



## MEMORANDUM

Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

**Date:** October 14, 2025  
**To:** CLFLWD Board of Managers  
**From:** Mike Kinney, District Administrator  
Adam Hjelm, Education and Outreach Coordinator  
**Subject:** 2025 State of the Watershed Summary



**District Wide**

### Background/Discussion

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide a summary of the September 30, 2025, State of the Watershed.

### Attached

2025 State of the Watershed Summary PowerPoint



# 2025 State of the Watershed Summary





# Expenses

## SOTW 2025 Expenses

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| <u>American Legion</u> | \$4,448.31 |
|------------------------|------------|

*Food, Venue*

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| <u>Watershed Champions</u> | \$477.88 |
|----------------------------|----------|

*Awards, Supplies*

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| <u>Printing</u> | \$410.40 |
|-----------------|----------|

|              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| <b>Total</b> | <b>\$5,336.59</b> |
|--------------|-------------------|



# Survey Results

**99 people in attendance**

**~ 40 completed surveys**

(not all questions answered on all surveys)

Question 1

Do you live in the CLFLWD?

**Yes – 34 (86%)**

**No – 5 (14%)**



# Survey Results

## Question 2

In general, do you think our local streams, lakes, and rivers are getting better?

**Yes – 31 (78%)**

**No – 5 (12%)**

**I don't know – 4 (10%)**



# Survey Results

## Question 3

Looking at the list below, which do you think should be the top three highest priorities for the CLFLWD in the next five years??

**Aquatic Invasive Species - 68%**

**Groundwater Protection – 50%**

**Natural Shorelines – 48%**

**Lake/Stream Monitoring – 35%**

**Education/Outreach – 25%**

**Healthy Habitats – 23%**

**Stormwater Monitoring – 18%**

**Flood Resiliency/Prevention – 13%**

**Regulatory/Permitting – 5%**



# Survey Results

## Question 4

In your opinion, what are the three largest sources of pollution to our local lakes, streams, and wetlands?

**Residential Lawns – 68%**

**Streets and Roads – 48%**

**Farms with Livestock – 34%**

**Shoreline Erosion – 30%**

**Agricultural Cropland – 30%**

**Large Storms/Flooding Events – 20%**

**Winter Salt Use – 18%**

**Septic Systems – 13%**

**Construction Sites -5%**



# Survey Results

## Question 5

How do you hear about CLFLWD programs, projects, and activities?

(Check all that apply)

**Email Notifications – 43%**

**Friends/Neighbors – 30%**

**CLFLWD Newsletters – 25%**

**CLFLWD Website – 23%**

**Other entities (city, county, civic groups) – 20%**

**Community Education Events/Classes – 15%**

**Facebook – 5%**



# Survey Results

## Question 6

Do you think the CLFLWD is responsibly utilizing tax/levy dollars?

**Yes – 26 (86%)**

**No – 2 (7%)**

**I don't know – 2 (7%)**

## Comments:

**Could do better.**

**Yes, based off water clarity and AIS programs.**

**Unsure.**

**Grants would be best, but not a lot out there.**

**You need to show people what monthly costs would be, not just percentages.**



# Survey Results

## Question 7

How would you like to see the CLFLWD more involved in local communities? (18 comments summarized)

**More education and outreach (youth and adult) – 11 comments**

**More interactions with landowners/shoreline owners – 1 comment**

**AIS treatments, specifically on Comfort Lake – 1 comment**

**More interactions with govt. entities (city and federal) - 2 comments**

**Improve street design/function – 1 comment**



# Survey Results

## Question 8

Please add any general comments you would like for the CLFLWD staff and board: (19 comments summarized)

**Thanks, keep up the good work, doing great work – 10 comments**

**Reduction of plant life to reduce sediment.**

**Control weeds!!!!**

**Continue grant programs for this is beneficial to our community.**

**North shore park planting is looking good!**

**Add QR codes to projects and signs.**

**More monitoring of the lake, year-round coordination with the DNR.**

**Comfort Lakes invasive species/curlyleaf review. It has exploded. Treat annually.**



## Questions?

