

## DEFINITIONS

“Agricultural activity” means agronomic, horticultural and silvicultural activity including but not limited to producing crops, including nursery stock, sod, fruits, vegetables, flowers, forages, cover crops, grains, and Christmas trees. Agricultural activity also includes animal husbandry and grazing.

“Atlas 14” means the Precipitation Frequency Estimates released by the National Weather Service Hydrometeorological Studies Design Center. Volume 8, released in 2013, provides precipitation frequency estimates for many Midwestern states including Minnesota.

“Bed of waterbody” means all portions of a waterbody below the ordinary high-water level.

“Best management practices (BMPs)” means effective and practicable means of erosion prevention and sediment control, and water quality management practices that are effective and practicable to limit degradation of surface water.

“Better Site Design” means the control and management of stormwater quantity and quality through the application of Better Site Design Techniques as outlined in the Minnesota Stormwater Manual: [http://stormwater.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://stormwater.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/Main_Page), as revised. Better Site Design includes but is not limited to: preservation of natural areas; site reforestation; stream and shoreland buffers; open space design; disconnection of impervious cover by incorporated greenspace along the flowpath of stormwater runoff; discharge of rooftop runoff to green space; grass channels; stormwater landscaping; compost and amended soils; impervious surface reduction; and trout stream protection.

“Bioengineering” means the use of live plant materials to provide erosion control, slope and stream bank stabilization, landscape restoration, and wildlife habitat. These techniques are used alone or in conjunction with conventional engineering techniques.

“Buffer” means an upland area adjacent to a lake, stream or wetland that is maintained in or restored to primarily native vegetation.

“Common plan of development” means a tract or contiguous tracts where separate and distinct land disturbance occurs, concurrently or at different times, under one plan.

“Critical duration flood event” means the 100-year precipitation or snow melt event with a duration resulting in the maximum 100 year return period water surface elevation. The critical duration flood event is generally either the 100-year, 24 hour rainfall event as found in NOAA Atlas 14 or the ten-day snow melt event assumed to be 7.2 inches of runoff occurring on frozen ground (CN=100); however, other durations (e.g., 6-hour) may result in the maximum 100 year return period water surface elevation.

“Distributed CN-value approach” means an approach that separately assigns a curve number to each land use to more accurately reflect volume and timing of site-generated runoff. Impervious surfaces directly connected to stormwater conveyances may not be grouped together with disconnected impervious and pervious areas for calculation of drainage area curve numbers.

“Facility” means any part of a natural or constructed system contributing under the stormwater management plan to meeting a standard of Section 2.3.

“Feasible” means technically achievable at a cost that, in the District’s determination, not substantially disproportionate to the stormwater management benefit to be gained.

“Floodplain” means the area adjoining a watercourse or water basin that has been or would be covered by a flood expected to occur on an average frequency of the 100-year recurrence interval.

“General development lake” means a lake so designated by the Minnesota DNR pursuant to Minn. Rules 6120.3000.

“Groundwater-dependent natural resource” (GDNR) means a feature with surface emergence of groundwater at a spring or seepage area, sufficiently mineral rich to support a plant community or aquatic ecosystem listed in the Appendix to these Definitions. Information used to identify a GDNR includes Minnesota Land Cover Classification System plant community data, information on known springs and groundwater seepages, wetland function and value assessments, flow and water quality data and site inspection data.

“Impervious surface” means a surface that has been compacted or covered with a layer of material, or is likely to become compacted from expected use, so that it is highly resistant to infiltration by water and increases the depth of runoff compared to natural soils and land cover. Including but not limited to roads, driveways, parking areas, sidewalks and trails, patios, tennis courts, basketball courts, swimming pools, building roofs, covered decks, and other structures.

“Land disturbance” or “land disturbing activity” means an activity that changes or alters the existing ground cover (vegetative or non-vegetative) and/or the existing soil topography. Land disturbing activity includes, but is not limited to, development, redevelopment, clearing, grading, filling, excavation and borrow pits. The following are among those that do not constitute land disturbance: mill, reclamation and overlay of impervious surface; routine vegetation management activity such as the clearing of cattails from ditches; and the use of land for new or continuing agricultural activity, home gardens, or landscaping adjacent to existing structures.

“Lowest basement floor elevation” means the lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area. An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, used solely for parking of vehicles, building access, or storage in an area other than a basement area is not considered a building’s lowest basement floor.

“Landlocked basin” means a localized depression that does not have a natural outlet at or below the water elevation of the 10-day runoff (snowmelt) event with a 100-year return frequency using the 2000 Washington County Topographic Survey and Chisago County Topographic Survey.

“Manage 1,” as a wetland classification, means a wetland that does not qualify as a “Preserve” wetland but that meets one or more of the following rating levels pursuant to the most current version of Minnesota Routine Assessment Method (MnRAM) or other method approved by the District:

<b>Function or Value</b>	<b>Rating</b>
Vegetative Diversity	High

Wildlife Habitat	High
Fish Habitat	High
Aesthetics/education/recreation/cultural AND Wildlife Habitat	High AND Medium
Stormwater Sensitivity AND Vegetative Diversity	High AND Medium
Vegetative Diversity <sup>(1)</sup> AND Maintenance of Hydrologic Regime	Medium AND High

“Manage 2,” as a wetland classification, means a wetland that does not qualify as a “Preserve” or “Manage 1” wetland but that meets one or more of the following rating levels pursuant to the most current version of Minnesota Routine Assessment Method (MnRAM) or other method approved by the District:

<b>Function or Value</b>	<b>Rating</b>
Wildlife Habitat	Medium
Fisheries Habitat	Medium
Aesthetics/education/recreation/cultural AND Wildlife Habitat	Medium AND Low

“Manage 3,” as a wetland classification, means a wetland that does not qualify as a “Preserve,” “Manage 1” or “Manage 2” wetland.

“Mapped natural community” means a natural community identified in “Natural Communities and Rare Species Map for Washington and Chisago County” (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Program, 1990), or in a natural resources inventory using the same protocol as established by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

“Middle zone” is a vegetative buffer zone that extends from the upland edge of the streamside zone to the interior edge of the outer zone of a watercourse.

“Mill, reclamation and overlay” means the removal of the top layer(s) of an impervious surface (e.g. roadway, parking lot, sport court) by mechanical means, followed by the placement of a new layer of impervious surface, without disturbance of the underlying native soil.

“Natural environment lake” means a lake so designated by the Minnesota DNR pursuant to Minn. Rules 6120.3000.

“National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)” means the program for issuing, modifying, revoking, reissuing, terminating, monitoring, and enforcing permits under the Clean Water Act (Sections 301, 318, 402, and 405) and 33 CFR §§ 1317, 1328, 1342, and 1345 as amended.

“New development” means development on a site that has less than 15% impervious surface. Land that was developed beyond 15% impervious surface, but meets the definition of “redevelopment,” is not new development.

“Normal wetted perimeter” means the area of a conveyance, such as a ditch, channel, or pipe that is in contact with water during flow events that are expected to occur from a two-year, 24 hour storm event.

“NURP standard” means the design criteria developed pursuant to the Nationwide Urban Runoff Program (U.S. EPA, 1983) and published by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in Protecting Water Quality in Urban Areas 1991” (sections 4.1-4 through 4.1-7), as may be amended.

“Ordinary high-water level” or "OHWL" means the boundary of a public water or wetland as determined by the Department of Natural Resources, and is an elevation indicating the highest water level that has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave evidence on the landscape, commonly indicated by a change from predominantly aquatic to predominantly terrestrial vegetation. For watercourses, the ordinary high-water level is the elevation of the top of bank of the channel. For basins and flowages, it is the operating elevation of the summer pool. If the DNR has not defined an OHWL, the District, with DNR consultation, will establish the elevation for the purpose of the permit application.

“Outer zone” is a vegetative buffer zone that extends from the upland edge of the middle zone of a watercourse to a point specified in these Rules.

“Permanent cover” means surface types that will prevent soil failure under erosive conditions. Examples include: gravel, asphalt, concrete, rip rap, roof tops, perennial vegetative cover, or other landscaped material that will permanently arrest soil erosion. To constitute permanent cover, perennial vegetative cover must be evenly distributed, without large bare areas and with a density of 70% of background vegetative cover. Permanent cover does not include temporary erosion control practices.

“Permittee” means a person or persons, firm, governmental agency or other entity for whom a permit has been approved. A permittee and any co-permittee are responsible for permit compliance, along with any other party engaging in the activity subject to the permit.

“Pre-development condition” means the condition at the site prior to the proposed activity that serves as the baseline against which to measure impacts of the proposed activity for compliance with stormwater management requirements.

“Preserve,” as a wetland classification, means a wetland meeting any of the following rating levels pursuant to the most current version of Minnesota Routine Assessment Method (MnRAM) or other method approved by the District:

<b>Function or Value</b>	<b>Rating</b>
Vegetative Diversity	Exceptional
Wildlife Habitat	Exceptional
Fish Habitat	Exceptional
Aesthetics/education/recreation/cultural AND Wildlife Habitat	Exceptional AND High
Stormwater Sensitivity AND Vegetative Diversity	Exceptional AND Medium or greater
Vegetative Diversity <sup>(SEP)</sup> AND Maintenance of hydrologic regime	High AND High or greater

“Public linear project” means a project in which a public agency is a permittee and that involves a roadway, sidewalk, trail or linear utility not part of a development pursuant to subdivision.

“Public water” means a water basin or watercourse as defined in Minnesota Statutes § 103G.005, subd. 15.

“Receiving water” means the first of the following types of surface waters encountered by stormwater runoff from a site: a lake or stream designated as a public water, public wetland or wetland.

“Reconstructed Impervious Surface” means area where impervious surface is removed down to the underlying native soil and the underlying native soil, as distinguished from roadway subgrade material, is disturbed. The following are among those actions that do not constitute impervious surface reconstruction: structure renovation; impervious surface mill, reclamation and overlay; paving of an existing gravel road that will remain rural-section road; hard surface removal and replacement associated with an isolated maintenance activity (as opposed to broader-scale replacement) such as repair of a catch basin or pipe section or replacement at the same hydraulic capacity; and pedestrian ramp installation.

“Redevelopment” means development on a site that is currently developed below 15% impervious surface, or was developed beyond 15% impervious surface, but has been razed to below that measure in anticipation of redevelopment.

“Recreational development lake” means a lake so designated by the Minnesota DNR pursuant to Minn. Rules 6120.3000, as listed in Appendix 2.0.

“Revegetation” means the planting of native species.

“Saturated soil” means the highest seasonal elevation in the soil that is in a reduced chemical state because of soil voids being filled with water. Saturated soil is evidenced by the presence of redoximorphic features or other information.

“Sediment control” means methods employed to prevent sediment from leaving the site. Sediment control practices include but are not limited to: silt fences, sediment traps, earth dikes, drainage swales, check dams, subsurface drains, bio rolls, rock logs, compost logs, storm drain inlet protection, and temporary or permanent sedimentation basins.

“Shore impact zone” means land located between the OHWL of a public water and a line parallel to it at a distance defined under Minn. Rules 6120.

“Site” means the parcel or contiguous parcels of land on which the activity subject to District permitting is to occur. If subdivision triggers District permitting, the site is the area being subdivided. For an independent roadway, trail or other linear project, “site” means the area of right-of-way held and to be acquired for the project for the section or sections of roadway or trail to be disturbed.

“Site design practice” means a method of managing stormwater peak flow, flow volume or quality listed in Appendix 2.1 to Rule 2.0.

“Steep slope” means land with an average slope in the direction of flow exceeding twelve (12) percent over a distance of 50 feet or more or land defined as steep slope in the corresponding County Soil Survey (Chisago or Washington County), as amended.

“Stormwater” (as defined under Minn. Rule 7077.0105 subp. 41(b)) means precipitation runoff, stormwater runoff, snowmelt runoff, and any other surface runoff and drainage.

“Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan” (SWPPP) means a plan for stormwater management that includes erosion prevention BMPs, sediment control BMPs, and permanent stormwater management systems that, when implemented, will decrease soil erosion on a parcel of land, and decrease off-site nonpoint pollution.

“Stream” means a natural or altered natural watercourse. “Stream buffer zone” means a streamside zone, middle zone or outer zone.

“Streamside zone” is a vegetative buffer zone that extends from the ordinary high-water mark of a watercourse to the interior edge of the middle zone.

“Structure” means anything that is constructed or placed on the ground and that is, or is intended, to remain for longer than a brief, temporary period of time.

“Subdivision” means the separation of an area, parcel, or tract of land under single ownership into two or more parcels or tracts.

“Subwatershed” means an area wholly or partly within the Comfort Lake - Forest Lake watershed defined by the drainage of all surface flows to a common waterbody.

“Temporary erosion protection” means methods employed to prevent erosion during construction activities. Examples of temporary erosion protection include, but are not limited to, hydromulch, straw, wood fiber blanket, wood chips, vegetation, mulch and rolled erosion control products.

“Thalweg” means the line connecting the points of lowest bed elevation in the direction of flow.

“Utility” means a facility for transmitting water, wastewater, steam, gas, electricity, data or similar commodities,

“Underground waters (Groundwater)” means water contained below the surface of the earth in the saturated zone including, without limitation, all waters whether under confined, unconfined, or perched conditions, in near surface unconsolidated sediment or regolith, or in rock formations deeper underground. The term groundwater is synonymous with underground water.

“Waterbody” means a watercourse or waterbasin.

“Waterbasin” means an enclosed natural depression with definable banks, capable of retaining water.

“Watercourse” means any definable channel including a natural channel, altered natural channel or artificial channel that has definable beds and banks capable of conducting confined runoff from adjacent land.

“Waters of the State” is as defined in Minnesota Statutes §115.01 subd. 22, as amended.

“Wetland” means land transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water. A wetland (a) is predominated by hydric soils; (b) is inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation typically

adapted for life in saturated soil conditions; and (c) under normal circumstances, supports a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation. A wetland is a waterbasin if it meets the definition of that term.

“Wetland Conservation Act or WCA” means the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act of 1991 as amended. Wetlands shall be delineated using the methods outlined in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual.

## DEFINITIONS – APPENDIX 1.0

Groundwater-Dependent Natural Resource Types (Following Minnesota Land Cover Classification System protocol)

Cold water trout stream	Calcareous seepage fen
Spring creek	Calcareous seepage fen boreal subtype
Groundwater-dependent lake	Calcareous seepage fen prairie subtype
Tamarack swamp seepage subtype	Poor fen
Tamarack swamp minerotrophic subtype	Poor fen sedge subtype
Tamarack swamp sphagnum subtype	Poor fen patterned fen subtype
White cedar swamp seepage subtype	Rich fen
Black spruce bog	Rich fen sedge subtype
Black spruce bog intermediate subtype	Rich fen floating-mat subtype - saturated soils
Black spruce bog raised subtype	
Black ash swamp seepage subtype	Rich fen patterned fen subtype
Mixed hardwood swamp seepage subtype	Open bog Open sphagnum bog schlenke subtype
Scrub tamarack poor fen	
Birch bog, spiraea temporarily flooded shrubland	Graminoid bog Wet meadow floating mat subtype
Shrub fen	Rich fen floating-mat subtype - semipermanently flooded
Poor fen shrub subtype	Rich fen floating-mat subtype - intermittently exposed
Rich fen shrub subtype	
Wet brush-prairie seepage subtype	Rich fen floating-mat subtype - permanently flooded
Shrub swamp seepage subtype	
Alder swamp - saturated soils	Talus slope algific subtype Seepage meadow Wet cliff Moderate cliff
Birch bog, spiraea shrubland - saturated soils	Midwest sedimentary dripping cliff
Alder swamp	Saline spring mud flat
Birch bog, spiraea shrubland - seasonally flooded	
Birch bog, spiraea shrubland - semipermanently flooded	
Wet prairie seepage subtype - saturated soils	

## DEFINITIONS – APPENDIX 2.0

### LAKE CLASSIFICATIONS

<b>Lake Name</b>	<b>Lake ID</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>City Name</b>	<b>DNR Classification</b>
Ashton	13005100	Chisago	Wyoming	Natural Environment
Birch	13004200	Chisago	Chisago City	Natural Environment
Bone	82005400	Washington	Scandia	Recreational Development
Clear	82016300	Washington	Forest Lake	General Development
Comfort	13005300	Chisago	Wyoming	General Development
Cranberry	82016100	Washington	Forest Lake	Natural Environment
Elwell	82007900	Washington	Forest Lake	Natural Environment
First	13002600	Chisago	Chisago Lake Township	Natural Environment
Forest	82015900	Washington	Forest Lake	General Development
Fourth	13002200	Chisago	Chisago Lake Township	Natural Environment
Heims	13005600	Chisago	Wyoming	Recreational Development
Keewahtin (formerly Sylvan or Halfbreed)	82008000	Washington	Forest Lake	Recreational Development
Lendt	13010300	Chisago	Scandia	N/A
Little Comfort	13005400	Chisago	Wyoming & Chisago City*	General Development
Moody	13002300	Chisago	Chisago Township	Natural Environment

Nielson	82005500	Washington	Scandia	Natural Environment
Pine	13001800	Chisago	Chisago Lake Township	Natural Environment
School	13005700	Chisago	Chisago City	Natural Environment
Sea	82005300	Washington	Scandia	Natural Environment
Second	13002500	Chisago	Chisago Lake Township	Natural Environment
Shields	82016200	Washington	Forest Lake	Natural Environment
Third	13002400	Chisago	Chisago Lake Township	Natural Environment
Twin	82015700	Washington	Forest Lake	Natural Environment

\*Little Comfort Lake is partly within the boundaries of the City of Wyoming, and partly in Chisago City (i.e. the two city boundaries bisect the lake).

Source: "Basin Shoreland Classifications" table, MN Department of Natural Resources (updated June 12, 2017).

Available at:

[http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt\\_section/shoreland/lake\\_shoreland\\_classifications.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt_section/shoreland/lake_shoreland_classifications.html)