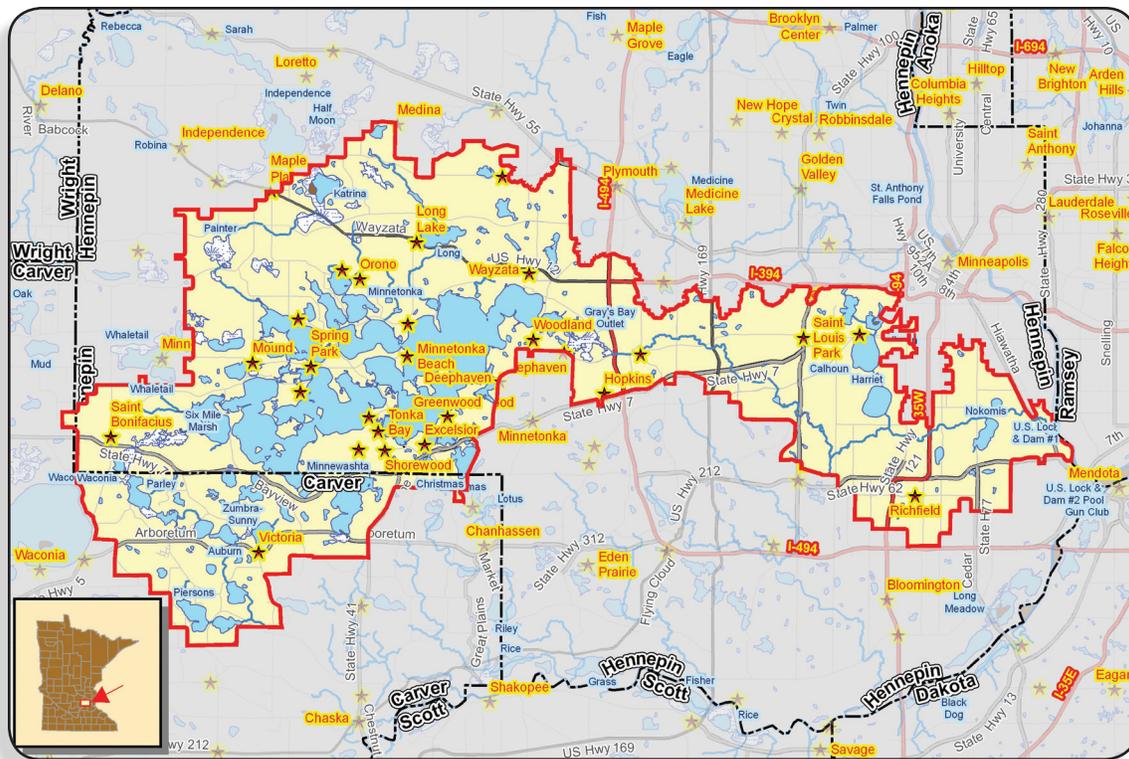


Minnehaha Creek

WATERSHED DISTRICT



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF IMPROVING QUALITY OF WATER, QUALITY OF LIFE



GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: 1967
by Hennepin County petition
18202 Minnetonka Blvd
Deephaven, MN 55391
Phone: (952) 471-0590
Fax: (952) 471-0682

www.minnehahacreek.org
admin@minnehahacreek.org
Included Counties: Hennepin, Carver
District Size: 181 square miles
Number of Staff: 12

Significant Water Bodies: Minnetonka,
Minneapolis Chain of Lakes, Minnehaha
Creek
2008 Taxable Market Value:
\$44,287,303,285

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Name	Position	County	Address	Phone
Jim Calkins	President	Hennepin	calki001@umn.edu	(952) 471-0590
Pamela Blixt	Vice President	Hennepin	pblixt@mn.rr.com	(952) 471-0590
Lee Keeley	Secretary	Hennepin	lekelee@aol.com	(952) 471-0590
Richard Miller	Treasurer	Hennepin	dick.miller@wellsfargo.com	(952) 471-0590
Jeff Casale	Manager	Hennepin	jcasale@minnesotahomes.com	(952) 471-0590
Brian Shekleton	Manager	Hennepin	brian_shekleton@yahoo.com	(952) 471-0590
Mike Kligelutz	Manager	Carver	mikeklingel@hotmail.co	(952) 471-0590

RECENT PROJECTS

Land Conservation — Hennepin County partnered with the MCWD to provide \$20 million in conduit financing for a Land Conservation Program. Since the program began three years ago, it has leveraged \$6.08 million from outside sources and protected approximately 500 acres of land and 20,000 feet of shoreline, including Big Island on Lake Minnetonka, in partnership with Orono and the State of Minnesota.

Projects — in the past ten years the MCWD spent an average of \$4 million annually on projects that have largely eliminated flooding along Minnehaha Creek and that have markedly improved water quality throughout the District. Most recently, the MCWD began partnerships with the city of Mound and other communities to implement Low Impact Development techniques in redevelopments and is working with several cities and other public entities to address impaired waters. In partnership with the State of Minnesota, Minneapolis Park Board, Corps of Army Engineers, and Veterans Assn., the MCWD has begun the restoration of the Minnehaha Falls Glen—the state’s first park, the birthplace of Minnesota milling, and the namesake of Longfellow’s Song of Hiawatha.

Planning — the MCWD has developed what is being called one of the premier watershed management plans in the nation. The plan utilized hundreds of hours of public meetings, detailed inventories (including an inventory of wetlands down to 1/3 acre), and one of the most sophisticated hydraulic, hydrologic and pollutant loading models in the USA. The model, data, and information is available to public entities and should save hundreds of thousands of dollars in planning costs. The MCWD is also working with FEMA to reduce flood plain elevations, potentially saving homeowners \$1000s in unnecessary flood insurance.

Regulatory Program — the District issues about 600 water management permits annually. While sometimes controversial, District oversight is strongly supported by its residents and helps to protect important natural and cultural resources.

Monitoring — since 1967, the District has been monitoring water quality. Today, the program collects data on 29 lakes, 26 bays, and 43 stream reaches in the District. Records indicate steady improvement in water quality since the District was formed. The MCWD partners with the MPCA to monitor and address impaired waters.

Education — the MCWD provides support to local government and residents on land use, water quality, and

The Lake Calhoun Ponds are the focal point of the Minneapolis Chain of Lakes Project, which won a national award and numerous state and local awards. The project was a partnership of MCWD, the City of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.



innovative stormwater management practices. Annually, MCWD and the U of M host a series of professional conferences on water management and the MCWD and Mn Waters have partnered to increase citizen engagement with water resource management by forming grass roots groups around local water resources.

FUTURE PROJECTS

Performance-Based Standards — in 2007, MCWD began a rules revision process that will take the District from a one-size-fits-all regulatory program to one that focuses on water quality goals of individual resources while allowing permittees flexibility in meeting the protection standards.

Watershed Research — MCWD, in partnership with the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization, has established a fund to promote academic, peer-reviewed research. The program will fund research of innovative techniques for stormwater management. In addition, MCWD has begun intensive data collection for a 3-dimensional water quality and flow model for Lake Minnetonka. In 2007, the District also began a curlyleaf pondweed research program on Gleason Lake.

Structural Projects — over the next ten years the MCWD anticipates spending approximately \$60 million to clean up impaired waters and protect natural resources. Proposed projects include: Methodist Hospital wetland restoration and creek re-meander; Minnehaha Glen restoration; Painter Creek restoration; Stubbs Bay improvement project; and Lake Minnetonka Shoreline Restoration project.

2007 EXPENDITURES

