



Administrators Report

For April 23, 2026





Plans and Documents Detailing 2026 Staff Work

The documents linked below guide staff's work for the year:

- [2026 Budget](#) (last amended 12/18/25)
- [2026 Staff Work Plan](#) (approved 12/18/25)
- [2026 Education & Outreach Plan](#) (approved 2/12/26)
- [2026 AIS Prevention & Management Plan](#) (approved 3/12/26)
- [2026 Cost-Share Framework](#) (approved 3/12/26)
- [2026 Monitoring Plan](#) (approved 3/12/26)



Shields Lake Park



Administration

1003 – General Administration

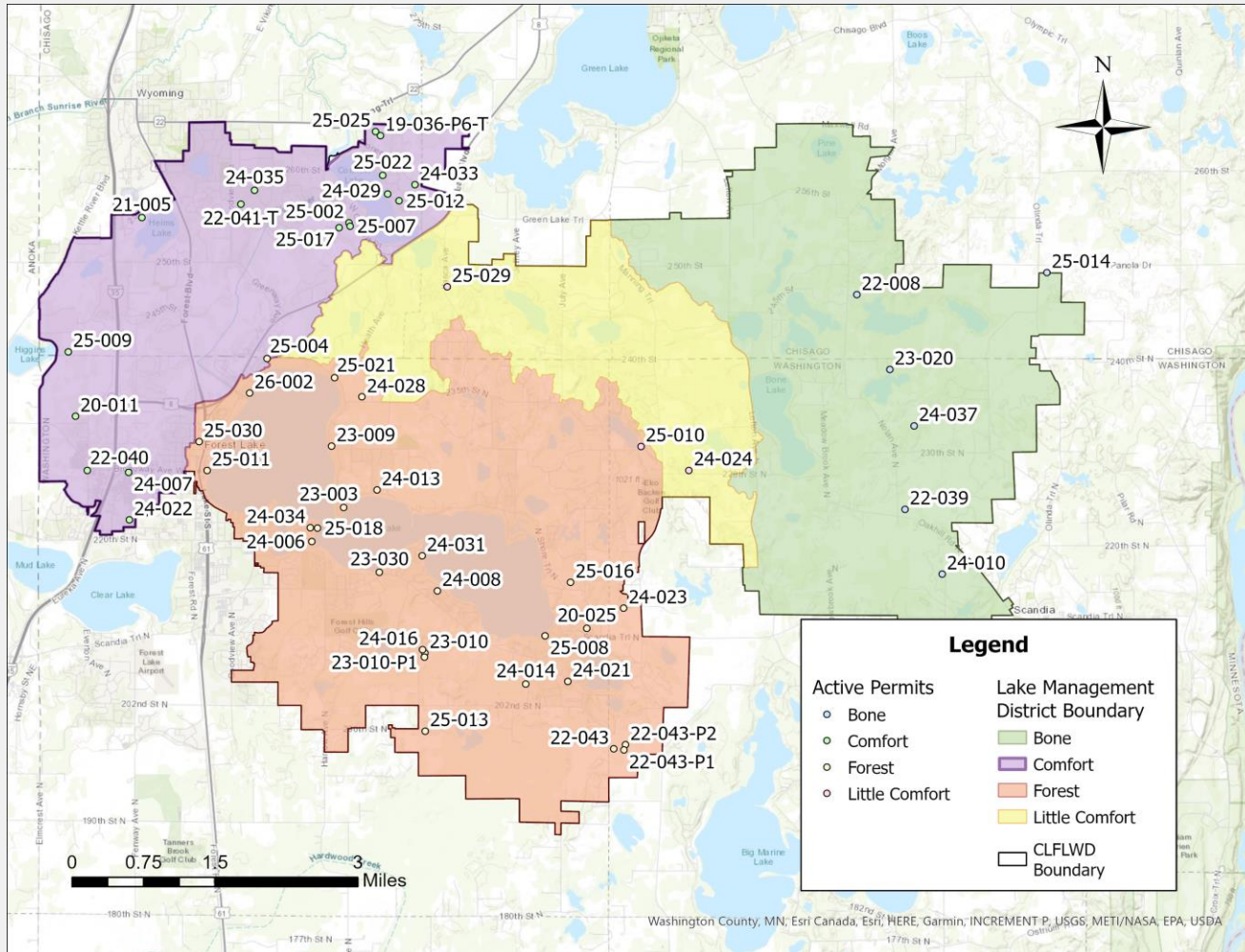
- Minnesota Conservation Corps Member, Kennedy Kolb, started with the District April 2. The serving term is April through October.
- The District submitted an application to the MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for Loan E on February 19th.
- Special Districts can celebrate the first ever National Special Districts Day on May 6, 2026!



Mushrooms on a log at North Shore Trail Nature Area



Programs – 3002 Permitting



Activity Summary

Between March 17, 2026, and April 10, 2026, the following activity took place:

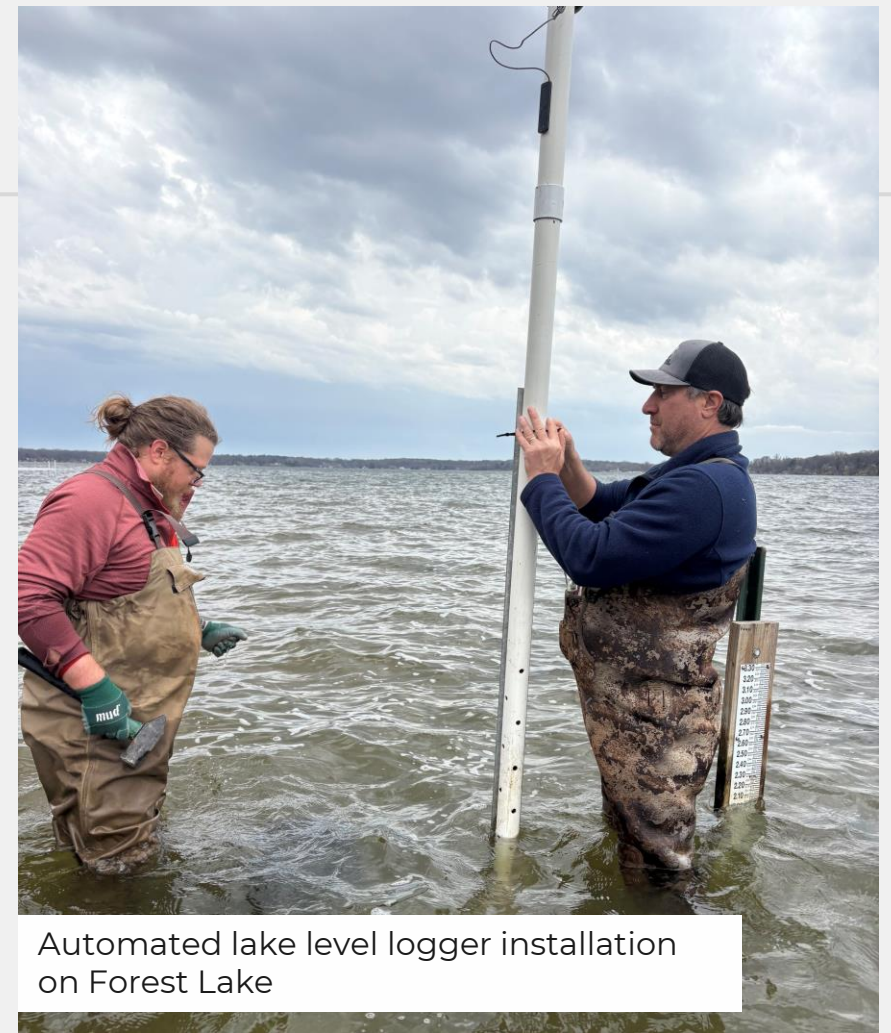
- 101 site inspections performed with a 95.25% compliance rate
- Seven permit applications received
- Three permit applications approved and no permits closed out
- See Administrator’s Report for full list of active permits



Programs – 3003 Monitoring



Annual staff gage set up on Moody Lake



Automated lake level logger installation on Forest Lake

- CAMP lake monitoring began the week of April 20th.
- Lake staff gages and lake level loggers installed the week of April 13th. Real time lake elevations are available online at <https://clflwd.org/lake-levels/>



Programs – 3004 Non-Point Source Pollution Abatement



Site visit on Forest Lake



Site visit on Comfort Lake

Residential

- Staff continue to conduct site visits and process cost-share applications. Six projects have been approved so far in the 2026 season

Agriculture

- The Farmer-led Council hosted a coffee hour on Thursday 4/16 with guest speaker Jeff Mallery, of Mallery Jerseys.



Programs – 3005 Education & Outreach

Community Education Partnership Events

- EO Coordinator Adam Hjelm, in coordination with Forest Lake Community Education, put on a family education class on native bees and host native plants. 10 people were in attendance.
- EO Coordinator Hjelm, in coordination with the Hardwood Creek Library, put on a community education class focused on spring native plants and garden design. 15 people were in attendance.

Join the [Comfort Lake Forest Lake Watershed District](#) at the Hardwood Creek Library and learn about **Spring Native Plant Planning & Planting**. This presentation will introduce some of the most common native plants available in our area and address great ways to plant them in your yard. ⚠️
Registration required. ⚠️

Class Details: Monday, April 13 from 2-3 pm at the Hardwood Creek Library
For more info & to register: <https://washcolib.libcal.com/event/15491671>





Programs – 3005 Education & Outreach

Watershed Connections: Climate-resilient Trees

- March 16 at Forest Lake Senior Center
- 20 people in attendance



Bone Lake South Property Informational Meeting

- March 30 at Scandia Community Center
- 62 people in attendance





Programs – 3006 Interagency Communication



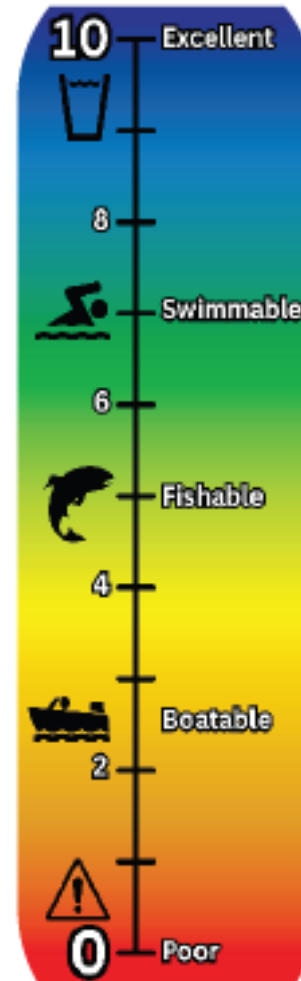
Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership (LSCWP)

- Policy Committee next meeting: Monday, April 27th.
- Planning Team next meeting: April 29th.
- Steering Committee last met on April 8th and discussed project funding requests, the mid-point evaluation, and preparations for the FY27 Watershed Based Implementation Funding grant work plan.
- Meeting materials are available at <https://www.lsc1wlp.org/meetings-committees>.



Programs – 3007 Research

The UMN Lake User Survey of Forest Lake will begin again this spring. Signs were placed at all the Forest Lake boat launches in 2025. Staff will work to advertise this survey to lake users to support this research effort.



Rate the water quality of Forest Lake

Text your rating (0-10) to:

651-858-2945
(0=Poor, 10=Excellent)

By sending a text, you agree to participate in this research.

- You must be 18+ years of age.
- Your participation is confidential and voluntary.
- You may stop responding at any time.

Scan the QR code to learn more about this project:





Programs – 3008 Measurement of Progress

2025 YEAR IN REVIEW
COMFORT LAKE-FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT

- Completed the Forest Lake Alum Treatment Project
- Throughout the year 2025, submitted grant applications totaling \$7.9 million, of which \$3.3 million in grants was awarded. Associated projects will span multiple years.
- Offered cost-share programs including 61 site visits, 46 program participants, 670 linear feet of shoreline restored, and 1.6 acres of native plantings
- Held 28 educational workshops and classes with a total of 482 people attending
- Completed a Strategic Plan and 5-Year Program & Project Plan
- Completed shoreline inventories on Forest Lake, Little Comfort Lake, and Lake Keewahchin
- Watercraft inspectors performed 6,053 inspections and worked 3,563 hours, averaging 1.70 inspections per hour
- Received 40 permit applications and performed 1,787 site inspections
- Purchased two properties with a combined total of 241 acres for water quality and habitat restoration projects
- Held the annual State of the Watershed event attended by 99 people

Visit www.clflwd.org for more info including our Annual Report and Progress Report

Annual Report
2025
Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District
Draft

CLFLWD
WATERSHED DISTRICT
Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District
2025 Progress Report
Draft April 14, 2026
Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District
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2025 Progress Report

PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (PRAP)
Comfort Lake Forest Lake Watershed District
2026

2025 Year-in-Review, Annual Report, Progress Report

- Revisions made as proposed at April 9th board meeting
- Recommended approval at April 23rd board meeting

BWSR PRAP

- Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Performance Review & Assistance Program (PRAP) ongoing.
- Partner survey occurred February 17th to March 3rd with 87% response rate.
- The PRAP assessment report and a presentation by BWSR will be brought forward in the future



Programs – 3010 Operations & Maintenance

CR50 IESF



Bixby Weir



Bone Lake Inlet Weir



- The CR50 Iron enhance sand filter was activated on April 10th.
- Staff installed weir boards at the Bone lake inlet and at Bixby Park on April 17th.

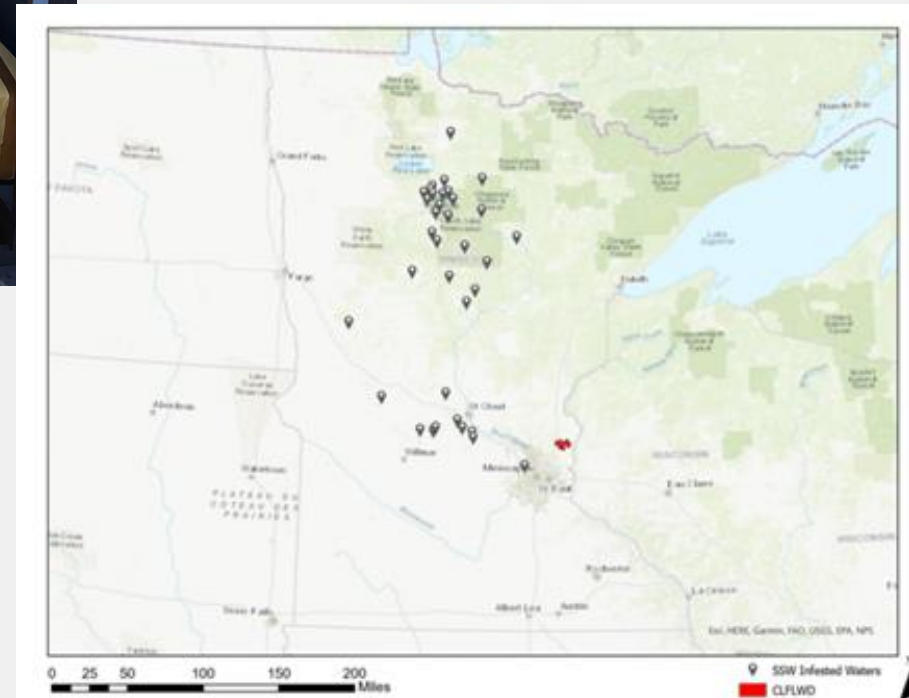


Programs – 3011 AIS Prevention & Management

- District staff reviewed & updated the District's AIS Rapid Response plan focusing on Starry Stonewort (SSW)
- The District will have a team of 8 seasonal staff members along with a Conservation Core member beginning May 8th.
- Blue Water Science has started spring Curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) delineations.
- All CLP management activities will need to be completed by May 15th as that is the expiration dates being issued for DNR MPARS permits.



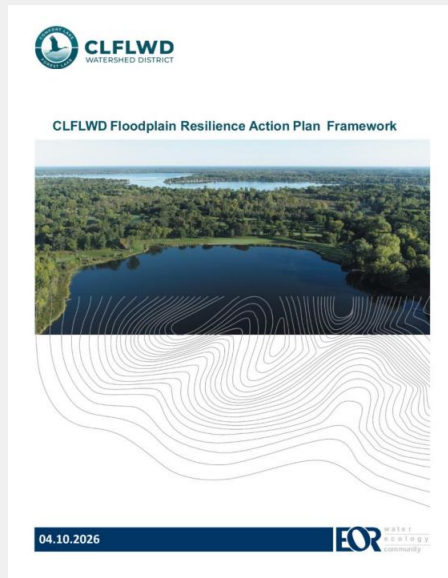
Floating Silt Curtain Barriers



SSW infestations

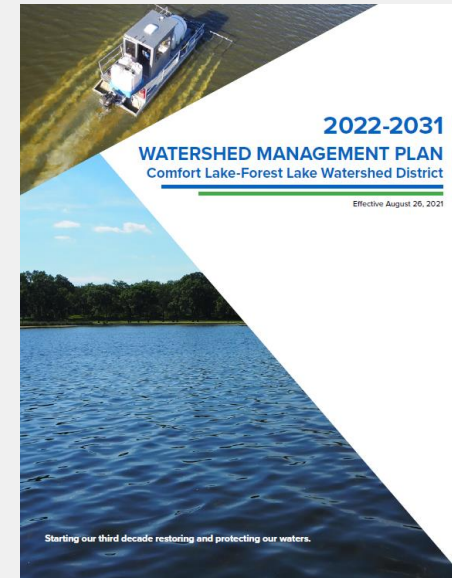


Programs – 3013 Watershed Planning & Resiliency



Floodplain Resilience Action Plan

- Recommended action item on April 23rd agenda



Watershed Management Plan Amendment

- Recommended action item on April 23rd agenda



Projects

Heath Ave IESF

- Bids for the project were opened on April 14th. Eleven bids were received, with several aligning with the engineers estimate and budget for the project. Staff and EOR are reviewing the bids, contractor references, and required contractor experience, and will bring a recommendation before the Board at the May 14th Board meeting.

North Shore Trail Nature Area

- A prescribed burn was successfully carried out on Friday April 10th. Remaining tasks for this phase of restoration include seeding and plug installation. The grant funding the restoration ends in June 2026

