



MEMORANDUM

Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

Date: March 5th, 2026
To: CLFLWD Board of Managers
From: Mike Kinney, District Administrator
Subject: Letter of Support for Minnesota Lakes and Rivers
LCCMR Proposal



District Wide

Background/Discussion:

The Minnesota Lakes and Rivers (MLR) organization operates a Lake Steward program throughout the state that focuses on shoreline restoration and protection through civic organizing. MLR submitted a proposal to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) for funding in 2027.

MLR has requested letters of support from partner organizations working on shoreline restoration for their Lake Steward proposal to the LCCMR. The Lake Steward Program engages lake associations and residents to assess shoreline health through a simple quiz and find ways to restore habitat and improve water quality. Participants in the program are rewarded with a Lake Steward sign. As of 2024, 41 lake associations participate in the Lake Steward Program. More information can be found on MLR's website: <https://mnlakesandrivers.org/lake-steward/>.

While there are currently not any Lake Associations within the District using the Lake Steward program, the goals of the program are aligned with the CLFLWD's Watershed Management Plan. The District stands to benefit from growing public awareness and participation in addressing the loss of natural shorelines.

Recommended Motion:

Proposed Motion: Manager _____ moves to have the Board President sign the attached letter of support on behalf of the Board of Managers and directs staff to forward the letter of support to MLR for their proposal to the LCCMR for funding of their Lake Steward program.
Seconded by Manager _____.

Attached

Letter of Support for MLR LCCMR Proposal



CLFLWD
WATERSHED DISTRICT

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44 Lake St. South, Suite A
Forest Lake, MN 55025 

March 5th, 2026

Subject: Letter of Support for Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Protection and Education

Program: *Strengthening The Lake Steward Program: It's Shore Important!*

Dear Members of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources:

On behalf of the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District (CLFLWD), I am pleased to express our support for Minnesota Lakes and Rivers (MLR) proposal, *Strengthening The Lake Steward Program: It's Shore Important!* This initiative aligns closely with our mission to protect and enhance Minnesota's water resources, ensuring their health for future generations.

CLFLWD recognizes the importance of collaborative, positive engagement in achieving sustainable water stewardship. This program brings together a statewide network of stakeholders: state and local government agencies, lake associations, watershed districts, and nonprofits to work towards a shared goal. We are dedicated to supporting this project through engaging with residents and Lake Associations and serving as a technical resource for shoreline restoration and protection. We believe this collaboration will serve as a statewide model for effective shoreline stewardship.

Thank you for considering this proposal. We look forward to working together to protect Minnesota's natural resources and ensure the success of this program.

Questions about our organizations participation in this program can be directed to Aidan Read at 651.583.6590 or aidan.read@clflwd.org. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any additional information.

Regards,

Jackie Anderson, President
Board of Managers
Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

Jackie Anderson, President ○ Jim Schottmuller, Vice President
Dave Bakke, Secretary ○ Steve Schmaltz, Treasurer ○ Doug Toavs, Assistant Treasurer