



Minnesota
Pollution
Control
Agency

Clean Water Funding for Minnesota's water agencies

Protecting and restoring Minnesota's water quality

leg-09sy1-04 • March 2009



Water Resources Center

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
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On Nov. 4, 2008, Minnesota voters approved the Clean Water, Wildlife, Cultural Heritage and Natural Areas Amendment to the constitution to: *protect drinking water sources; to protect, enhance, and restore wetlands, prairies, forests, and fish, game, and wildlife habitat; to preserve arts and cultural heritage; to support parks and trails; and to protect, enhance, and restore lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater.*

The Amendment increases the sales and use tax rate by three-eighths of one percent on taxable sales, starting July 1, 2009, continuing through 2034. Of those funds, approximately 33 percent will be dedicated to a Clean Water Fund to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater, with at least five percent of the fund targeted to protect drinking water sources. Total funding for the FY2010-2011 biennium is approximately \$150.8M, as reflected in the chart.

Protecting Minnesota's Waters

Protecting Minnesota's waters is a joint effort between seven partner state agencies including:

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- Minnesota Department of Health
- Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
- Minnesota Public Facilities Authority

- Metropolitan Council

These agencies also collaborate with the University of Minnesota's Water Resources Center.

Past funding has allowed state agencies to

Clean Water Funding by Function



efficiently coordinate water-quality assessment, total maximum daily load (TMDL) development, and water restoration and protection projects. Further coordination among the agencies will continue with the Clean Water Fund.

The following information gives details about each agency's Clean Water Fund budget and its specific programs, initiatives or activities.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Over the FY2010-2011 biennium, MPCA will receive approximately \$51.16M from the Clean Water Fund to be used for:

- Water quality monitoring and assessment: \$16.74M,

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- Water quality study development (TMDLs): \$18.5M,
- Protection and restoration: \$8.67M, and
- Groundwater assessment and drinking water protection: \$7.25M.

These resources will allow the MPCA to continue the accelerated assessment and TMDL development efforts from previous CWLA one-time funding and to more fully integrate MPCA water resource management efforts in cooperation with local governments and stakeholders. For more information, contact Assistant Commissioner Rebecca Flood, (651) 757-2022 or rebecca.flood@state.mn.us.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Over the FY2010-2011 biennium, DNR will receive approximately \$14.53M from the Clean Water Fund to be used for:

- Water quality monitoring and assessment: \$3.70M,
- Water quality study development (TMDLs): \$2.1M,
- Nonpoint restoration, protection and preservation: \$6.6M,
- Drinking water protection: \$1.125M, and
- To develop a county geologic atlas: \$1M.

These resources will allow DNR to continue stream flow monitoring, biological assessments, non-point protection efforts, and technical assistance for TMDL development. Additional efforts will be directed toward drinking water protection. For more information contact Larry Kramka, Asst. Commissioner of Operations at (651) 259-5033 or larry.kramka@dnr.state.mn.us.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Over the FY2010-2011 biennium, MDA will receive approximately \$8.96M from the Clean Water Fund to be used for:

- AgBMP loans to LGUs: \$4.5M,
- Research, pilot projects, demonstration farms, and staff technical assistance: \$1.965M,
- Root River watershed monitoring and analysis: \$695,000,
- Livestock Environmental Quality Assurance Program for voluntary environmental assessments: \$300,000,

- Drinking water protection efforts, primarily elevated nitrate levels: \$1.125M, and
- Increased pesticide monitoring and assessment: \$675,000.

For more details, contact Assistant Commissioner Joe Martin at (651) 201-6551 or joe.martin@state.mn.us.

Minnesota Department of Health

Over the FY2010-2011 biennium, MDH will receive approximately \$3.76M from the Clean Water Fund.

These resources will allow:

- MDH to assist at least 90 communities with developing or implementing source water protection plans in the first biennium with the goal of having wellhead protection plans in place for all communities by 2019,
- MDH to award at least thirty source water implementation grants to communities during the first biennium, and
- Establishment of new guidelines for ten contaminants of emerging concern in drinking water. Studies of environmental occurrence and risk assessment methods will be conducted. For more information, visit: www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/risk/guidance/dwec/index.html.

For more information, contact Assistant Commissioner John Linc Stine, (651) 201-5063 or john.stine@state.mn.us.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Over the FY2010-2011 biennium, BWSR will receive approximately \$38.22M from the Clean Water Fund to be used for nonpoint source protection, restoration and preservation. BWSR implements the state's non-point restoration and protection efforts by working in partnership with more than 240 local units of government. Funding is provided based on TMDL, restoration or protection plans that diagnose water quality issues and prescribe projects and practices that will address specific local water quality issues. For more information, contact Assistant Director Julie Blackburn (651) 297-5617 or julie.blackburn@state.mn.us.

Minnesota Public Facilities Authority

Over the 2010-2011 biennium, PFA will receive approximately \$32.7M from the Clean Water Fund to be used for:

- Small community wastewater treatment program, providing loans and grants to assist small communities to replace non complying septic systems with new individual and cluster subsurface sewage treatment systems (SSTS) that are publicly owned and operated: \$2.5M,
- TMDL grants program, providing grants to assist municipalities to meet added wastewater or stormwater requirements to comply with wasteload reductions needed to meet TMDL implementation plan requirements: \$21.65M, and
- Phosphorus reduction grants program, providing grants to assist municipalities to meet additional capital costs to reduce discharge of total phosphorus to 1 milligram per liter or less: \$8.55M.

For more information contact Terry Kuhlman, PFA Executive Director at (651) 259-7468 or terry.kuhlman@state.mn.us.

Metropolitan Council

The Metropolitan Council will receive \$400K from the Clean Water Fund for drinking water protection through the implementation of the Metropolitan Area Master Water Supply Plan. The purpose of the effort is to evaluate water resources and identify water supplies to meet current and future growth in the Twin City area without adverse impacts to natural resources. For more information contact Chris Elvrum, Manager, Water Supply Planning, at (651) 602-1066 or christopher.elvrum@metc.state.mn.us.

University of Minnesota

The University of Minnesota's Water Resources Center will receive \$750,000 to develop a 25-year framework for the sustainable management of Minnesota's water resources. The Minnesota Water Sustainability Framework will serve as a roadmap, with timelines and benchmarks for the investment of an estimated \$86 million a year earmarked for the protection of water as a result of Minnesota's Clean Water, Land and Legacy Act. The framework's goal is to identify investments that will protect Minnesota's lakes, rivers and ground waters without compromising people's current needs or natural ecosystems. For more information, contact Jean Coleman, framework project coordinator at jcoleman@crplanning.com or send an email to water@umn.edu.

The University of Minnesota will also receive \$1.06M to develop a statewide sustainable water resources framework and geologic atlas with DNR.

Other Clean Water Fund appropriation

The Minnesota Legislature will receive \$25K to develop a public information Web site. On this site, the public will be able to:

- View information on all projects and programs receiving funding.
- Learn about the areas and issues the projects address.
- View all project proposals received by the Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources and the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.
- View the frameworks and plans that have been developed for each fund.
- Learn how to apply for funds.

The site is under construction, but can be found at: www.cdf.leg.mn/. For more information, contact Sally Olson, Commissions Assistant, Legislative Coordinating Commission, at 651-296-9002 or Sally.Olson@lcc.leg.mn.