



## Water Resources Center

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### Minnesota stormwater pond research and practice symposium

**Date:** March 31 - April 1, 2026

**Location:** [DoubleTree by Hilton](#) - 1500 Park Place Blvd., St. Louis Park

The Minnesota Stormwater Research Council (MSRC) invites you to a first of its kind symposium will bring together urban stormwater pond practitioners, professionals, policy leaders, and researchers from public and private sectors, for an opportunity to examine the state of the use of stormwater ponds as a practice, discuss the science we know and the uncertainties we have, increase awareness of recent and current research efforts, and identify future research priorities and collaborations opportunities. An event that embraces the exchange of ideas, input, and prioritization mechanisms, not simply conference presentations. The focus will be wet stormwater pond use, operations, maintenance, management and retrofits to maintain and improve desired functions.



Objectives include

- Summarize the state of the science and implementation of ponds as a stormwater management practice.
- Present past and current pond research.
- Share, exchange and catalog ideas between pond practitioners, professionals, owners and operators.
- Showcase pond demonstration, retrofit, and management projects highlighting approaches, successes, challenges and opportunities.
- Refine and identify pond research priorities, resource and guidance needs.
- Identify future potential research and demonstration project collaborations.

## Who should attend?

Minnesota practitioners, professionals, policy leaders, researchers and others using, managing, maintaining, owning and studying urban stormwater ponds. Out of state professionals are also welcomed.

## Format

A symposium embraces the exchange of ideas, input, and prioritization mechanisms, not simply conference presentations. There will be keynote speakers, project presentations, panel discussions, audience Q&A, interactive, small group discussions for all participants, a poster session, and networking opportunities. Food and refreshments are included.

## Content and agenda

1. The state of the practice in Minnesota - *Ponds 101. Types of ponds. Extent of use, history, truths & myths*
2. Pond hydrology and pollutants - *Pond hydrologic and pollutant inputs Internal pond dynamics*
3. Monitoring, diagnostics, and inspections.
4. Pond practices, techniques and retrofits ponds
  - a. Biota - plants, fish and aquatic organisms

- b. Sediment and dredging
  - c. Pond treatments - chemical and mechanical
5. Poster Session with social

### Symposium Agenda

This first symposium cannot possibly address all the topics related to wet ponds. The MSRC advisory board and input from many committees and groups informed the content and shape of this 2026 event. We anticipate follow-up programs that may include training, field tours and exercises and a second symposium.

### Sponsors

The symposium is subsidized and sponsored by the Water Resources Center and the [Minnesota Stormwater Research Council](#), with funding support provided by watershed districts and organizations, cities, private industry, the [Minnesota Clean Water Fund](#), the [Institute on the Environment](#), [Minnesota Sea Grant](#), and the [Cold Climate Stormwater Center of Excellence](#).

### Additional resources

#### Expand all

#### + Pond related projects

- [Fate and transport of phosphorus and HABs from stormwater ponds 2023](#)
- [Effectiveness of remediation techniques on pond phosphorus release rates 2023](#)
- [Enhancement and validation of a stormwater pond assessment tool 2023](#)
- [Managing urban pond vegetation to enhance water quality benefits 2023](#)

- [Urban stormwater pond research literature review 2022](#)
- [Wet Pond Maintenance for Phosphorus Retention report 2022](#)
- [Pond treatment with spent lime to control phosphorus release from sediments 2021](#)
- [Detecting phosphorus release from stormwater ponds to guide management and design 2021](#)
- [Characterization of phosphorus release from ponds 2021](#)

#### + About this page

This page is dedicated to research and resources related to urban stormwater ponds. Resources on this page provide information to staff, advisory board members, stakeholders, researchers, practitioners and policy makers. Content will be added as it becomes available or that may be useful.

The WRC and the [Minnesota Stormwater Research Council](#) are preparing to make research investments in 2022 and beyond through a special pond-only research RFP.

- WRC-MSRC [short-term strategy on urban stormwater pond research](#) (PDF)
- [Solicitation for pond research funding](#) (PDF)

## Poster session

We are accepting [poster proposals](#) from practitioners and researchers that showcase a pond project or story. Selected projects will receive a registration discount (\$50). Poster proposal deadline is February 20th.

## Registration >

Minnesota residents: \$100

Non-Minnesota residents: \$185

Cancellation fee: \$30