keep storm drains clear



Shovel more, salt less



Clean up yard and pet waste



Stabilize bare ground



Place trash in bins



Install a rain garden!

How's the Lake Today?

Learn more about Como Lake's water quality and efforts to improve the lake at capitolregionwd.org/comolakewq



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