



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

I. Financial Report

II. Activity Report

A. Membership

B. Staff

C. 2016 Activity

D. 2017 Work Plan

E. Permits, Variances, and Enforcement

F. Storm Water Pollution Prevention Programs

G. Local Surface Water Plans

H. Water Quality Monitoring

I. Consultant Services

J. Information Program

K. Expenditures

Bloomington Public Works
1700 West 98th Street, Bloomington, MN 55431
PH: 952-563-4870

Richfield Public Works
1901 East 66th Street, Richfield, MN 55423
PH: 612-861-9170

www.RBWMO.org

I. Financial Report

The RBWMO has not expended or accrued funds during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015. No financial audits are necessary. Richfield and Bloomington expended \$734,020 and \$2,120,263 respectively from their storm water utility funds in 2016 to manage surface water.

II. Activity Report

The RBWMO continues to function as an independent organization with Board membership consisting of the City Councils of both Richfield and Bloomington. The Staff of the RBWMO continues to be the staff of each City handling drainage and surface water issues within each municipality. Since each City addresses storm water/surface water issues on behalf of the RBWMO there is no official budget for the organization. Each municipality funds improvements and maintenance within the Watershed Management area within their City border via existing storm water utilities.

The 2008 Watershed Management Plan includes implementation of policies and programs that require financial resources from each member city. As in the past, costs to cover activities occurring in a particular city are borne by that city and activities transcending the municipal boundary will be shared equally.

Both Cities are permitted Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) operators under the NPDES permit program and implement Storm Water Pollution Prevention Programs (SWPPP) including education and maintenance programs.

A. Membership

Name	Representing
Kim Vlasisavljevich	Bloomington
Tim Busse	Bloomington
<i>Vacant</i>	Richfield
Jack Baloga	Bloomington
Maria Regan Gonzalez	Richfield
Eldon Spencer	Bloomington
Dwayne Lowman	Bloomington
Pat Elliott	Richfield
Michael Howard	Richfield
Edwina Garcia	Richfield
Jon Oleson	Bloomington
Gene Winstead	Bloomington

Richfield members can be contacted at:	Richfield City Hall 6700 Portland Avenue South Richfield, MN 55423 612-861-9700
Bloomington members can be contacted at:	Bloomington City Hall 1800 West Old Shakopee Road Bloomington, MN 55431 952-563-8700

B. Staff

Executive Director:	Jeff Pearson City of Richfield City Engineer 1901 E. 66 th Street Richfield, MN 55423 612-861-9791
Assistant Executive Director:	Bryan Gruidl City of Bloomington Water Resource Engineer 1700 West 98 th Street Bloomington, MN 55431 952-563-4867

The City staffs for both cities cooperate to provide necessary staff support for the RBWMO.

C. 2016 Activity

Both cities perform the duties of the Local Government Unit (LGU) for BWSR for implementation of the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). Storm water utilities also are in place in both cities providing a reliable funding source for storm water and surface water resources management and improvement activities.

The fee structures for both cities storm water utility include a water quality component and a water quantity component. A credit/adjustment policy is in place providing incentive for property owners to incorporate storm water best management practices into their sites.

Wetland Buffer Law – The Buffer Law that was signed into law on June 2015 was amended by the Legislature and signed into law on April 25, 2016. The purpose of the buffer law is to establish riparian buffers and water quality practices to:

- A. Protect state water resources from erosion and runoff pollution;
- B. Stabilize soils, shores and banks; and

C. Protect or provide riparian corridors

Watershed Management Plan Update – As directed at the 2016 Annual Meeting, staff has proceeded with hiring a consultant to aid in the required update to the Watershed Management Plan (the Plan). The updating of the Plan was structured into three phases:

1. Pre-Plan Development Phase – This task consisted of gathering data for analysis and inclusion in the plan. Successful development and implementation of a consensus-based Plan depends on input from interested parties. As part of this process the RBWMO requested other agencies and the general public submit comments for consideration in the updated RBWMO Watershed Management Plan. The information provided helped the RBWMO identify issues, goals and priorities that should be addressed during the Plan update.

- This activity began in May 2016 and was completed by June 2016

2. Plan Development Phase – This phase utilized a stakeholder process to help shape the Plan through a series of three stakeholder meetings, each meeting considering one of the three following questions:

1. Where are we now? – Using the data gathered in the pre-plan development phase this meeting reviewed past accomplishments, current land use, quality of water resources within the RBWMO, and issues facing the RBWMO;
2. Where are we going? – The second meeting considered the previous work of the self-assessment project and used additional stakeholder input to set goals helping to shape the future vision of the RBWMO.
3. How do we get there? – The final stakeholder meeting discussed the Implementation strategies necessary to move the RBWMO from its current state to its vision

- The result of this work is an initial draft plan to be distributed for public comment upon Board approval at the 2017 Annual Meeting
- This work began with stakeholder meetings in August 2016 with completion of the draft plan by February 2017.

3. Plan Approval Phase – This phase is the review process from initial draft plan to final approved plan.

- This phase is anticipated to be completed in 2017.

MPCA Rulemaking –The South Metro Mississippi Turbidity TMDL was approved by EPA in April 2016. The TCMA Chloride TMDL was approved by EPA in June of 2016. The Tiered Aquatic Life Use (TALU) Framework went out for 45-day public comment in December 2016 and a public hearing is scheduled for February 2017. TALU could have important effects on many TMDLs;

Section V Implementation Program/Priorities Activities:

- a. Website Maintenance – The website is updated with the current watershed management plan, contact information, and resource links for residents, the general public and other agencies.
- b. Storm Water Quality Monitoring – See H. Water Quality Monitoring
- c. Continued TAC Coordination – In accordance with the 2008 Approved Watershed Management Plan, the RBWMO Technical Advisory Committee met on January 31, 2017 (Attachment 1).

Projects:

- 66th Street Reconstruction – Richfield
Hennepin County, in cooperation with the City of Richfield, completed the final design for the upcoming reconstruction of 66th Street from Washburn Avenue to 16th Avenue. Within the RBWMO, stormwater capacity issues west of I-35W (West Richfield Stormwater Improvement Project) and near Stevens Avenue will be addressed in coordination with the project. Right-of-way acquisition and demolition was completed in 2016.
- Curb and Gutter, Manhole and Catch Basin Replacement – Richfield
Concrete and storm sewer repairs were conducted on 16 miles of residential roads in advance of a 2017 Mill and Overlay project.
- West Richfield Stormwater Improvement Project – Richfield
In conjunction with the upcoming 66th Street Reconstruction Project a 3x6 box culvert connection was constructed through Monroe Park and James Avenue to the 4x8 box culvert that was completed in 2015. The new connection will add a significant amount of storm water capacity to this area. This water flows under I-35W to Wood Lake.
- Street Reconstruction - Bloomington
As part of the 2016-101 Street Reconstruction Project Bloomington reconstructed the following street segments:
 - 90th Street between 12th Ave and Old Cedar
 - East 85th Street between Nicollet Ave and 2nd Ave
 - 1st Avenue between 86th St and 84th StThe project included repairs to existing storm sewer, curb and gutter, sidewalk, and fully reconstructing the existing bituminous street pavement and sod restoration. A project SWPPP and NPDES permit for construction activities were included. Post construction activity included turf restoration and there was no net change in impervious surface.

- Ramada Hotel Demolition Project – Bloomington
The Bloomington Port Authority purchased the Ramada Hotel (formerly the Thunderbird Hotel) property at 2300 American Blvd East and in the fall of 2016 the hotel was demolished. This Project included asbestos and hazardous materials abatement, building demolition, pavement and utility removal, East 78th Street closure and removal, and site restoration.

Demolition was completed in late 2016 with final restoration scheduled for spring 2017. For final stabilization the area will be graded and restored with vegetation to prevent erosion to a nearly 100% pervious condition. The actual timing of the redevelopment of this property is unknown and may not occur for several years.

D. 2017 Work Plan

Staff will continue to focus on the WMO's next generation Water Management Plan and work through the plan approval process in accordance with the new rules. A consultant may be brought on board to assist with the plan approval process. Working through the plan approval process from the draft plan to the final plan includes the following steps:

- a. RBWMO Board approval of draft plan
- b. 60-day review period on draft plan
- c. RBWMO to address comments received during the 60-day review period and prepare responses
- d. Public hearing for approval of final draft plan
- e. RBWMO to address comments received during the public hearing and prepare responses
- f. 90-day final Board of Water and Soil Resources review
- g. RBWMO to address comments received during the 90-day BWSR review period and prepare responses
- h. Final plan approved and adopted
 - Anticipated schedule:
 - March 7th – May 6th 2017 - Draft 60-day Plan for Agency Review
 - TBD (Mid-2017) – Public Hearing
 - TBD (Post Public Hearing) – Final Draft 90-day Plan
 - 2018 Annual Board Meeting – Plan Adoption

Staff will continue to implement priorities/programs as outlined in Section V of the 2008 Watershed Management Plan, including:

- Website maintenance for distribution of education and WMO related information
- Storm water quality monitoring

- Continued TAC coordination

Projects

- 66th Street Reconstruction – Richfield
In 2017, Hennepin County will begin reconstruction of the roadway and utilities west of I-35W and east of Portland Ave. Construction is expected to 3 years to complete. Ames Construction will be the primary contractor.
- H & H Model Update – Bloomington
This project includes updating the city’s stormwater models to reflect the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) revised precipitation frequency estimates (referred to as Atlas 14).
- Bloomington Avenue Sanitary Sewer Project - Bloomington
This Project includes the reconstruction of just over a half mile of 24” sanitary sewer pipe from 86th Street to 90th Street along Bloomington Avenue. It also includes new 8” PVC sanitary sewer pipe in both 86th Street from Bloomington Avenue to 17th Avenue and 17th Avenue from 84th Street to 86th Street. Given the depth of the sanitary sewer pipe and the condition of other utilities along these segments, the project will also include replacement of other utilities like the water main and storm sewer along Bloomington Avenue and 17th Avenue.

Due to the utility work, the entire street width will be reconstructed with this project. Approximately 1,200 feet of 17th Avenue and 2,500 feet of Bloomington Avenue will be reconstructed between East 84th Street and East 90th Street. A project SWPPP will be implemented and the project slightly reduces street width resulting in reduction of nearly 0.5 acres of impervious surface.

E. Permits, Variances and Enforcement

Both Richfield and Bloomington had zero actions relating to the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) within the RBWMO area in 2016. The WCA 2016 Annual Reporting Forms are available upon request.

In 2016, Bloomington staff completed erosion control inspections at nine construction/redevelopment sites in Bloomington within the RBWMO.

- Progress Valley / 1100 E 80th St
- Hunt Electric / 7900 Chicago Ave S
- New Twinhome Construction / 1700 E 88th St
- Hilton Garden Inn / 1601 E American Blvd

- New Home Construction / 8346 Wentworth Ave S
- Demolition / 751 E 86th St
- Parking Lot Expansion / 951 E American Blvd.
- Harbor Freight / Village Square Shopping Center
- New Home Construction / 1309 E 86th St

In 2016, Richfield staff completed erosion control inspections at the following sites in Richfield within the RBWMO undergoing construction/redevelopment activity subject to an NPDES permit.

Inspection Continuation/New Permits Issued:

- Audi of Richfield (1401 77th Street W) West Richfield Storm Sewer Improvement Project
- RB Honda (401 77th Street W)
- Giordano's Pizza (3000 66th St W)
- Lyndale Gardens Public Improvements (6400 Lyndale Ave S)
- Fraser School Admin Building (6320 Penn Ave S)
- Commercial Building (6234 Lyndale Ave S)

Single Family Home Construction Projects Approved

- 6713 Queen Ave Richfield
- 7309 10th Ave Richfield
- 7533 Dupont Ave Richfield
- 7333 Emerson Ave Richfield
- 7033 Garfield Ave Richfield

F. Storm Water Pollution Prevention Programs (SWPPPs)

The RBWMO work plan includes best management practices (BMPs) from both cities storm water programs consistent with the requirements of the MPCA Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Storm Water Program and the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP). The Richfield and Bloomington SWPPPs address all of the six Minimum Control Measures (MCM) outlined in the permit and BMPs have been prepared for each measure as follows:

MCM 1 & 2 – Public Education, Participation, Outreach and Involvement

The RBWMO, through its member cities, has an established education and outreach program that focuses on illicit discharge recognition and reporting, as well as other specifically selected storm water-related issues such as chloride management. In addition, both cities will continue to solicit public input on the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program. The RBWMO offers opportunities to learn how storm water can impact streams, rivers, and wetlands, and the steps people can take

to reduce pollutants in the storm water runoff. These opportunities are offered on a continual basis at the Wood Lake Nature Center where the center receives 75,000 visitors per year (on average). In addition to educating various grades of student classrooms annually, additional education opportunities are provided through quarterly utility bill mailing inserts, Bloomington's Green Room (which is part of the City's biennial Home Improvement Fair), and Public Works Open House. Information is available on city websites, the RBWMO website, in city newsletters, and through employee training programs.

Public participation and involvement is solicited through public meetings and specific storm water project meetings, or open houses.

MCM 3 – Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

Both cities implement and enforce an illicit discharge program.

Richfield's and Bloomington's staff keep up-to-date records of the storm sewer system identifying all ponds, lakes, streams, storm sewer pipes, conveyances, and outfalls leaving the RBWMO. Public Works staff annually inspects sanitary and storm sewer mainline pipes checking for defects such as fractures, cracks, open joints, or other defects that could lead to illicit discharges. Once identified, pipe distresses can be scheduled for repair or maintenance.

Bloomington continues to administer the curb-side-cleanup resulting in the proper handling and disposal waste and problem items helping to keep these items from entering stormwater and surface waters. Continued promotion of the Hennepin County Hazardous Waste disposal facility provides residents a resource for proper disposal of hazardous wastes.

MCM 4 – Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control

Both cities require site specific storm water management plans and erosion control plans for new development and redevelopment that meet the NPDES requirements. The required erosion control BMPs are monitored and inspected as the work progresses. Existing erosion control ordinances and development plan review procedures provide the mechanisms to help prevent soil erosion into the MS4.

MCM 5 – Post Construction Storm Water Management for New Development and Redevelopment

Storm water runoff rate control continues to be a critical component in Richfield and Bloomington development/redevelopment.

The current MS4 permit was approved in August, 2013. Post-Construction stormwater management requirements contain multiple components including: storm water volume reduction requirements for new development and redevelopment, regulating areas allowed for infiltration, allowable exceptions,

mitigation provisions, long-term maintenance requirements of structural BMPs, and site plan review.

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and TMDL reporting are a substantial portion of the MS4 permit. Entities not only need to identify impaired waters and review the adequacy that their program to address TMDLs, but need to identify specific BMPs to reduce the pollutant load to the receiving water.

MCM 6 – Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

Both cities continue to implement education and conduct inspection measure to ensure that good housekeeping practices are in place at their respective facilities.

The City of Richfield inspected 100% of the city’s ponds, outfalls and sediment basins in 2016 and completed four city-wide street sweeping passes.

Bloomington provided two annual sweepings of city streets and completed inspection and maintenance of 100% of the structural pollution control devices within the permitted MS4. Inspections of 20% of the city’s MS4 outfalls, ponds and sediment basins were also ongoing in 2016. Associated maintenance as identified by the inspections was either scheduled or completed at the time of inspection.

G. Local Surface Water Plans

Bloomington’s CSWMP received RBWMO approval on September 17, 2007. Richfield’s SWMP received RBWMO approval on March 17, 2008. Both cities are currently completing updates to their plans.

Subsequent to the August 28, 2008 approval of the RBWMO Plan, staff has reviewed each city’s plan to ensure conformance with new policies and procedures.

H. Water Quality Monitoring

Richfield and Bloomington continue to implement the monitoring program as outlined in Section V.4 of the approved watershed management plan. The monitoring is intended to establish long-term water quality data for the direct storm sewer discharges to Wood Lake, Richfield Lake, Smith Pond, and Wrights Lake.

Monitoring has been on-going at Wood Lake, Richfield, Lake, and Smith Pond since 2010. Monitoring began on Wrights Lake in 2013 including being monitored as part of the Hennepin County Wetland Health Evaluation Program from 2013-2015. Monitoring records are available upon request.

I. Consultant Services

Della Young (Burns & McDonnell/Young Environmental Consulting Group) was hired in 2016, as directed by the board, to complete the WMO Management Plan update. The consultant fees of \$39,991 will be split equally between the two member cities. If necessary a consultant will be retained to assist with the plan approval process in 2017.

J. Information Program

A copy of the publication for the Bloomington Sun and Richfield Sun is included. (Attachment 2)

The RBWMO website provides a location for the public and other agencies to view the Watershed Management Plan as well as find general contact information, and links to other water resources-related information. The website address is www.RBWMO.org

K. Expenditures

All RBWMO expenses are shared equally and paid through the member cities storm water utility funds.

Insurance for 2016 was \$2,275.00.

Total consultant services in 2016 were \$38,030.31.