

Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Executive Summary: 2016 Annual Report



2016 Activities & Achievements

The BCWMC worked on the following activities in 2016 in order to fulfill its mission:
Stewardship of Water Resources to Protect and Enhance Our Communities.

Major Projects (Capital Improvement Program)

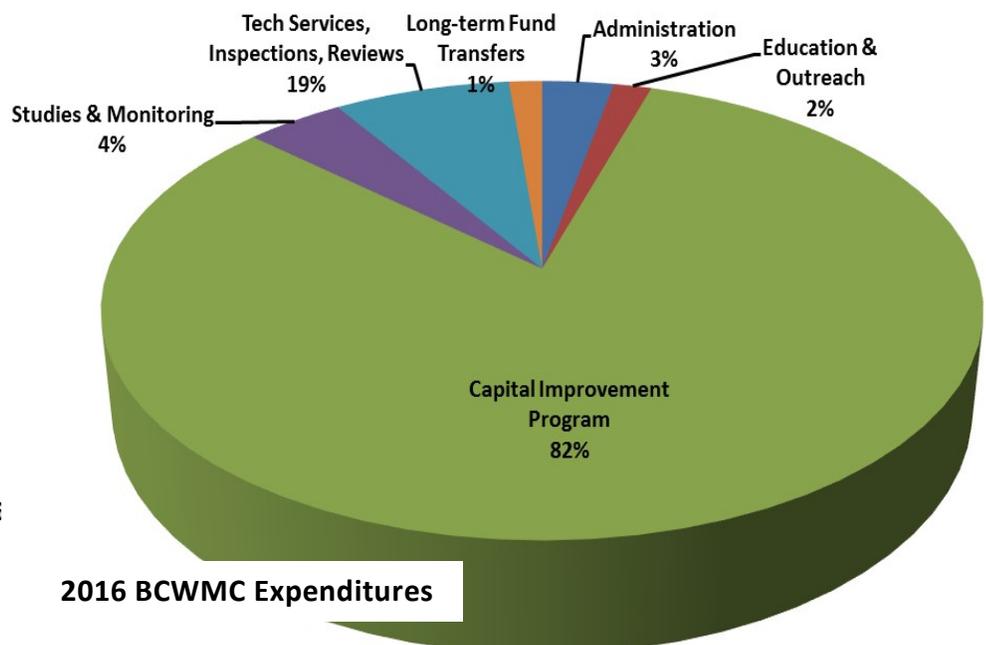
The BCWMC continued to implement its capital improvements program. Information on all BCWMC projects (completed, on-going and proposed) can be found at www.bassettcreekwmo.org.

- **NEARLY COMPLETE:** The Northwood Lake Improvement Project in New Hope's Northwood Park was constructed in 2016 with finishing touches to be completed in 2017. The project includes an underground 160,000-gallon tank that will capture stormwater runoff so that it can be used to irrigate ballfields. Raingardens and a storm water pond were also constructed. The project was partially funded with city funds, a Clean Water Fund grant and a Clean Water Partnership Grant.
- **NEARLY COMPLETE:** The Honeywell Pond Expansion Project in Golden Valley was constructed to improve the pollution removal capacity of the pond, and was constructed in conjunction with the the Douglas Drive reconstruction project. The project includes a pumping station so storm water can be used for irrigation.
- **COMPLETED PHASE I:** The Main Stem Restoration Project 10th Ave. to Duluth St. in Golden Valley was largely completed in 2016 with stream bank shaping, placement of field stone rock and 12-inch bio-logs, and repair of storm sewer outlets. The establishment of vegetation along the streambanks will be completed in 2017 during phase II of the project.
- **UNDERWAY:** Feasibility studies were completed for the Plymouth Creek Restoration Project (Plymouth) and the Main Stem Erosion Repair Project (Minneapolis). These projects will be designed in 2017. A feasibility study for the Bassett Creek Park Pond Project got underway in 2016.



Budget

In FY 2016, the BCWMC spent approximately \$628,000 on activities and programs and \$2.8 million on capital projects. BCWMC income included \$490,300 from member cities, \$313,270 in State grants, \$50,000 in reimbursements, and \$53,400 in development review fees. Another \$1.222 million was collected through a Hennepin County tax levy on watershed residents for the capital projects. For an itemization or more information on the BCWMC's 2016 expenditures, see the Year End Financial Report in Appendix A or the financial audit online.



Water Monitoring Activities

The BCWMC assessed the health of its lakes and streams through various monitoring activities including:

- Assessed the health of Northwood, Crane, and Medicine Lakes by collecting data on water quality, plankton, and aquatic plants (Appendix B)
- Participated in Metropolitan Council Environmental Services' Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) for seven lakes
- Performed continuous stream monitoring on Bassett Creek, in cooperation with the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services

Find information about all the major BCWMC lakes & streams at:
www.bassetcreekwmo.org

The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission (BCWMC) is governed by a board composed of representatives from each of the nine member cities: Crystal Golden Valley Medicine Lake Minneapolis Minnetonka New Hope Plymouth St. Louis Park and Robbinsdale. Representatives are appointed by their cities and serve three-year terms.

Education & Outreach Activities

- Partnered with Metro Blooms on the Harrison Neighborhood Project to engage residents, train youth, and install water quality practices in Minneapolis' Near North neighborhood. Received \$100,000 grant from the Met Council for this project which will continue into 2018.
- Assisted with project by photography and environmental students from Blake School of Minneapolis to learn about and develop virtual for four BCWMC projects. Virtual tours are posted on BCWMC project webpages.
- Participated with the West Metro Water Alliance, a consortium of watershed organizations and other partners that collaborate on education programming including programs in 4th grade classrooms, and development and promotion of the "Pledge to Plant" campaign.
- Provided watershed education to the public at the Plymouth Yard/Garden Expo, the Golden Valley Arts and Music Festival, and the Westwood Nature Center restoration event.
- Provided watershed map, native plant seed packets, and dog waste bag dispensers at watershed education events.
- Provided financial support to Metro Watershed Partners for their "Clean Water MN" media campaign, and the Children's Water Festival.
- Provided funding for Commissioner education for conference registrations.
- Developed and fabricated new educational display materials including banners, bean bag toss, and watershed map.
- Provided funding for the Hennepin County's River Watch - a program for high school students to collect benthic invertebrates to determine stream health.
- Hosted a watershed tour with stops at three project sites plus demonstrations of macroinvertebrate collections and winter maintenance equipment.

