



Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

# Watershed Champion Award

## Program Details - 2025

The purpose of the Watershed Champion Award is to acknowledge and honor those whose contributions to water stewardship have helped the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District (CLFLWD) achieve its mission of protecting and improving local water resources. The Watershed Champion Award and Junior Watershed Champion Award (ages 18 and younger) will be presented annually by the CLFLWD to an individual, business, organization, or community for having demonstrated exceptional stewardship of the water resources within the boundaries of the CLFLWD. The deadline for nominations is August 25th, 2025. The winners will be named at the annual CLFLWD State of the Watershed scheduled for September 30th, 2025.

## Nominations

To nominate an individual, business, organization or community for the Award please provide all the information requested on the nomination form. The deadline for nominations is August 25th 2025. Nominations can be submitted in-person, via e-mail to [adam.hjelm@clflwd.org](mailto:adam.hjelm@clflwd.org), or mailed to the District office at 44 Lake St. South, Suite A, Forest Lake, MN 55025. Attachments that support the nomination are strongly encouraged. Please note that District managers, staff, and consultants are not eligible for the award. Any nominations for such individuals will not be considered.

## Award Criteria

Contributions to be recognized must:

- Promote stewardship of water resources within the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District
- Demonstrate observable or measurable results toward the District's water quality goals.
- Have been implemented after January 1st, 2020\*

Examples of contributions include, but are not limited to: raised public awareness of a specific issue (such as responsible road salt use, groundwater conservation, invasive species, etc.), creation of water resource-friendly public policy, protection of a resource via a land trust or wetland restoration, voluntary completion of a rain garden or shoreline restoration project, or economic development that is consistent with good water resource stewardship.

\*Contributions implemented more than five years old may be considered for the award on the condition that sufficient supporting documentation is provided.

## Nomination Scoring & Award Selection

### Nomination Scoring:

The deadline for nominations is August 25th, 2025. Nominations will be scored on a 5-point scale for two of the following criteria based on the nomination category selected: Promotion of stewardship OR demonstration of observable or measurable results, and overall impact.

### Selection Committee:

A five person committee consisting of one board member, one staff member, and three Citizen Advisory Committee members will review nominations and select the award recipients. Committee members will score each nomination as described above and aggregate scores will be used to help inform the Committee's decision. One award will be given per category. An award does not have to be given in each category if no nominee meets the criteria. An award may be given to a previous winner if subsequent contributions justify doing so.

### Form of Recognition:

The recipient's contribution will be shared with the large community through publication in the local newspapers and Districts annual newsletter. Award recipients will receive a memento of appreciation from the District related to their water resource stewardship contribution.

Questions? Contact us at (651) 395-5850 or [adam.hjelm@clflwd.org](mailto:adam.hjelm@clflwd.org)