



TO: (CLFLWD) Board of Managers
DATE: January 19, 2023
RE: Administrator's Report for the January 26, 2023, Regular Board Meeting

Administration (1000 series)

- 1001 – Board Administration
 - Staff have scheduled a special meeting for Monday, January 30th at 2 pm. Gallagher staff will also be attending the meeting.
- 1003 – General Administration
 - District staff will submit the Pay Equity Report to the State by January 31, 2023, as required every three years. The purpose of this report is to eliminate gender discrimination with respect to pay. This year, staff ensured the report was in alignment with the classifications and pay ranges provided by the Gallagher salary survey.

Programs (3000 series)

- 3002 – Permitting
 - See Permitting Update attachment for updates.
- 3003 – Monitoring and Data Assessment
 - Staff has a draft DIY/CAT monitoring report for the 2022 season completed. Staff will present this information to the Board at a later date when EOR presents their 2022 Monitoring report.
 - Staff continue to maintain and evaluate monitoring equipment and gear.
 - Winter Lake monitoring began on January 6th but was limited to smaller (walk-in) lakes due to ice conditions not allowing vehicle access.
 - Staff has begun 2023 monitoring planning.
- 3004 – Non-Point Source Pollution Abatement (Cost-Share)
 - The Farmer-led Council will be meeting for a coffee hour on January 23rd. The discussion topic will be interpreting soil tests, and how to assess soil fertility needs.

- Staff continue to draft program proposals for a revised residential and agriculture cost-share program.
- 3005 – Education and Outreach
 - An update on the website has been included with this board packet. The new website is scheduled to launch on Monday, January 30th.
 - Events
 - CLFLWD Lakes Association Leadership Mtg Including MN Lakes & Rivers: The District held this virtual event on January 18th, covering topics such as shoreline restoration and grant opportunities.
 - From Corn and Beans, to Goats and Greens: Conservation practices for farms of all sizes
Saturday, February 11th @ 10:00am | Hardwood Creek Library
Learn More & RSVP: <https://fb.me/e/2aByPGCXV>
 - Perennial Planting Primer: Getting Started with Native Plants
Tuesday, February 21st @ 3:00pm | Hardwood Creek Library
Learn More & RSVP: <https://fb.me/e/35l2ZfoT9>
 - Water Monitoring: The science behind keeping our lakes healthy
Thursday, March 2nd @ 3:00pm | Hardwood Creek Library
Learn More & RSVP: <https://fb.me/e/2grTe2s6H>
 - Turf Talks: Sessions I & II
Tuesday, March 21st & Thursday, March 23rd @ 6:00pm
Forest Lake Education Center (Formerly SW Jr. High)
Learn More & Register: <https://tce.me/igtRjl>
 - Publications
 - *Numbers for the new year* by Angie Hong. Published online December 29, 2022.
<https://eastmetrowater.org/2022/12/29/numbers-for-the-new-year/>
 - *Sweeping streets and clearing drains for a cleaner St. Croix River* by Angie Hong. Published online January 10, 2023.

<https://www.stcroix360.com/2023/01/sweeping-streets-and-clearing-drains-for-a-cleaner-st-croix-river/>

- 3006 – Technical Resource Sharing and Interagency Communication
 - The District’s recent Clean Water Fund grant award for the Forest Lake Alum Treatment Project is getting noticed. Two other organizations have reached out to staff with regard to this project; one asking for grant-writing tips and another offering to share their experience with a recent alum treatment project on a high profile lake. Staff is going to set up a meeting with Rice Creek WD and Middle St. Croix WMO staff to share notes about alum treatments. We expect this will add value to the District’s process for the Forest Lake alum treatment.
 - An attendee at one of the District’s 2022 MAWD presentations recently reached out asking for more information about the District’s experience performing a workload analysis and experience obtaining a Performance Review Assistance Program (PRAP) grant. Staff shared some information on these experiences.
 - The Lower St. Croix Policy Committee’s next meeting is Monday, January 23, 2023. Emily continues to attend Planning Team and Steering Committee meetings and assist other partner staff members in preparing for the Policy Committee. Emily prepared yearend grant reporting for the partnership, to be submitted to the Board of Water and Soil Resources by February 1st. The Steering Committee approved a contract for Laura Jester, Keystone Waters, to take over progress reporting responsibilities after that point.
 - Beth organized quarterly coordination meetings with staff from the cities of Scandia and Wyoming. Both meetings were well attended by staff members from the Watershed District and each respective city. Topics included permitting coordination, updates on CLFLWD initiatives, and shared objectives such as enhanced street sweeping.
 - Staff presented to the Washington Count Water Consortium on our Sequential Diagnostic Monitoring approach at their December 7 meeting. Aidan conducted the first quarter coordination meeting with technical staff from Washington Conservation District. The meeting topic was coordinating staff efforts to address CLFLWD priorities for residential and agriculture cost-share programs. Staff from each organization will meet quarterly throughout the year.

- 3008 Measurement of Progress
 -
- 3009 – Grant Research and Preparation
 - As authorized by the Board at the December meeting, staff submitted a grant application to the MN Pollution Control Agency for Stormwater Resiliency Planning. The requested grant amount is \$45,230. Grant awards will be announced in mid-late February.
 - Jerry Grundtner from the Forest Lake Lake Association has reached out to staff in response to the District's offer to help lake associations prepare grant applications to a new grant program - Clean Water Legacy Partners Grant Pilot Program. Emily is working with Jerry to prepare an application for the FLLA for shoreline restoration projects on Forest Lake.
 - Staff completed the grant reconciliation process for the CR50 Iron Enhanced Sand Filter project's Clean Water Fund grant. The Board of Water and Soil Resources regularly requires reconciliations for large grants such as this prior to authorizing 40% payment. The reconciliation is like a miniature audit of expenditure details. Now that the reconciliation has been completed and the District is found to be within compliance, we should receive the 40% payment (\$298,960) within the next couple of weeks.
- 3010 – Operations and Maintenance
 - Staff activated the winter aerators at Shields and Moody lakes on January 5th. Notice of the aerator activation was advertised in our local papers on December 1st and 8th as per DNR requirements. The DNR was also notified of their activation with 48 hours of them being power on.
- 3011 – Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention and Management
 - The Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) has launched an interactive storymap detailing every location that they have conducted field work since 2012, including several instances within our watershed district. The storymap can be viewed here: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/75084d760dd1459698ec4c80c308c5b3>
 - Garrett Miller will be attending the January 31st Bone Lake Association meeting to discuss the results of the 2022 AIS program.

- On January 31st, the DNR is hosting off-season watercraft inspection meetings with local program coordinators. Garrett Miller will be in attendance to listen to ideas that might strengthen and improve the District program.
- On January 11th, Garrett Miller met with Chisago County to discuss the plan for the 2023 Watercraft Inspection joint powers agreement. An agreement will likely be brought to the board sometime in February for approval.
- 3012 – Land Acquisition
 - Staff continue coordinate with landowners on the potential acquisition of two properties – the Southern Bone Lake Property and the East Wetland Gravel Pit property.

Projects (5000 series)

- 5200 Lakes
 - Moody Lake:
 - Capstone Projects: continued coordination with landowners and mortgage companies regarding project consent and easements. Staff presented to the Chisago Lake Township regarding the Moody Round Barn Park project elements. Project ordering for the Moody Capstone slated to occur in February 2023.
 - Bone Lake:
 - NE Bone Lake Wetland “legacy Load” Project: Construction contract closed out.
 - Little Comfort Lake:
 - East Wetland Gravel Pit Project: continued coordination with the landowner regarding acquisition of the gravel pit parcel. EOR is continuing progress on the project design. Land appraisal and ESA report have been received and will be shared and discussed with the Board at a coming Board meeting.
 - BBSLC Channel: Additional assessment of the potential for a project near the Itasca road crossing planned for this winter by EOR and Staff.

- Shields Lake:
- Lake Keewahtin:
- Forest Lake:
 - CR50 IESF Project: the winter phase of the project is complete. The spring phase will include pump and valve installation and electrical connections. The project should be on-line by the end of May.
 - WJD 6 Western Trib Wetland - continued coordination with landowners and mortgage companies regarding project consent and easements.
- Comfort Lake:
 - Sunrise River Hwy 61 Wetland Enhancement Project: the winter implementation phase will begin as soon as conditions (depth of frost) improve to allow access by machinery. The winter phase of the project is still on track to be completed by mid to late February. EOR is working with the contractor to resolve an issue with several fiber optic cables recently identified within the DOT ROW. The fiber optics were not detected during the earlier utility locate actions taken for the project. EOR and the utility companies are working through the issues and as such, they should not hinder the project.
- 5400 Wetlands
 -
- 5500 Upland Resources
 - Natural Resource Inventory:

23-001			
Name: 2023 Forest Lake Street Maintenance			LMD:
Applicable Rules:		New Impervious: 0 acres	
Project Summary:			
Applied: 2023-01-11	Approved:	Active:	Closed Out:

	Comfort	Little Comfort	Forest	Bone	Total³
<i>Current Residential²</i>	16	4	18	8	46
<i>Current Developments⁴</i>	3	1	2	0	6
<i>Current Commercial</i>	4	0	0	0	4
<i>Current Governmental</i>	2	0	3	1	5
<i>Total Current Sites¹</i>	25	5	23	9	62
<i>Total Inspections in 2022*</i>	366	39	289	87	746
<i>Average Inspections per Site in 2022*</i>	14.7	7.8	12.5	9.6	12.0
<i>Total Non-Compliant Inspection Items in 2022*</i>	207	18	188	30	443
<i>Average Percentage of Non-Compliant Items per Inspection in 2022</i>	6%	5%	6%	3%	6%

Permitting Program Metrics
YEAR TO DATE METRICS

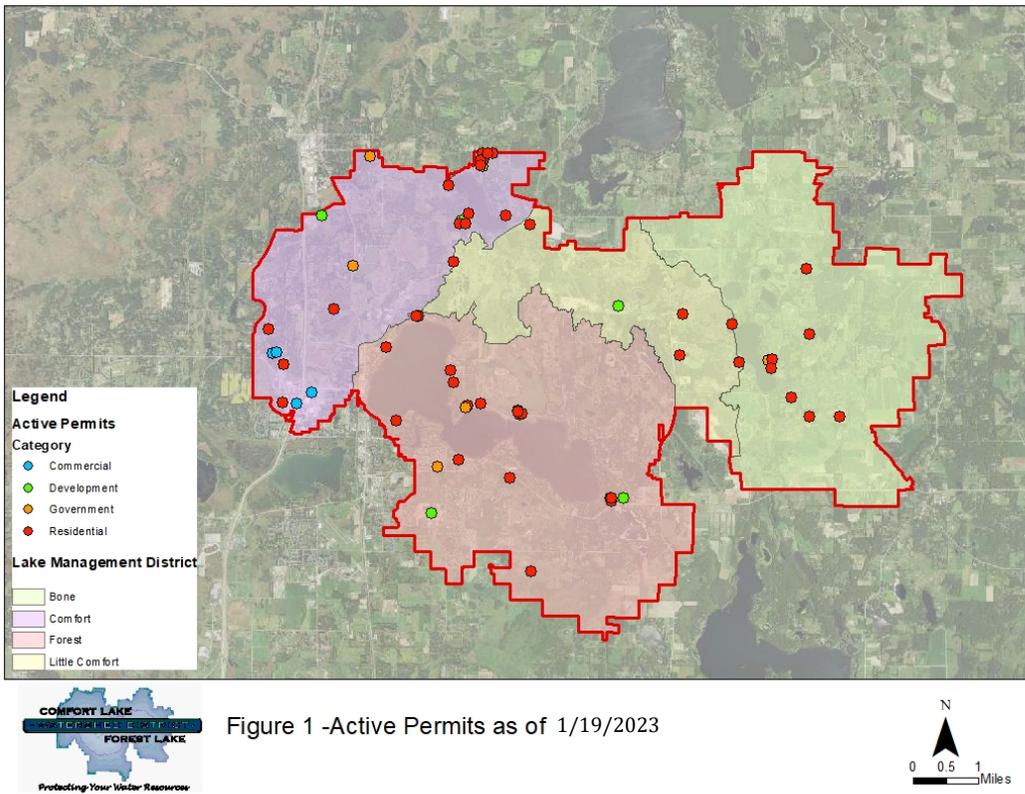


Figure 1 -Active Permits as of 1/19/2023

Notes:

1. As of 07/16/20 residential numbers include any homes within residential developments/subdivisions if a permit transfer took place. This gives a more accurate representation of the number of permits staff are processing.
2. Totals may not equal the sum of each Lake Management District's numbers. Some projects are in more than one LMD and are counted for each applicable LMD.
3. The inspection numbers for Little Comfort LMD seem disproportionate to the number of sites because one inspection is counted for each Liberty Ponds home, but the development of Liberty Ponds is counted as one site for the purpose of maintaining consistency with the other developments.

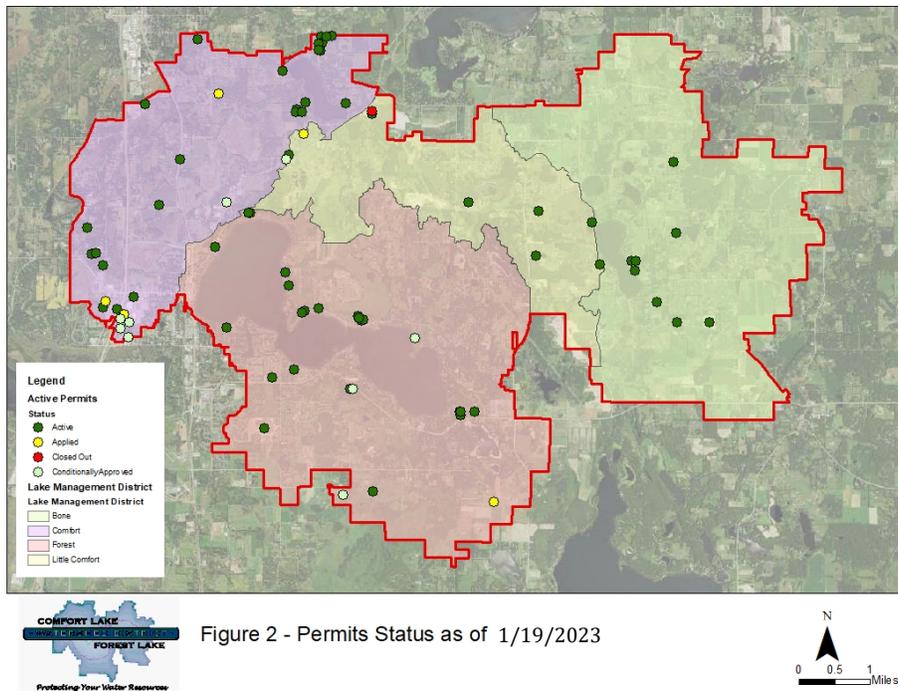


Figure 2 - Permits Status as of 1/19/2023