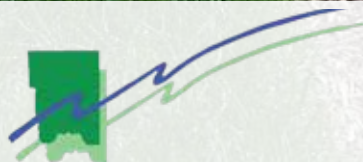


Annual Report: 2017 Work Plan and 2016 Accomplishments

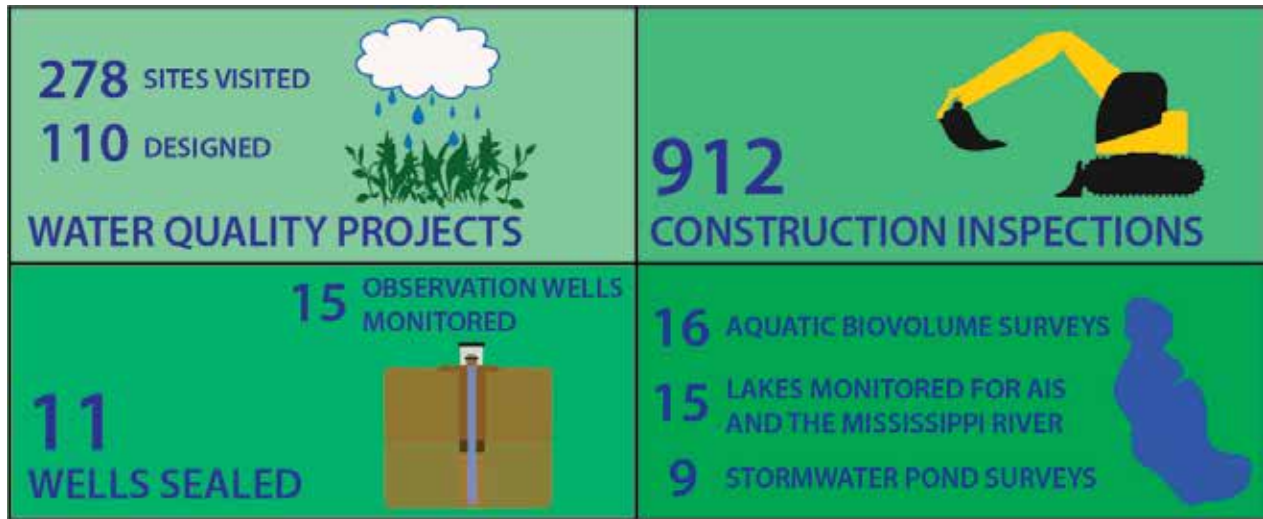




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# 2016, A Year in Review



The Ramsey Conservation District (RCD) Staff and Board are proud to present our 2017 Annual Plan, with a review of 2016, which included the sixth consecutive year with revenues exceeding expenditures. This foundation of fiscal stability has empowered the RCD to accomplish the prioritized goals and action items identified in the RCD 2017-2025 Comprehensive Plan.

In 2016 the Conservation Forum was introduced and important topics were presented such as Urban Pollinators, where a capacity crowd heard experts such as Dr. Marla Spivak speak on the subject and give important action steps that all people can take to protect and increase pollinator habitat. Other accomplishments in 2016 included:

- An electronic inventory of all individual septic systems in Ramsey County
- Tour of Frogtown Farm, an urban organic farm that received technical and financial assistance from the RCD
- State of the Waters event focused on Governor Dayton’s call to a “Year of Water Action”
- Raingarden maintenance workshop at the Roseville Library

The RCD administered the 2014 and 2015 Community Partners Grants in 2016. These grants are funded by the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment and are available for use by faith organizations, schools, businesses, and homeowner organizations. Six organizations installed water quality improvement projects using these grants in 2016. Together these projects will remove 4.86 pounds of phosphorus, 2,662 pounds of total suspended solids, and keep 231,440 cubic feet of stormwater runoff from entering Ramsey County water bodies each year!

The RCD collaborated with watershed districts and water management organizations by completing 278 site visits, designing 177 concept plans, and designing 110 construction-ready documents. Many of these projects have been installed, reducing phosphorus, total suspended solids, and untreated stormwater from entering Ramsey County water bodies.

Staff have also assisted the cities of Arden Hills and Shoreview as well as Rice Creek Watershed District by conducting 912 construction site inspections. These site inspections

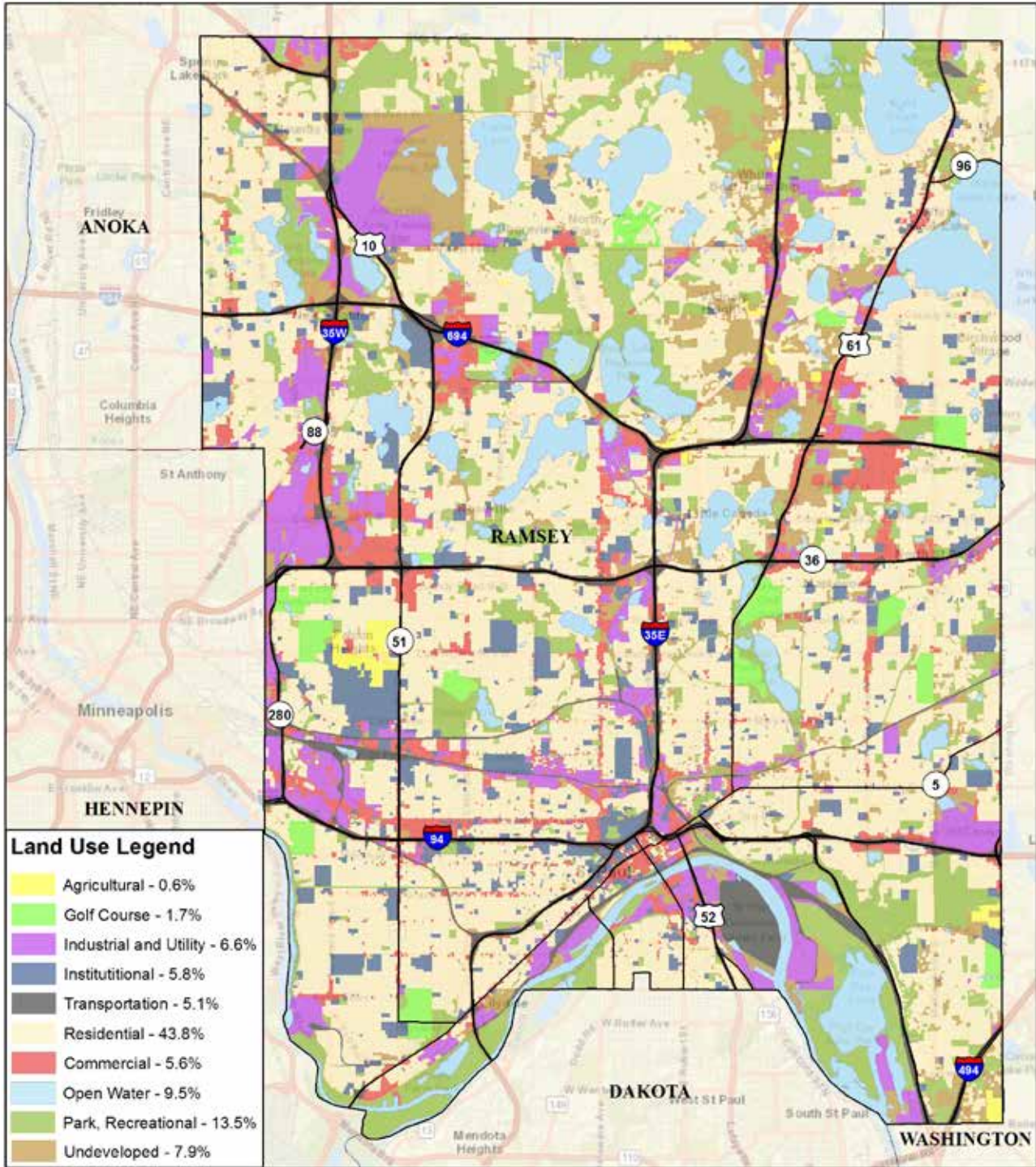
ensure that construction sites are properly installing best management practices that reduce sediment and pollutants from entering water bodies and endangering aquatic ecosystems.

Groundwater protection has also been a focus for the Ramsey Conservation District. In 2016, the RCD assisted residents in sealing 11 unused wells and placing dozens more on our waiting list for 2017 funds. Unsealed wells can be a direct conduit for pollution to enter groundwater, so it is important to seal any abandoned or unused wells.

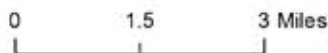
Educating Ramsey County citizens about environmental protection and natural resources is at the forefront of every project the RCD completes. Staff assisted with Waterfest, Children’s Waterfest, and other community engagement projects to enhance the public’s appreciation for natural resources.

We deeply appreciate the support of local residents and our partner organizations, as we work together to care for the land and water in Ramsey County.

# Ramsey County Land Use



**Ramsey County Land Use, 2010**



Sources: 2010 Land Use shapefile: Met Council  
 Background World Street Map: ArcGIS Online  
 Highway and County shapefiles: Ramsey County  
 Map created in 2016: Ramsey Conservation District

# Organization



## Background

The Ramsey Conservation District is a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota established to assist the citizens of Ramsey County to conserve natural resources. The RCD is one of 89 Soil and Water Conservation Districts within Minnesota.

Leadership and governance of the Ramsey Conservation District is provided by five elected supervisors. The role of the RCD Supervisors is to develop policy, prioritize long-range plans for natural resource conservation programs, and approve an annual budget and work plan.

The Ramsey Conservation District does not have taxing or regulatory authorities and must rely on partnerships with other governmental agencies to fund and implement its conservation programs. Our primary partners are: Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), Ramsey County Board of Commissioners, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Metropolitan Conservation Districts (MCDs), seven water management organizations (WMOs) that have territory in Ramsey County and 19 municipalities within Ramsey County.

### Mission

The Ramsey Conservation District conserves and enhances natural resources in Ramsey County by providing technical, financial, and educational support to residents, property owners, and state, local, and federal governmental agencies and environmental organizations.

### Vision

The Ramsey Conservation District provides programs and services, whose focus is to promote long-term sustainability of Ramsey County's natural resources, including and especially our rich reserves of groundwater and our lakes, rivers, and wetlands.

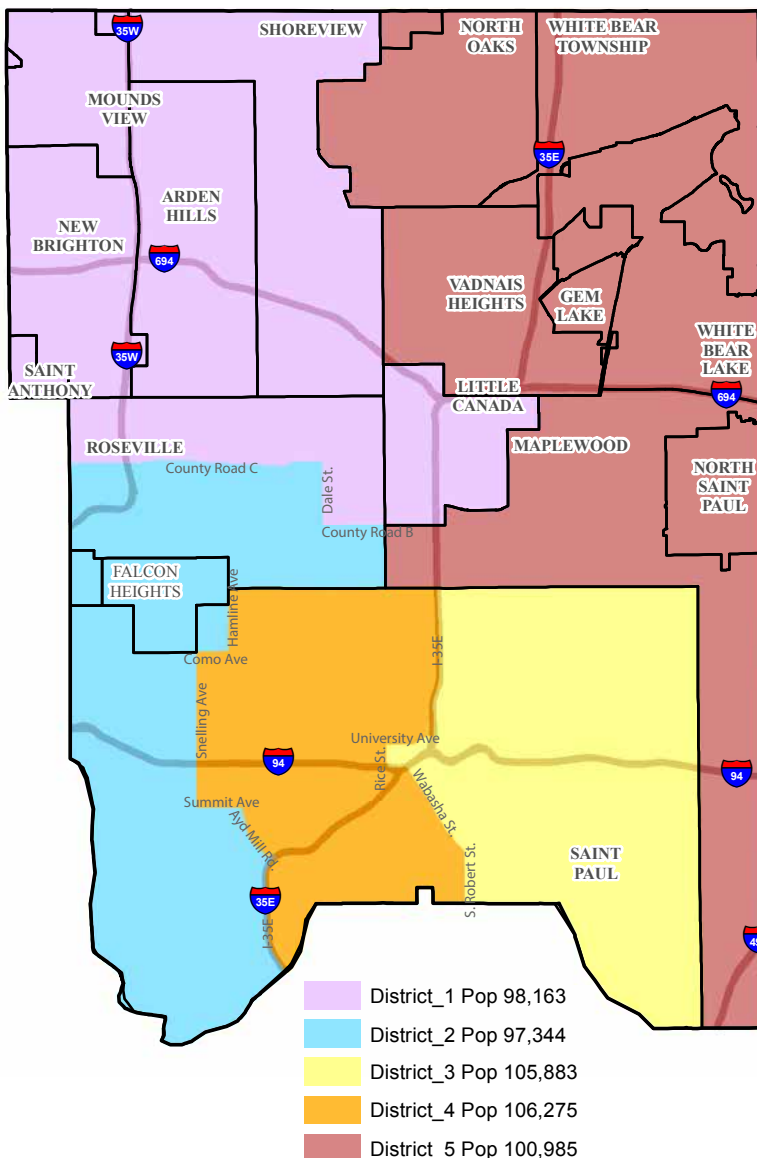
We are committed to being fiscally responsible with the public funds entrusted to us and to pursue grant funding to maximize resources and promote intergovernmental cooperative efforts for increased cost-efficiency.

# Board of Supervisors



Mara Humphrey    Gwen Willems    Paul Gardner    Margaret Behrens    Lena Buggs

## 2017 Board of Supervisors Districts



The Ramsey Conservation District Board of Supervisors is elected to set district policies and approve administration and conservation activities. Board members meet for monthly board meetings and for special meetings.

### Board of Supervisors Districts

#### Paul Gardner - District 1

Little Canada, Saint Anthony, New Brighton, Shoreview, Mounds View, Arden Hills, Blaine, Spring Lake Park

#### Gwen Willems - District 2

City of St. Paul west of Snelling, Ayd Mill Road, and I-35E, Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Roseville South of County Road C, to Dale, and South of County Road B.

#### Mara Humphrey - District 3

City of St. Paul east of I-35E, Wabasha St, and S. Robert Street.

#### Lena Buggs - District 4

City of St. Paul west of I-35E, Wabasha St, and S. Robert Street to Snelling, Ayd Mill Road, and I-35E

#### Margaret Behrens - District 5

Maplewood, North St. Paul, White Bear Lake, White Bear Township, North Oaks, Vadnais Heights, and Gem Lake

# Staff, Volunteers, and Partners

## 2016 Staff

Ramsey Conservation District relies on technical staff to implement programs and projects throughout Ramsey County.



Ann WhiteEagle	District Manager
Joseph Lochner	Conservation Design Specialist
Michael Schumann	Natural Resource Specialist
Andrea Prichard	Environmental GIS Technician
Brian Olsen	Conservation Technician
Layne Warner	Conservation Corps
Ashley Bennett	Assistant District Technician

## Volunteers

Ramsey Conservation District values our volunteers!

In 2016 the Ramsey Conservation District had volunteers assist with the following program:

- 65 Rain Gaugers

The RCD staff have also volunteered time to assist elderly project participants in weeding their shoreline vegetation and planting rain gardens



## Partners

Ramsey County  
Natural Resource Conservation Service  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Minnesota Department of Agriculture  
Minnesota Department of Health  
Ramsey County Cities

Ramsey County Schools  
Non-profits  
Capitol Region Watershed District  
Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District  
Rice Creek Watershed District  
Valley Branch Watershed District  
Vadnais Lakes Area Water Management Organization



# Grants

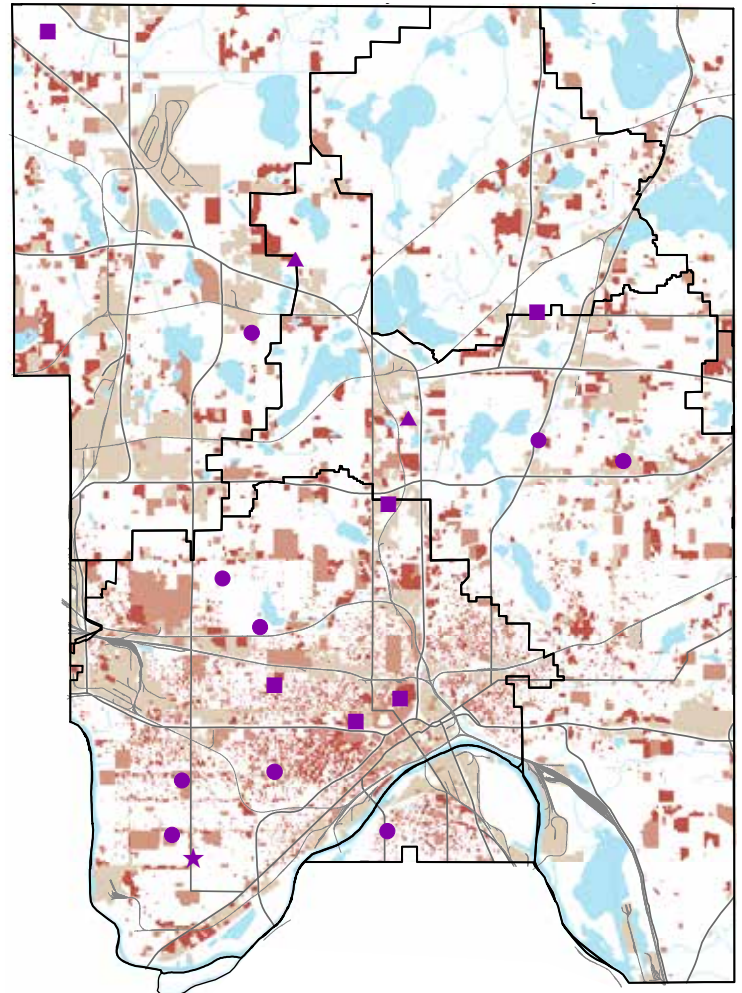
## Community Partners

The Community Partners grant is funded through the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment funding. This program helps community organizations install projects that reduce stormwater runoff and decrease pollutants from entering Ramsey County water bodies while increasing the aesthetic appeal of their properties. Eligible participants include business, schools, faith organizations, and homeowner associations.

Ramsey Conservation District was awarded the 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2017 Community Partners grants. The grant awarded each year was \$150,000, for a total of \$600,000. This program has provided funding for the RCD to assist community organizations with projects that reduce pollutants from entering nearby water bodies. All grant funding for 2013 and 2014 have been used, but there are still funding opportunities through the 2015 Community Partners grant, as well as future funding with the 2017 Community Partners grant that the RCD was just awarded.

Locations of projects can be seen in the Community Partners Projects graphic. Projects can occur anywhere in the county, but a local match must be available to be considered for funding.

2013, 2014, and 2015 Community Partners Projects in Ramsey County



- ★ 2014 and 2015 Community Partners Projects
- 2013 Community Partners Projects
- 2014 Community Partners Projects

**Land Use**

- Businesses (for and non-profit)
- Institutional (faith organizations and schools)
- Multi-Unit Associations Residential



Gloria Dei Lutheran Church rain garden funded in part through the Community Partners grant.

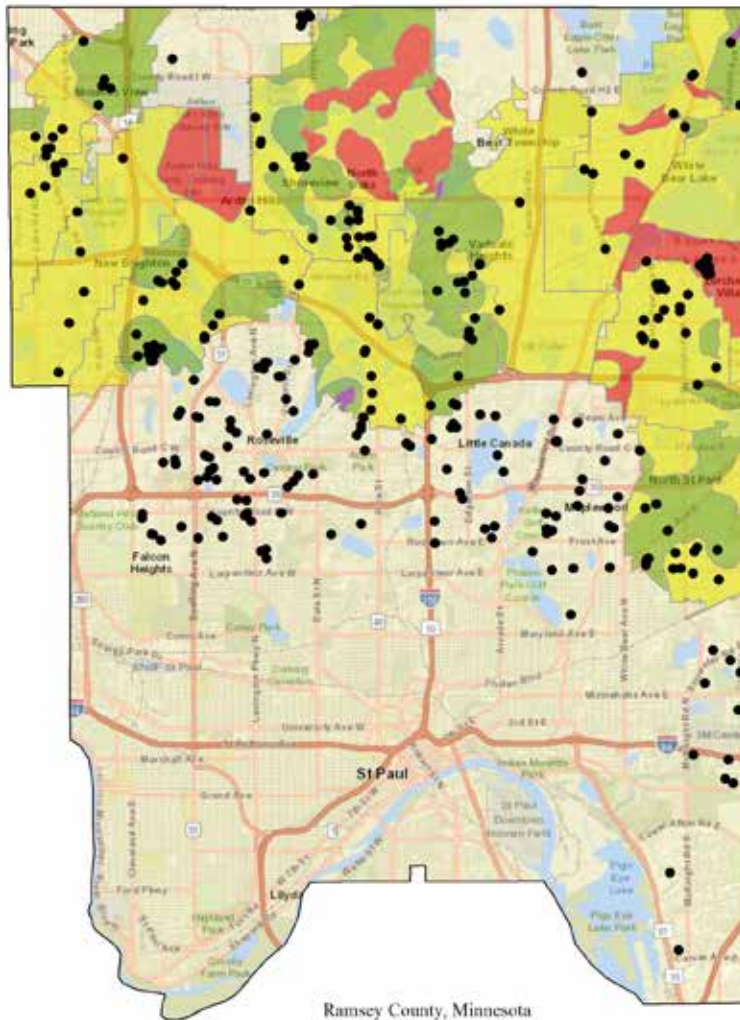
# Grants

## Clean Water Fund: Well Sealing

Through the Clean Water Fund, the Ramsey Conservation District has provided funding to hundreds of residents to help them to seal their inactive wells from 2011 to 2016. Abandoned wells pose a threat to the aquifer because they are direct conduits for surface contaminants to reach the groundwater, which is the predominant drinking water source in the northern part of the county. The Ramsey Conservation District estimates that there are about 8,000 unsealed wells (most of which are inactive) within the Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) of Ramsey County surrounding public supply wells. The RCD

strives to target the sealing of inactive wells within the DWSMA and other areas of groundwater vulnerability, though program participation is open throughout most of the county.

In 2016, the RCD compiled a list of about 50 landowners awaiting cost-share participation after previous grant funds were expended. The RCD has been awarded two 2017 CWF grants to resume the well sealing cost-share program in the spring of 2017. The map below shows the wells sealed through Ramsey Conservation District's Well Sealing Cost-Share Program from 2011-2016.



Ramsey Conservation District Well Sealing Cost-Share Program

DWSMA Vulnerability  
 High  
 Medium  
 Low  
 Very Low

● 305 Wells Sealed  
 2011-2016  
 0 1 2 Miles



Sources:  
 World Street Map: ArcGIS Online  
 Well Locations: Ramsey Conservation District, 2016  
 Drinking Water Supply Management Area: MN Dept of Health, 2016



# Grants

## Clean Water Fund: Wakefield Project

The Ramsey Conservation District was awarded a Clean Water Fund grant for \$56,000 to improve the water quality in Wakefield Lake, which is classified as a shallow lake and impaired for excess nutrients. This grant will be used to implement water quality improvement practices to reduce total phosphorus and chlorophyll-a impairments in the Wakefield watershed.

Presentation Church in Maplewood was awarded \$20,000 from this grant to implement a series of water quality improvement practices throughout the property. Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District also provided \$79,492.00 to the project. This project is located in the Wakefield subwatershed PHAL-03c.

Future water quality improvement projects will be implemented with the remaining funds from this grant focused on the Wakefield subwatershed PHAL-03b.



Two of the Presentation Church rain gardens funded by the Wakefield Grant and Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District.

Map of Wakefield drainage areas, catchments, and potential retrofit locations



# Grants

## Clean Water Fund: Lambert Creek

The Lambert Creek restoration process is being completed in phases. There have been three phases of restoration completed on the creek since 2008. In 2015 Ramsey Conservation District began planning the fourth phase of restoration. The Clean Water Fund has provided \$59,766 for Phase 4 of the project, and Vadnais Lake Water Management Organization has provided the remaining funds necessary to complete the project. Lambert Creek is currently impaired for bacterial and monitoring has shown high levels of total phosphorous.

Phase 4 of the project is expected to remove 5.14 pounds of phosphorus from the watershed each year and 6.05 tons of total suspended solids per year. The project was installed in the fall of 2016, with final planting to be completed in the spring of 2017.



Before condition of the Phase 4 reach of Lambert Creek.



Restored condition of the 2013 Phase of Lambert Creek.

The 2013 Lambert Creek restoration photo. The total project cost was \$72,420.00.



Stabilized condition of the Phase 4 reach of Lambert Creek. Planting to be installed in spring 2017.

The 2016 Lambert Creek restoration had a total project cost of \$92,583.26.

Previous phases of the Lambert Creek restoration have made a substantial difference in the amount of total phosphorus and total suspended solids in the watershed. All four phases of the project combined will remove a total of 13.73 pounds of phosphorus each year and 16.20 tons of total suspended solids each year. These projects have also reduced the nuisance geese population near the creek.



# Grants

## Cooperative Weed Management

The Ramsey Conservation District received a grant for \$15,000 to educate citizens on invasive species prevention and removal as well as to treat invasive species populations. There are 10 organizations that partner to form the Cooperative Weed Management Area.

Invasive species are harmful to ecosystems and can have adverse social and economic impacts. Invasive species infest approximately three million acres of land each year. Invasive species can cause erosion, alter waterways, limit plant and animal diversity, and lower property values.

The photo to the right shows an invasive population of phragmites on Bald Eagle Lake in White Bear Township. Native phragmites populations allow for other species to grow alongside it. The invasive phragmites is almost double the height of the native plant and crowds out almost all other species. Early detection of invasive species like the invasive phragmites is the best way to prevent an invasive species takeover. The Cooperative Weed Management Area is a one of the best tools for early detection and prevention.



An invasive phragmites population on Bald Eagle Lake in White Bear Township.

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## Wetland Conservation Act

The Ramsey Conservation District is one of the administrators of the Wetland Conservation Act. The purpose of the Wetland Conservation Act is to prevent further loss of wetland acres, functions and values.

As a local contact for the Wetland Conservation Act the Ramsey Conservation District uses grant funds to pay for staff time to conduct site visits and assist landowners through the permitting process of constructing around wetlands. Staff will also serve on (TEP) Technical Evaluation Panels assisting with delineation of wetlands.



Wetland in Ramsey County

# Grants

## Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) is a voluntary program for agricultural landowners to implement conservation practices that protect water quality. Participants will receive regulatory certainty from state legislation on water quality issues for 10 years if they are able to prove current water quality-related regulatory compliance and implement approved farm management practices. The benefits of the program are:

- Regulatory certainty
- Recognition
- Priority for technical assistance

In 2015 the Ramsey Conservation District was trained to assist in the administration process for the MAWQCP. The highly urbanized landscape in Ramsey County does not have many agriculturally-zoned properties, but within the first week of being trained, Ramsey Conservation District staff assisted an urban farmer to begin the certification process.



## Buffer Law

In November of 2017, the Buffer Law will go into effect requiring perennially rooted vegetation or nearby alternative practices along designated public waters or ditches. The RCD has completed its initial compliance check of all applicable parcels in the buffer zones of Ramsey County and met with local water management authorities to discuss roles for continued compliance with the law. The RCD is instrumental in coordination between landowners and local government to provide guidance and technical assistance in achieving and maintaining compliance with the Buffer Law.

The DNR map of water bodies subject to the Buffer Law can be located at:

<http://dnr.state.mn.us/buffers/index.html>.



Lake McCarrons residential shoreline buffer.

# Grants

## Clean Water Fund: Sucker Lake Channel Restoration Project

In an effort to protect the drinking water supply for much of Ramsey County, the Sucker Lake Channel Restoration Project will restore and stabilize the streambank along the Sucker Lake Channel with a cost effective critical area planting, replacing the existing turf grass and asphalt streambank with a native vegetation and pollinator friendly planting. The RCD was awarded \$60,500 to complete the project, along with partnership with the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization, St. Paul Regional Water Service, and Ramsey County Parks and Recreation. The Sucker Lake Channel is part of the Vadnais chain of lakes, which is the drinking water supply to over 400,000 people, including the city of St. Paul and thirteen additional municipalities.



Sucker Lake Channel in its current condition

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## Conservation Corps

Ramsey Conservation District applies for a Conservation Corps intern to assist with summer work and outreach events every year. The primary duty of the intern is to conduct inspections of rain gardens implemented through the RCD to ensure maintenance and functionality for a continued clean water benefit. Additionally, Corps members provide great assistance with lake surveys, outfall inspections, and other natural resource projects that occur during our busiest field season. RCD appreciates the energy and hard work of these interns!



2016 Conservation Corps intern Layne Warner helps conduct a macrophyte survey on Como Lake

# Education and Outreach

## RCD Conservation Forum

The Ramsey Conservation District hosted multiple public forums throughout the year, including:

- Aquatic Invasive Species
- Urban Pollinators
- Low Impact Landscaping & Green Cities
- Rain Garden Maintenance Workshop

These well-attended forums featured our knowledgeable staff as well as impressive guest speakers representing local government, universities, non-profits, and partner organizations. The forum provided opportunities for environmentally-minded citizens of Ramsey County to delve further into topics that concern them and their areas.



Ramsey County's Marsden Room was filled for the Urban Pollinator Forum



RCD and Conservation Corps with a game to test participants on native plant recognition

## Aquatic Invasive Species

RCD hired additional seasonal staff members in 2016 to conduct Aquatic Invasive Species inspections. Seventeen public boat launches were inspected over the summer to educate boaters about the need to inspect boating equipment for aquatic invasive hitchhikers, such as Eurasian watermilfoil and zebra mussels. Ramsey Conservation District staff spent a total of 384 hours conducting boat inspections in 2016!

Ramsey County received funding to increase aquatic invasive species monitoring and education. The Ramsey Conservation District has been tasked with assisting the county with their efforts again in 2017.

## Lake Phalen Waterfest

The Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District hosts the Lake Phalen Waterfest each year to celebrate Minnesota's water resources. The event is filled with hands-on learning opportunities such as fishing lessons, canoe and kayak adventures, arts and crafts, and natural resource games.

Ramsey Conservation District staff enjoys testing Waterfest participants on their native species identification skills. This is a great event to teach the next generation about natural resource preservation!



Staff member Alicia Little inspects a kayak for invasive species on the Spoon Lake boat launch



# Education and Outreach

## Children's Waterfest

The metro area hosts a Children's Waterfest each year to introduce fourth and fifth grade students to water resources. The goal of this event is for every student to understand where their water comes from and how to preserve water for future generations. This event is filled with hands-on activities for students to play and learn about water resources.

Ramsey Conservation District provides staff volunteers for this event. One staff member also joined the Planning Committee for the event this year. With 2,000 to 3,000 students at Children's Waterfest, it is important to have knowledgeable professionals teaching students about water resources.



Children answer questions at the Science Museum of Minnesota's presentation.



2016 Clean Water Tour participants at Frogtown Farm

## Clean Water Tour

The Ramsey Conservation District showcased some of the clean water projects installed with community members and businesses. The Clean Water Tour provided an opportunity for elected officials and water resource professionals to see fully established projects that the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment has funded. This year, the Tour focused on Urban Agriculture, including the Mobile Market, the Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program, and collaborative projects with Frogtown Farm. DNR and RCD staff also gave an on-site observation well measurement demonstration while discussing the importance of monitoring and protecting groundwater.

## State of the Waters

Inspired by Governor Dayton's "Year of Water Action," the 4th annual State of the Waters focused on clean water challenges and solutions in the Twin Cities. After an introduction by the governor's water advisor Dr. Anna Henderson, Freshwater Society Executive Director Steve Woods presented an informative hydrologic history of the area as well as an overview of the present challenges facing local waters. Bryan Baker of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers provided a glimpse into climatic models and their implications for precipitation extremes and adaptation readiness.



State of the Waters speaker Steve Woods, Executive Director of Freshwater Society

# Increased Capacity

## Increased Capacity Funding

With the legislation passing to appropriate Clean Water, Land and Legacy funding for all SWCDs in Minnesota in 2015, the Ramsey Conservation District received funding in the amount of \$100,000 in 2016 and an additional \$100,000 in 2017 to increase the local capacity of its conservation efforts and abilities. This funding allowed the RCD to be more involved in numerous new initiatives in the state of Minnesota. Two of the initiatives the RCD was able to work on in 2016 were the Conservation Forum and the Septic Inventory.

## Conservation Forum

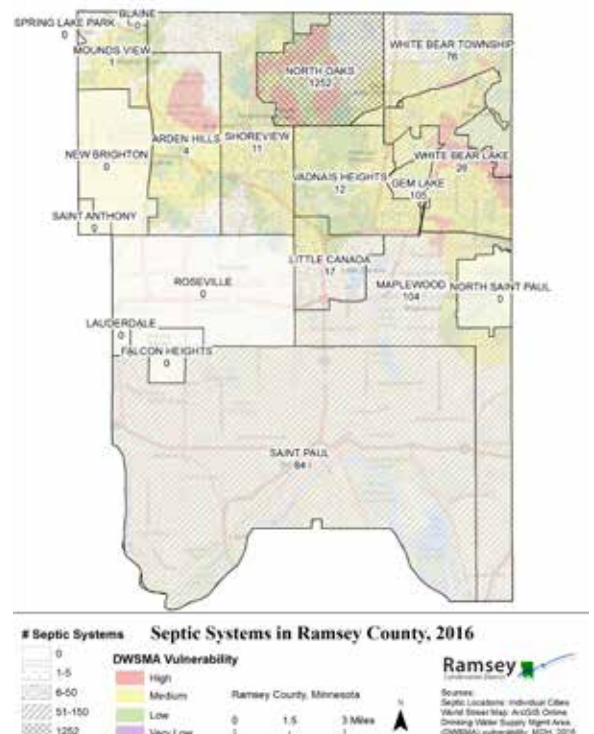
In 2016, new funding allowed the Ramsey Conservation District to introduce a new public outreach event – the Conservation Forum. These well-attended events allow an engaged public to discuss important conservation topics with natural resource managers, learning more about the lake or neighborhood most important to them. The Forum features around 3 speakers – experts in their field – to discuss natural resource issues of global concern, but at a local scale. Past speakers have included university professors, elected representatives, public works directors, water managers, authors, non-profit representatives, and local technical staff. The RCD hosted several public forums in 2016 with topics ranging from urban pollinators to low-impact landscaping, and the event will resume in 2017, including an update on the status of Aquatic Invasive Species monitoring and control efforts in Ramsey County and a return of the popular Rain Garden Maintenance Workshop, in which gardeners in Ramsey County have a chance for Q & A with expert staff while touring a featured rain garden.



Brian Ross from the Great Plains Institute speaking at our Green Cities Forum

## Septic Inventory

The increased capacity funding enabled RCD staff to spend time compiling spatial data on septic systems in use throughout the county to complete a Septic Inventory. Having parcel-level spatial data on septic systems allows the RCD to compare the locations of these potential contaminant sources to maps of groundwater vulnerability to pollution in areas such as Drinking Water Supply Management Areas. This enables the RCD to focus staff time and energy in key locations to ensure that septic systems are well-maintained and in compliance with MPCA regulations, in coordination with local governing bodies.



# 2017 Action Items

## Objective 1: Conserve and Protect Groundwater

- Increase public awareness of wells as conduits of groundwater contamination by holding a yearly public forum on groundwater
- Report yearly to WMOs the locations of sealed wells within their respective boundaries
- With data collected from the MN Department of Health (MDH), map 1000 sealed well locations per year and make the information accessible to all interested parties
- Maintain an electronic inventory of all SSTS in Ramsey County
- Complete a Campus Groundwater Audit Project with the MCD
- Complete Observation Well Water Level Monitoring for the DNR



## Objective 2: Protect and Restore Surface Waters

- Support programs and other efforts to install practices which improve surface water in all communities
- Collaborate to install a minimum of 12 BMPs per year
- Collaborate to reduce a minimum of 3.0 lbs of phosphorous per year
- Collaborate to reduce a minimum of 1,440 cu-ft. [10,800 gallons] of runoff annually
- Conduct a minimum of 250 site visits annually within the county
- Complete a minimum of 30 designs annually within the county
- Hold quarterly meeting with Ramsey County Public Works Environmental staff and appropriate Ramsey County Parks and Recreation staff to discuss potential partnerships on initiatives
- Inspect existing stormwater best management practices on an annual basis
- Develop and apply for grants to assist with the maintenance of constructed BMPs during their establishment period
- Assist partners with workshops on salt management in order to decrease chloride levels in metro water bodies
- Provide yearly staff training on advance uses in computer aided design software
- Update website to show FAQs, links, and contact information for Buffer Law inquiries
- Proactively search for compliance status in applicable parcels of Ramsey County
- Contact appropriate parties when Non-Compliance is found
- Regularly update Ramsey County parcel status on BWSR's online Buffer Compliance Tracking tool
- Provide assistance to landowners requesting support in: planning, alternative practices, implementation, tracking compliance progress, and technical assistance
- Hold meetings to clarify Buffer Law requirements and responsibilities with Ramsey County, local water management authorities, and BWSR representatives
- Consult with Watershed Districts and Water Management Organizations to develop a summary of other watercourses to include in local water management authorities' plans
- Adopt a resolution establishing chosen watercourses to present to WMOs and BWSR by July 1, 2017

# 2017 Action Items

## Objective 3: Increase Public Engagement Across All Communities

- Increase social media presence with at least one new post per month
- Support the success of cities and WMOs in their outreach efforts, such as RWMWD's Waterfest and the Metro Children's Water Festival
- Apply for annual Conservation Corp member to assist with work plan
- Assist with tree planting efforts, such as the Frogtown neighborhood's initiative to plant 1000 trees
- Continue to host the annual State of the Waters of Ramsey County event



RCD staff member Michael Schumann talking about DNR observation wells at our 2016 tour



## Objective 4: Adapt to Climate Variabilities and Minimize Flooding

- Host a public Conservation Forum on Climate Variability and Adaptation and actions people can take

## Objective 5: Increase Urban Agriculture Opportunities

- Provide oversight for the construction of an agricultural demonstration site in Ramsey county, including compost and a pollinator planting
- Assist the NRCS to identify locations for their High Tunnel Pilot Program



# 2017 Action Items

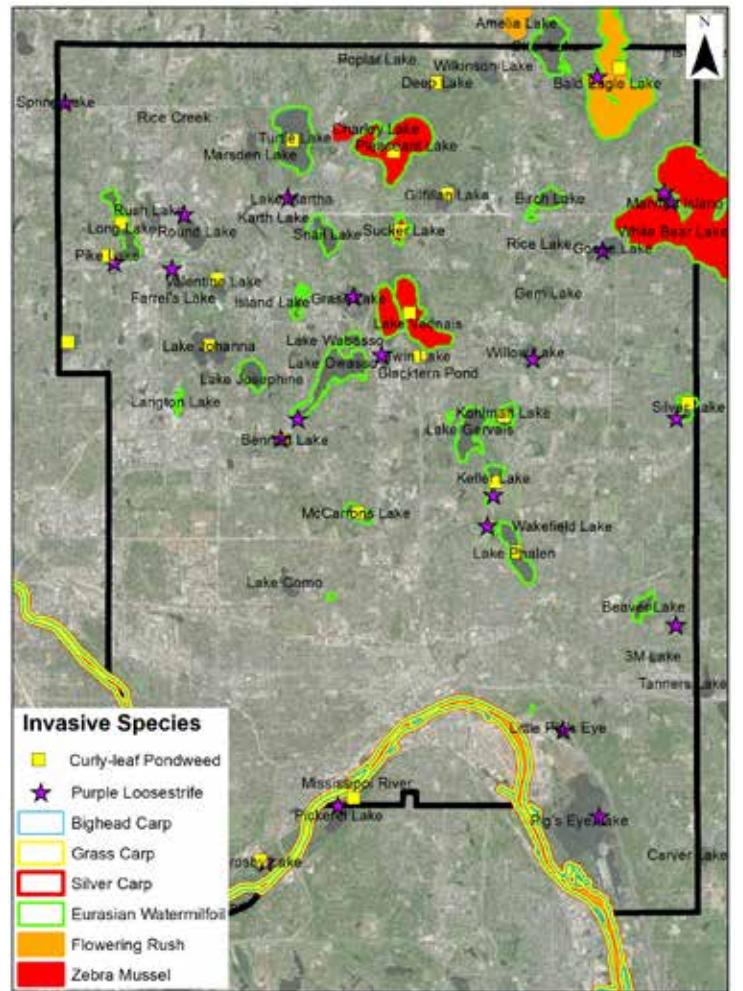
## Objective 6: Protect and Restore Wetlands

- Serve on Technical Evaluation Panels
- Administer the annual WCA grant from BWSR, as delegated by Ramsey County



## Objective 7: Promote Biodiverse Ecosystems

- Support Ramsey County Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) to address invasive weed management on lands within Ramsey County
- Hold one forum per year for target groups to disseminate local issues and program information
- Complete macrophyte and biovolume studies on lakes and storm ponds
- Evaluate opportunities to increase pollinator habitat on cost share projects
- Provide AIS Coordinator
- Provide seasonal staff to inspect boats at the 18 Ramsey County boat launch sites



**Infested Waters of Ramsey County**

# 2017 Work Plan

Project Type	Project Name	Priority	Project Description
<b>Administration</b>	General Administration	High	General administration of District operations
	2018-2019 Budget	High	Budget development for the RCD
	2016 Audit	Required	Audit performed by third party on the RCD's financial activity in 2016
	Ramsey County	High	Assist Ramsey County with their comprehensive plan update
	BWSR PRAP	Required	Complete Performance Review and Assistance Program with BWSR
<b>Education and Outreach</b>	Conservation Forum	Beneficial	Host water forums to discuss areas of concern and emerging issues in water resources
	Lake Phalen Waterfest	Beneficial	Host a booth at Lake Phalen Waterfest to engage members of the public about the need for water protection and habitat needs
	Children's Waterfest	Beneficial	Assist Carver County with Children's Waterfest activities. Serve on Planning Committee.
	Landscape Revival	Beneficial	Host a booth at Landscape Revival to educate citizens about native landscape options and benefits
	Social Media	Beneficial	Post District-related material biweekly
	Website	Beneficial	Maintain user-friendly website
<b>Grants</b>	Community Partners 2015	High	
	Community Partners 2017	High	Partner with businesses, schools, faith organizations, and homeowner associations to install water quality improvement projects
	Wakefield	High	Install best management practices within Wakefield Lake watershed
	Well Sealing 2017	High	Financially assist landowners seal abandoned wells
	Cooperative Weed Management Area	High	Control terrestrial invasive species populations throughout the county

# 2017 Work Plan

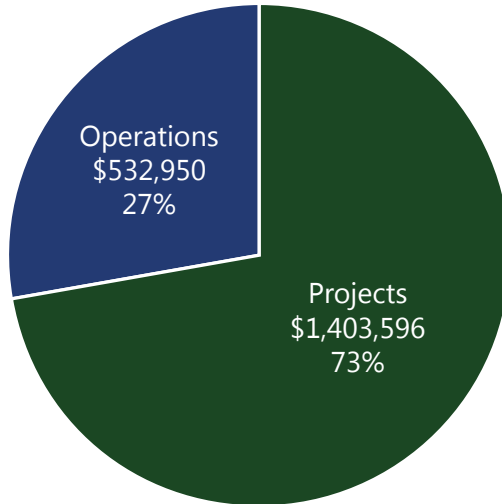
Project Type	Project Name	Priority	Project Description
<b>Grants Cont'd.</b>	Flood Relief	High	Assist landowners repair water quality improvement projects damaged in the 2014 flood
	Lambert Creek	High	Stabilize the stream bank and install a vegetative cover on Phase 4 of Lambert Creek
	State Cost-Share Conservation Delivery	High	Provides stable operational funding for SWCDs in MN.
	SWCD Increased Capacity	High	Non-competitive grant that invests in building capacity of SWCDs
	Wetland Conservation Act	High	Maintain and protect MN wetlands by implementing WCA activities
	Local Water Management	High	Plan and coordinate water resource protection activities
	Buffer Law	High	Identify properties that require a vegetative buffer and assist landowners with Buffer Law compliance
	MAWQCP	High	Promote the MAWQCP program to agricultural landowners and provide technical assistance to landowners seeking certification
	Metro Conservation Districts-TSA	High	Provides engineer assistance for BMP projects
	Groundwater Conservation	High	Develop a systematic approach for ranking BMPs in terms of cost-effectiveness for campuses
	Sucker Lake Channel	High	Install pollinator planting and stabilize streambank
	Urban Agriculture	High	Assist with development of urban agriculture demonstration project
<b>Wetland Conservation</b>	Wetland Conservation Act	High	Administer WCA program for Ramsey County
	Technical Evaluation Panel	High	Serve on TEP panels

# 2017 Work Plan

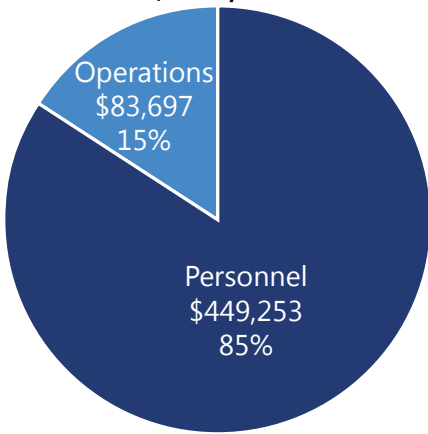
Project Type	Project Name	Priority	Project Description
<b>Fee for Service</b>	Lake monitoring and biovolume assessments	High	Monitor 5 priority CRWD lakes for biovolume and contouring
	Stormwater Pollution Prevention	High	Assist cities and watershed districts with sediment and erosion prevention inspections
	Best Management Practice Design	High	Provide BMP Designs for Ramsey County landowners through watershed district programs
	Subwatershed analysis	High	Conduct a subwatershed analysis of prioritized areas
	Waterbody monitoring	High	Monitor and assess lakes and storm ponds for the city of Roseville
	Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention	High	Inspect watercraft entering Ramsey County Lakes
<b>Geographic Information Systems (GIS)</b>	GIS Program	Beneficial	Maintain RCD GIS records
	GIS Users Group	Important	Collaborate with GIS Users Group
<b>Groundwater</b>	Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Inventory	High	Inventory and maintain all subsurface sewage treatment systems in Ramsey County
	Well inventory	High	Inventory all wells within Ramsey County
	Groundwater Plan	High	Begin discussions on updating the Ramsey County Groundwater Protection Plan
<b>Information Sharing</b>	Local Agency Plan Review	Important	Review plans and provide input on local, state, and national committees related to water quality
	Citizen Service	Important	Provide resources to citizens to improve water quality and other natural resources
<b>Volunteer Management</b>	Conservation Corps	Beneficial	Mentor a Conservation Corps employee in natural resource management
	Rain Gauge Network	Beneficial	Enter rain gauge observer data for the state climatology office



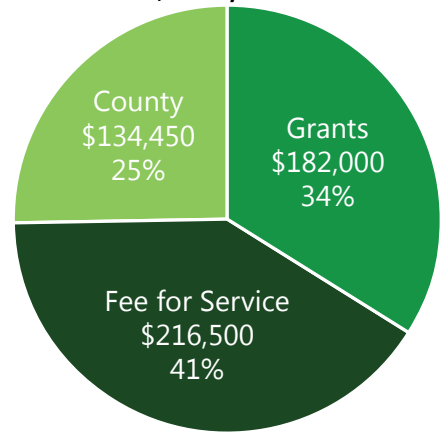
### 2017 PROJECT vs OPERATIONS



### 2017 PROJECTED EXPENDITURES \$532,950



### 2017 PROJECTED REVENUE \$532,950



### PROJECTED 2017 STAFF TIME ALLOCATIONS

