

Restore full funding for river and lake monitoring



Additional resources are necessary for expanded monitoring of “forever chemicals.”

Challenge

A portion of the FY2024-25 appropriation for river and lake monitoring was redirected to a specific local project. While it is a worthy project, the funds are needed to ensure the MPCA’s monitoring work remains on track and allow for sampling of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) at select locations. Many PFAS are linked to elevated human health risks and are found in waterways across Minnesota.

Why it’s important

MPCA’s river and lake monitoring work is the heart of Minnesota’s watershed management system. The Clean Water Council’s budget recommendation was intended to fund the agency’s planned monitoring work during the FY2024/25 biennium, and to allow for expanded PFAS monitoring at select locations. Without restoring full funding, MPCA will not be able to conduct planned PFAS monitoring work.

Proposal

\$326,000

Clean Water Fund – FY2025

Governor Walz recommends a one-time appropriation of \$326,000 from the Clean Water Fund in FY2025. This restores full funding for river and lake monitoring activities, as recommended by the Clean Water Council.



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