

## Stakeholder General Comments

Pat Flowers (MN Chamber of Commerce), Jen Kader (Freshwater Society), Randy Neprash (Minnesota Cities Storm water Coalition):

**Longer-term focus of the Council is a positive step.**

Tony Kwilas, Director, Environment and Natural Resources Policy, MN Chamber of Commerce:

**Goal: Focus nearly all CWF dollars to 1W/1P implementation within 5 years.**

Funding for supporting activities should be identified in 1W/1P to ensure they support watershed plan implementation and verification of effects that implemented actions are having. All other programs should be funded from sources that are sustainable past 2034 so that they can continue to function when CWF no longer exists.

Steve Gurney, Water Research Specialist, City of Bloomington:

**Goal: Increased Citizen education/participation:** We have a program that is just getting started, which includes education and leveraging. There is a good opportunity to get the citizen scientists type work. They can help with monitoring and other tasks. In Bloomington, we have a program called "**Adopt a Drain**" and this generates more interest at the citizen level, which then starts more citizen involvement.

Darrell Gerber, MN Center for Environmental Advocacy (MCEA):

**Goal: Reduce CWF dollars spent on planning.**

Rich Biske, The Nature Conservancy:

The CWC is on the right path, but break free of the spreadsheet. Rather than the individual programs, set criteria where the success of programs/projects can be determined. Currently, we do not have a clear sense of what the goals were/are. As we move towards implementation, we should have clear expectations of the outcomes. What does success look like in one watershed versus another? There needs to be more of a statewide perspective on the outcomes of these funds.

Michael Chaney, Environmental Justice Community Council (EJCC):

**Goal: Engage people of color in the environmental movement.**

The environmental movement has been a gated community. We do not see too many people of color here. How do people of color engage in the CWC? My organization is creating green zones in North Minneapolis through our twenty acres and building a state-of-the-art facility and an ecovillage. This facility would look at environmental impact of our actions, and focus our cities, state, and leaders to how we are impacting the environment. We, as a State, located on the headwaters of the Mississippi River, should lead the nation in conversations about protecting our water.

What does clean water look like around the state? Where is the funding going to help safeguard and guarantee that is happening? I do not see any kind of reference marks in terms of that, but we hear this language across the state agencies and everyone has a high issue of concern. I think it should be brought forward in your work as well.

Randy Neprash, MN Cities' Storm water Coalition:

**Public Education of water quality and water infrastructure is essential.**

Public needs to understand the cost of not investing in water and water infrastructure. Unless the Public encourage their local decision-makers to make the right decisions and provide the right support, we will continue to under-invest until a major catastrophe.

The Public's and LGUs' understanding of the Storm water regulations are inadequate and therefore, it is difficult to fully quantify the financial impact of the regulations. Unlike in wastewater, storm water infrastructure, programs, operations, maintenance, and staffing needs are poorly understood. Therefore, continued funding of storm water programs are essential.

John Bilotta, City of Minneapolis and U of M storm water researcher:

- Protect pristine waters.
- Invest in innovative approaches.
- Support the policy positions, because they emphasis critical needs.

The small investment of Clean Water Fund money in the storm water research brought together researchers from across Minnesota to innovate. These investments will help MN communities get most environmental impacts from their Public Works dollars.

Randy Neprash (MCSC), Jarod Miller (American Engineering Testing) and Tim Kelly (Coon Creek Watershed District): The Research, Evaluation and Tool Development category should be retained. U of M should be part of research and research conducted (with CWC \$), should be applied research where the information can be used by the practitioners.

Jen Kader, Freshwater Society: We have talked a little bit about the role that the Council can play in articulating the vision of the budget. One last item to reemphasis would be the role the Council could play in expressing perspectives, as continuing to improve that process between the Council and the ICT, with the executive branches in general. We would like to see something that recommends moving forward with that area as well.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Water Management Transition (one watershed/ one plan planning) (BWSR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Water Management Transition (One Watershed One Plan)	Increase/Steady/Decrease

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Accelerated Implementation (BWSR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Enhance the capacity of local governments to accelerate implementation of projects for protection, enhancement, and restoration of surface & ground water.	Increase/Steady/Decrease

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	Increase/ Decrease/ Decrease	Move the \$ to One Watershed/One Plan (1W/1P)

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Buffers-Cost-Sharing Contracts (BWSR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Assist landowners implement buffer strips or alternatives required by Buffer Law.	<b>No Funding/No Funding/No Funding</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Buffer and Soil Erosion Law Implementation (BWSR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Provides grants to local governments to implement the buffer law.	Steady/Steady/Decrease

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	Steady/Decrease/ Decrease	Move the \$ to 1W/1P

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) BWSR

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Clean Water Fund Activity Description</b>	<b>CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels</b>
BWSR	Implement CREP to restore surface water and protect sensitive ground and drinking water.	<b>Steady/No Funding/No Funding</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommend ation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Technical Evaluation (Habitat Evaluation Program) BWSR

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Evaluate habitat restoration projects completed with Legacy Funds (statutory requirement).	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Grants to Soil & Water Conservation Districts "Soil & Water Conservation District Technical Capacity" (BWSR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Increase technical capacity of SWCDs.	<b>No Funding/No Funding/No Funding</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Conservation Drainage Management and Assistance (BWSR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Support local drainage programs to improve surface water management.	<b>Steady/ Steady/ Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Decrease/Decrease</b>	Move the \$ to 1W/1P

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Measures, Results and Accountability (BWSR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Funds State oversight and accountability for grants to local governments.	Steady/Steady/Steady

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	Steady/Decrease/Decrease	

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Surface and Drinking Water Protection/Restoration Grants (Projects & Practices) BWSR

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Grant & incentive funding to protect, enhance, and restore water surface & ground water quality	<b>Increase/Increase/Increase</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>	Other sources of funding should be sought for this.
Lori Blair, MN Rural Water Association		It has been difficult to get funds through BWSR and other state agencies for drinking water projects. Grants seem to favor surface water projects. We would support grants including groundwater projects as well.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Riparian Buffer-Permanent Conservation Easements (BWSR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Purchase & restore permanent conservation easements on riparian land adjacent to public waters.	<b>Increase/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>	

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Critical Shoreland Protection: Permanent Easements & Acquisition BWSR

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Pilot program to purchase permanent conservation easements to protect lands adjacent to public waters with good water quality.	Increase/Increase/Increase

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Increase/Decrease/Steady</b>	Seek funding elsewhere. Should be addressed on 1W/1P.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Targeted Wellhead/Drinking Water Protection (BWSR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Implement BMPs in wellhead protection areas and/or remove vulnerable land from production.	<b>Increase/Increase/Increase</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Lori Blair, MN Rural Water Association		There is a need to develop more flexible programs (perpetual easements and long-term contracts) so we have more programs/tools to address drinking water issues.
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady across all years.</b>	

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Tillage, Cover Crop and Erosion Transects (BWSR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Study the rate of soil erosion & track adoption of high residue cropping systems.	Decrease/Decrease/Decrease

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>No Funding across all years</b>	Fund elsewhere, not from CWF.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Water Legacy Grants (BWSR)

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Clean Water Fund Activity Description</b>	<b>CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels</b>
BWSR	Increase citizen participation in water quality activities to increase long-term sustainability MN waters.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Randy Neprash, MN Cities Storm water Coalition	<b>Increase</b>	<p>MCSC urges the CWC to expand funding for public education related to water quality issues and concerns. The MS4 General Permit requires permittees to address six Minimum Control Measures, one of which is "Public Education and Outreach". Our MS4 cities perform this work at the local level, but public education can be done even more effectively at the state level.</p> <p>We also note that the original statutory language that created the CWC included this text: <i>"The Clean Water Council shall develop strategies for informing, educating, and encouraging the participation of citizens, stakeholders, and others regarding the identification of impaired waters, development of TMDL's, development of TMDL implementation plans, implementation of restoration for impaired waters, identification of degraded groundwater, and protection and restoration of groundwater resources."</i></p>

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Grants to Watersheds with Approved Comprehensive Watershed Plans

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
BWSR	Funds for local governments to implement watershed scale projects	<b>Increase/ Increase/ Increase</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Randy Neprash, MN Cities Storm water Coalition	<b>Increase</b>	MCSC supports CWC's expressed long-term goal of moving CWF monies away from monitoring and TMDL preparation and toward implementation work done by local governmental units.
Tony Kwilas, MN Chamber of Commerce		Fully fund. Should be a top priority.
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Increase</b>	This should be where majority of \$ are focused.
Carrie		Implementation grants are a great idea. Making sure, they are performance-based, tied on to achieved water quality improvements.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Forests for the Future (DNR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
DNR	Purchase permanent conservation easements in working forests to protect the banks of vulnerable water bodies. Bank erosion at times of high flow or high wind add sediment to these water bodies, leading to algal blooms.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

**Note:** DNR Elected not to seek funding for this program in FY 20-21.

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>No funding across all years</b>	Fund via 1W/1P or other sources.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Applied Research and Tools (DNR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
DNR	LiDAR derived elevation models to help planning & implementation clean water projects, Watershed Modeling and Forestry Best Management Practices	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Committer & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>No Funding across the years.</b>	Fund from non-CWF sources.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Aquifer Monitoring for Water Supply Planning (DNR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
DNR	In several parts of the State, heavy pumping of aquifers have created water quantity problems. The monitoring well network is established to track changes in water quantity over time.	<b>Increase/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady across all years</b>	

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Perennial Vegetation Monitoring for Riparian Buffers with Infrared Aerial Imagery (DNR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
DNR	Collect color infrared imagery for determining perennial cover statewide; collecting approximately one-fifth of the state each year would result in an updated data set every five years.	<b>Increase/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### County Geologic Atlases (DNR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
UMN	Atlases provide critical groundwater and geology information to local governments	<b>Steady/Steady/No Funding</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Carrie Jennings, Freshwater Society	<b>Steady or Decrease</b>	The DNR Part B atlases follow the Part A. Funds should be continued same as for U of M.
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>No funding across all years</b>	Routine administration work and should be funded with other sources.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Fish Contamination Assessment (DNR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
DNR	Sample contaminants in fish to determine fish consumption advisories, impairment status & trend markers.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>No funding across all years</b>	Routine administration work and should be funded with other sources.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Lake Biology Integrity Assessment (Lake IBI) DNR

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
DNR	Support MPCA's lake water quality with data & interpretation about fish & plant populations.	Steady/Steady/Decrease

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>No funding across all years</b>	Fund from non-CWF sources.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Nonpoint Source Restoration and Protection Activities (DNR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
DNR	Support LGUs with technical assistance: One Watershed, One Plan, forest management, conservation etc.	Increase/Steady/Steady

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	Steady across all years	

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Buffer Map Maintenance (DNR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
DNR	Update and maintain maps of public waters and ditch systems that require permanent vegetation buffers.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>No funding across all years</b>	Routine administrative work. Should be funded from General Fund.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Stream Flow and Sediment Monitoring (DNR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
DNR	Collects stream flow data and samples bed load for sediment transport patterns.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Decrease/No Funding</b>	Routine admin. Fund from non-CWF \$.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (DNR)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
DNR	Provide technical expertise to State and Local entities to restore & protect MN waters.	<b>Increase/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Decrease/No funding</b>	Watersheds should be done sooner. Move up the time schedule.
Tony Kwilas, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>\$0.00</b>	Should be dictated and identified on evaluation plans

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Legislative Coordinating Commission Website (LCC)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
Legislature	Maintain and update LCC website containing all Legacy funding information	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MDA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDA	Voluntary on-farm conservation practices to protect MN water. Supported by EPA, USDA & industry and verified by MDA and Local partners.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Decrease/ No funding</b>	Move towards no funding (from CWF) and to other funding sources.

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## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### AgBMP Loan Program (MDA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDA	Provides low-interest loans to farmers & landowners to finance practices, structures etc. to reduce water pollution.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Carrie Jennings, Freshwater Society	<b>Increase?</b>	Producers may need more help to effect transition to water-friendly crops and practices

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Agricultural Research/Evaluation (MDA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDA	Funds research projects that affect water quality, and evaluate the costs & benefits of specific agricultural practices.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>No funding across all years</b>	Fund from other sources.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Forever-Green Agriculture Initiative (MDA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDA	Develops perennial & cover crops that are profitable to grow and protect/restore surface & groundwater.	<b>Increase/Increase/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Carrie Jennings Freshwater Society	<b>Increase?</b>	This should become the future of marginal land first and then expand to more cropped acres to effect change in water quality
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady funding across all years</b>	This is legislature's pet program. Don't increase.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Irrigation Water Quality Protection (MDA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDA	Funds Irrigation Specialist at the U of M Extension to develop guidance and provide education on irrigation & nitrogen BMPs.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Nitrate in Groundwater (MDA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDA	Monitor groundwater, implement prevention strategies, respond in areas with elevated nitrate in groundwater, and provide education on nitrogen fertilizer BMPs.	<b>Steady/Steady/ Decrease</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Decrease/ Decrease</b>	[Fertilizer] program at MDA should seek other non-CWF \$.
Carrie Jennings Freshwater Society	<b>Do not decrease</b>	This should only decrease when improvements are documented and water is on the right trajectory
Darrell Gerber, MCEA		CWC should review how the CWFs are being used: make sure the use of CWF is appropriate, compared to other funding sources. Should be funded by user fees.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Monitoring for Pesticides in Surface Water and Groundwater (MDA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDA	Provides funds to the MDA laboratory to analyze approx. 30% more samples than can be done with pesticide fees alone.	<b>Steady/Steady/Decrease</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Carrie Jennings, Freshwater Society	<b>Do not decrease</b>	It takes a long time for pesticides to sink to certain aquifers. Only decrease after use decreases
Darrell Gerber, MCEA		CWC should review how the CWFs are being used: make sure the use of CWF is appropriate, compared to other funding sources. Should be funded by user fees.
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Decrease/No funding/No funding</b>	Pesticide program at MDA should seek other non-CWF \$.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Pesticide and Nitrate Testing of Private Wells (MDA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDA	Provide information to homeowners and the general public about the presence of pesticides in private drinking water wells.	<b>Steady/Steady/Decrease</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Decrease/No Funding/ No Funding</b>	Move funding for these programs to other non-CWF sources.
Carrie Jennings, Freshwater Society	<b>Keep Steady</b>	Will need loan fund to help well owners treat water with reverse osmosis system.
Darrell Gerber, MCEA		CWC should review how the CWFs are being used: make sure the use of CWF is appropriate, compared to other funding sources. Should be funded by user fees.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Research Inventory Database (MDA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDA	Provides “one-stop” access to all types of water research, including both peer-reviewed articles and white papers and reports.	<b>Steady/Decrease/Decrease</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Decrease / No Funding</b>	Move funding for these programs to other non-CWF sources.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Technical Assistance (MDA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDA	Ensures accurate scientific information is available and used to address water quality concerns in agricultural areas.	Steady/Steady/Decrease

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	Steady/Decrease / No Funding	

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Vegetative Cover and Soil Health (MDA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDA	Provide grants to farmers to increase perennial and cover crops in areas with highly vulnerable groundwater. This market-focused program is driven by farmers with support from MDA staff in the Ag Marketing and Development Division.	<b>No Funding/No Funding/No Funding</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Carrie Jennings, Freshwater Society		don't understand this category

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Drinking Water Contaminants of Emerging Concern Program (MDH)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDH	Identify and develop health-based guidance for CECs that have the biggest impact for Minnesota waters.	<b>Steady/Steady/Decrease</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Decrease/ No Funding/ No Funding</b>	Fund via General Fund dollars.
Lori Blair, MN Rural Water Association		Continued support of technical assistance to be provided to drinking water systems for drinking water supply threats, contaminants of emerging concern, and source water protection.
Carrie Jennings, Freshwater Society	<b>Increase or Steady</b>	Should be evidence-based decision

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Drinking Water Protection (MDH)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDH	Assist communities with vulnerable water supplies and small public water systems with health equity issue in source water protection planning and implementation.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Lori Blair, MN Rural Water Association		<p>Continued support of technical assistance to be provided to drinking water systems for drinking water supply threats, contaminants of emerging concern, and source water protection.</p> <p>We support that there is a strong desire by Governor's office/legislators and general public to address drinking water issues.</p>

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Groundwater Restoration and Protection Strategies (MDH)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDH	Provides MDH funding effort to provide data & information, relevant strategies to develop & implement local water management plans to protect & restore groundwater used as drinking water.	<b>Increase/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Groundwater Virus Study (MDH)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDH	Conduct transport studies & site investigations to determine how viruses and other microbes, including protozoa are entering drinking water aquifers and wells.	<b>Steady/Decrease/Decrease</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Decrease/No funding/No funding</b>	Fund via General Fund dollars.
Carrie Jennings, Freshwater Society	<b>Increase or Steady</b>	Should be evidence-based decision

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Private Well Protection (MDH)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDH	Continue to improve & increase outreach to private well users by partnering with local governments, medical professionals, water testing laboratories, well contractors, water treatment professionals & others.	Increase/Steady/Steady

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Source Water Protection (MDH)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDH	Develop public health policies and an implementable action plan to address emerging threats and ensure long-term safe drinking water in MN	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce		Can this be moved to 1W/1P content?

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Water Reuse (MDH)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDH	Begin addressing the regulatory & non-regulatory recommendations generated and developed through the previous efforts.	The MDH added this request after CWC approved the recommendations, therefore has not received long-term consideration.

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Well Sealing Cost Share (MDH)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MDH	Continue providing 1:1 cost share funding to private and public well owners.	Steady/Steady/Steady

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Water Demand Reduction Grant Program (Met Council)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
Met Council	Provides cost share grants to communities to support the purchase & installation of products to reduce water use (low water use toilets, washing machines, irrigation controls, etc.).	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Committer & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>No Funding across all years</b>	

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Metropolitan Area Water Supply Sustainability Support (Met Council)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
Met Council	Support the metro area communities to coordinate long-term water supply issues by providing technical assistance, tool development & project implementation, and staff needed to carry out these activities.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Decrease/No Funding/No Funding</b>	Move to other sources of non-CWF dollars.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### St. Croix River Monitoring and Phosphorus Reduction (MPCA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MPCA	The St. Croix River Association intends to continue working towards increasing and leveraging funding for local partners to implement phosphorus reduction activities based on needs outlined in the Lake St. Croix TMDL. A \$300,000 EPA 319 grant and local matching funds will help continue work through FY 18-19.	<b>No funding across all years</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Accelerated Implementation of MS4 Permit Requirements (MPCA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MPCA	Support permit compliance via guidance documents, templates, model ordinances, & technical assistance to implement storm water programs.	<b>Steady/Steady/Decrease</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Decrease/No Funding</b>	
Randy Neprash, MN Cities Storm water Coalition	<b>Increase</b>	This has resulted in useful and meaningful technical support for MS4 permittees from the MPCA. This funding should continue and expand.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Clean Water Council Budget (MPCA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MPCA	The MPCA expects to continue to support the administrative activities of the Clean Water Council according to M.S. 114D.30.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce		This may need to be increased.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Enhanced County Inspections/SSTS Corrective Actions (MPCA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MPCA	Grants to LGUs to managing local SSTS programs including developing policies & rules to provide for appropriate design, installation, management of SSTS systems, following up on complaints, conducting inspections to ensure compliance, and taking enforcement action.	<b>Steady/Steady/Decrease</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Decrease/No Funding</b>	Move to other sources of non-CWF dollars.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Groundwater Assessment (MPCA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MPCA	Supports monitoring & assessment of ambient groundwater to determine groundwater quality, trends, and gauge the effectiveness of land use practices to reduce the pollutants.	<b>Steady/Steady/Decrease</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Decrease/No Funding</b>	Move to other sources of non-CWF dollars.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### NPDES Wastewater/Storm water TMDL Implementation (MPCA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MPCA	Support permitting, engineering review, compliance & enforcement, training & certification, effluent limit determination, EAW review, and data review.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Decrease/No Funding</b>	Move to other sources of non-CWF dollars.
Carrie Jennings, Freshwater Society	<b>Steady</b>	Support for the program. This has resulted in useful and meaningful technical support for MS4 permittees from the MPCA. This funding should continue and expand.
Darrell Gerber, MCEA		CWC should review how the CWFs are being used: make sure the use of CWF is appropriate, compared to other funding sources. This program should be funded by user fees.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### St. Louis River Area Of Concern/Duluth Harbor

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MPCA	Complete contaminated sediment remediation and conduct post construction monitoring to determine effectiveness.	<b>Steady/Steady/No Funding</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Tony Kwilas, MN Chamber of Commerce		Is this to match a federal grant?

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### River and Lake Monitoring & Assessment MPCA

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MPCA	Continue statewide lake & stream chemistry and biology monitoring data to inform local planning, effective site restoration, ID waters needing protection, and provide pollutant load data to for high quality watershed modeling	<b>Steady/Steady/Decrease</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/ Decrease/No Funding/</b>	Move to other sources of non-CWF dollars.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (includes TMDL development) (MPCA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MPCA	Continue WRAPS and TMDLs work to reduce pollution and waterbody protection goals to inform local water planning and guide state & local government funding and implementation efforts.	<b>Steady/Steady/Decrease</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Tony Kwilas, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>\$0.00</b>	This should be covered under One Watershed, One Plan
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Decrease/No Funding/ No Funding</b>	
Darrell Gerber, MN Center for Environmental Advocacy		The WRAPS are lacking in many ways. It takes too long to complete the WRAPS. We suggest looking into that further to see how they can be improved and become more useful for local implementation. Regarding the 1W1P, the implementation grants are a great idea. Making sure, they are performance-based, tied on to achieved water quality improvements.

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### National Park Water Quality Protection Program (MPCA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MPCA	The comprehensive plan identified over \$40 million in projects over the planned project area. Funding will be distributed by the Voyageur's National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board for the planning, design, permitting, and construction of the Ash River, Island View, and Crane Lake projects.	<b>No Funding/No Funding/No Funding</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Rod Scott, Crane Lake Water & Sanitary District	<b>Continue funding at \$2M level</b>	The funds that have been provided to date from the Clean Water Legacy program have enabled a much needed water protection program to expand the sewer treatment systems for the water shed impacting the VNP waterways. Additional grant funds will enable the VNP Clean Water program to expand the ongoing efforts to ensure that high quality water around VNP is sustained for generations to come.
John Stegmeir, Kabetogama Township Board of Supervisors	<b>Retain Funding</b>	We are concerned by the absence of funding for the established National Parks Water Quality Protection Program under the MPCA. Just over 10 years ago, the Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board (VNPCWJPB) was established to provide preliminary and comprehensive planning to assist project partners develop wastewater collection and treatment systems for the housing, recreational, and resort developments on the Park's periphery. The communities of Crane Lake, Ash River, Kabetogama and Island View have benefited from the efforts of the VNPCWJPB in the planning and development of successful sanitary sewer projects as well as vital help and guidance in securing funding. Monies received from the Clean Water Fund have been critical to our progress. However, we are far from reaching our clean water goals. Kabetogama Township recently completed a centralized sanitary sewer project serving 8 resorts, 12 seasonal and permanent residences and a State Forest Campground. Clean Water Funds were a critical portion of our funding for this project. We are moving forward with the next phase in the planning and development of sanitary sewer solutions for the remainder of our community's waterfront properties. This includes 198 properties made up of 18 resorts and 180 seasonal or permanent residences. A big task for a small community.

<p>Tom Rukavina, St. Louis County Commissioner</p>	<p><b>Retain Funding</b></p>	<p>Over ten years ago, counties, townships, and unorganized areas adjacent to the Park came together and locally formed Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Project Joint Powers Board. This Board has directed efforts to develop a comprehensive plan to clean up and protect the waters of the Park at the four main public access points to the Park.</p> <p>We have worked with the MPCA, PFA, USDA, US Army Corps of Engineers, the Clean Water Council, and many others to bring funding to these urgently needed projects that provide guests to the Park the sanitary solutions so important to them and to the Park. Our work needs to continue in three main areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of a sanitary district at the Unorganized Area of Ash River-where a National Park Entrance is located and the DNR has cooperated on a land exchange to establish a sanitary system.</li> <li>• Expansion of the Pucks Point sanitary system in Kabetogama Township, where another entrance to the Park and a state campground is located.</li> <li>• Expansion of the Crane Lake Water and Sanitary District to include Kicker Blvd., and the Crane Lake area is also home to a public access area to both the Park and the BWCAW.</li> </ul>
<p>Robert J. DeGross, Superintendent, Voyageurs National Park</p>	<p><b>Retain Funding</b></p>	<p>Most Minnesotans would agree that protection of the water flow into Voyageurs National Park and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness should be a high priority for the Council. To this end we hope the MPCA Clean Water Council will retain funding in the ten-year Clean Water Legacy funds to further support the rural communities of Kabetogama, Ash River, and Crane Lake with completing essential projects that assure water quality for area residents and visitors for years to come.</p>
<p>Wade Pavleck, Chair, Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board</p>	<p><b>Retain Funding</b></p>	<p>Voyageurs NP is the <u>only</u> national park in Minnesota and the nation's <u>only</u> water-based national park, proudly acclaimed for its beauty and pristine nature. The scientist at the Park, after testing the waters, testified at Kabetogama Township that the Park faces serious water quality issues if these systems are ignored and not improved. Our work is driven by the goal to protect this asset for Minnesotans and the Nation. The Council's budget committee, in the previous year, heard at length testimony of our plans and effectiveness and supported funding for the National Parks Program.</p>

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Riverwatch Activities in the Red River Watershed (MPCA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
MPCA	[From FY 18-19] The Red River Basin River Watch monitoring and education program (River Watch) engages K-12 students and citizens throughout the Red River Basin and will expand to the Lake of the Woods, Mississippi, and Lake Superior River Basins to deliver field-based applied watershed science and research activities in their local watersheds.	<b>No Funding/No Funding/No Funding</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Point Source Implementation Grants (PFA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
PFA	Grants to help cities upgrade water treatment facilities to reduce discharge of pollutants such as phosphorus, chlorides, and others to restore and protect specific waterbodies.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Committer & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Steady/Decrease</b>	
Carrie Jennings, Freshwater Society	<b>Decrease in FY 28?</b>	Progress will have been made, correct?

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Small Community Wastewater Treatment Program (PFA)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
PFA	Provide technical assistance to small unsewered communities address noncomplying septic systems grants & loans, to replace failing individual systems with community subsurface treatment systems.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### County Geologic Atlases (UMN)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
UMN	Atlases provide critical groundwater and geology information to local governments during planning and implementing Comprehensive Water Management Plans (1W1P)	<b>Increase/Steady/Decrease</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Carrie Jennings, Freshwater Society	<b>The CWC recommendation is appropriate</b>	See comment about DNR portion
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>No Funding across all years</b>	

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Clean Water Return on Investment (U of M)

Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
UMN	Provide unbiased & publicly-credible assessments of the CWF and its impact; assist the Council in making informed decisions about maximizing the return on Public investment.	<b>Decrease (to \$50,000)/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments

## Stakeholder Comments on Individual Programs

### Storm water BMP Performance Evaluation and Technology Transfer (UMN)

Activity Number	Agency	Clean Water Fund Activity Description	CWC Recommendations FY 20-21/ FY23/FY28 Funding Levels
82	UMN	Supports stakeholder-prioritized research projects and technology transfer activities on storm water practices and technologies.	<b>Steady/Steady/Steady</b>

Commenter & Affiliation	Recommendation	Comments
Pat Flowers, MN Chamber of Commerce	<b>Steady/Decrease/Decrease</b>	
Tim Kelly, Coon Creek Watershed District	<b>Increase</b>	A major issue in public works is the assumption that once it is built it operates and continues to treat at the same level it was created at, and that is not true. Some of these BMPs need to be reevaluated and updated. In the future, making sure to juggle the priorities. Reviewing the BMPs and knowing which need to be inspected and repaired.
John Bilotta, City of Minneapolis		The small investment of the CWF in the storm water research brings researchers from across Minnesota to innovate. Innovation help us become more efficient. These investments in clean water towards research will help keep the innovation current.
Carrie Jennings, Freshwater Society	<b>Increase/Increase/Increase</b>	There is a great need from cities, counties & watershed management organizations for research to improve the way that we handle storm water runoff and water quality.

<p>Randy Neprash, MN Cities Storm water Coalition</p>	<p><b>Increase</b></p>	<p>We wish to see the funding continued and expanded. Urban storm water is still a relatively new field and we have huge and important gaps in our knowledge and understanding. As the entity applying permit and regulatory pressure on MS4 cities, we feel the State has a responsibility to help us meet water quality goals with storm water BMPs and practices that are cost-efficient, effective, and safe. It should be noted that the MS4 cities and other organizations involved in storm water work have stepped up to form and participate in the new Minnesota Storm water Research Council led by the University of Minnesota and U of MN Extension.</p>
<p>John Gulliver, Professor, University of Minnesota</p>	<p><b>Increase</b></p>	<p>The interest and activity of the Minnesota Storm water Research Council has shown that there is a great need from cities, counties and watershed management organizations for research to improve the way that we handle storm water runoff and water quality.</p>

## Chloride Reduction Efforts

**Agency:** Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

**Category:** Point Source Implementation

**Program Number:**

**Program Contact(s):** Brooke Asleson, [brooke.asleson@state.mn.us](mailto:brooke.asleson@state.mn.us), 651-757-2205

**Person filling out form:** Brooke Asleson

**Program Description and Outcomes to Date:** *New Program proposed for Fiscal Years 2020-21.*

**FY 20-21 Program Description:** The MPCA is proposing to create a new, statewide chloride reduction program in the Agency's Resource Management and Assistance Division to assist communities in reducing salt at the source. These funds will enable the MPCA to administer a Smart Salting Training & Certification program for those who provide snow removal and deicing services in the public and private sector. The funds will also be used to reduce the chloride entering our waters through wastewater treatment plants, by offering grants to targeted communities who would like assistance working with their residents and businesses to upgrade their home water softeners to low-salt use systems and to interested communities who currently centrally soften their water to assist with removal of unnecessary water softening units. This new program proposal is consistent with the Clean Water Council's recent [de-icing chloride reduction policy](#). The program would also make significant progress towards the MPCA's strategic plan goal of reducing chloride entering surface waters and groundwater (see <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mpca/mpca-strategic-plan>).

### Funding:

	FY10-11	FY12-13	FY14-15	FY16-17	FY18-19	Total
Clean Water Funds	-	-	-	-	-	\$0
FTEs (state agency staff funded by CWF)	-	-	-	-	-	0

**Funding and FTE notes:** This is a new program initiative proposed for FY20-21.

**More about this proposed program:** There is currently a smart salting training pilot offered by the Minnesota company Fortin Consulting via one-time federal (319) pass-through funding. This pilot training is highly successful, has significant support from local partners and the industry, and is the top implementation strategy identified to reduce salt use. However due to the requirements of the federal funds and the one-time nature of the federal funds, these trainings have been primarily focused in the 7-county Twin Cities Metropolitan Area and have been offered on a temporary basis. The MPCA's involvement in the current pilot effort is limited to grant management and minimal support. This proposed funding will allow the MPCA to create an ongoing, state-wide training program modeled after the existing pilot.

In addition to creating a permanent, smart salting training program, these funds will be used to establish a targeted water softener rebate program. More than 100 communities in Minnesota have been identified to have elevated chloride in their wastewater discharge, in large part due to water softening. Since most wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove chloride, and retrofitting such

plants with currently available chloride treatment would be prohibitively expensive, creative approaches are needed to reduce the chloride discharged to lakes and streams. This funding would allow grants to be offered to interested communities to help implement a community-based rebate program to residents and small businesses to upgrade or remove their water softening units. These funds would allow for up to two communities a year to receive grant funds to cover a portion of the cost to upgrade or remove water softening units. The overall outcome of the program will be a reduction in the amount of salt entering our surface and groundwater.

**Funding direction and FTEs for FY20-21:** \$600,000 for FY20/21. This budget includes 1 FTE to coordinate the new MPCA training program and assumes roughly 20 trainings offered per year.

**Long-term funding vision (until 2034 and beyond):** This is an on-going need to meet Minnesota’s clean water goals and we expect to request additional funds. Beyond 2034 the Smart Salting training program could be self-funded through sustainable training participation charges.

**Other funds used to support this program:**

	FY10-11	FY12-13	FY14-15	FY16-17	FY18-19	Total
Federal 319 pass-through grant	\$98,530	\$81,560	\$84,000	\$114,140	\$276,670	\$654,900
Federal 319 local match	\$81,920	\$81,920	\$46,800	\$97,400	\$300,760	\$608,800

**Funding notes:** The amounts shown above reflect an estimate of the amount spent each biennium; each federal grant covers a four-year period. These federal 319 funds have been awarded to Fortin Consulting for the pilot training through a competitive grant process. The federal 319 funds require local match; this has been met through in-kind services and staff time from local partners who host training events in their communities. The specific local partners vary over the years and include watershed districts, cities, counties and some private organizations and companies. While utilizing the competitive, pass-through federal funds has been valuable for developing and testing the pilot training, it is not a reliable or sustainable source of funds for a permanent training program. In fact, Forting Consulting applied for another one-time federal 319 grant during the 2018 request for proposals, but they were not awarded a grant. Therefore, the current grant that expires August 31, 2020 is the last federal grant and therefore would be the end of the smart salting training in Minnesota unless sustainable funding can be identified.

**Supplement versus substitute:** This is a new program initiative proposed for FY20-21.

**If applicable – statutory citation that guides program activities:** N/A

**Additional Information:**

MPCA Salt and Water Quality: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/salt-and-water-quality>

Smart Salting Training: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/salt-application-training>

Smart Salting Assessment tool:

[https://stormwater.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/Winter\\_Maintenance\\_Assessment\\_tool\\_\(WMAat\)](https://stormwater.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/Winter_Maintenance_Assessment_tool_(WMAat))

University of Minnesota, Water Resources Center, Residential Softening:

<https://www.wrc.umn.edu/residentialsoftening>

## FOREVER GREEN IMPLEMENTATION

**Agency:** Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)

**Category:** Nonpoint Source implementation

**Program Number:**

**Program Contact(s):** Margaret Wagner, (651) 201-6488, [Margaret.wagner@state.mn.us](mailto:Margaret.wagner@state.mn.us)

**Person filling out form:** Margaret Wagner

**Program Description and Outcomes to Date:** This is a new program initiative proposed for FY20-21.

**FY 20-21 Program Description: Forever Green Implementation:** Funding supports implementation of Forever Green crops in targeted, critical areas of the landscape, including wellhead protection areas. Includes funding for demonstration projects to evaluate the environmental impacts of perennial and cover crop systems as well as education and outreach to increase awareness and market interest in new plant materials.

### Funding information:

	FY10-11	FY12-13	FY14-15	FY16-17	FY18-19	Total
Clean Water Funds	-	-	-	-	-	\$0
FTEs (state agency staff funded by CWF)	-	-	-	-	-	0

**Funding and FTE notes:** This is a new program initiative proposed for FY20-21. Previous Clean Water Fund Forever Green allocations have focused on research. Research projects are selected through a request for proposal process administered by the University of Minnesota. The MDA oversees the distribution of funds and coordinates reporting on progress results and outcomes.

**More about this Program:** The Forever Green Initiative brings together researchers from multiple departments including plant breeding, agronomy, food science and economics. The goal is to develop new high value commodity crops for conservation purposes. In consultation with the University of Minnesota and local partners, the MDA will evaluate multiple crops most suitable for implementation at the local level. Examples of crops to be implemented in vulnerable areas may include intermediate wheatgrass, winter barley, field pennycress, and camelina. Funding may also support the evaluation of implementation costs and other factors related to profitability.

The MDA will work with researchers at the University of Minnesota and local partners (SWCDs, cities, counties, etc.) to identify opportunities to get perennials and winter annuals out onto vulnerable areas of the landscape. Priority will be given to areas with vulnerable groundwater or surface water and where leverage of other public and private funds are available.

**Funding direction and FTEs for FY20-21:** \$500,000 for FY20/21. Funding will be 100% pass through to project partners. All staff time at the MDA is considered in-kind and no charges will be assessed.

**Long-term funding vision (until 2034 and beyond):** This information will be developed in coordination with other agencies.

Other funds used to support this program *see below*:

	FY10-11	FY12-13	FY14-15	FY16-17	FY18-19	Total
LCCMR					\$0.250 M	\$0.250 M

**Funding notes:** The MDA, University of Minnesota and local partners received an LCCMR grant in 2018 (*Using Perennial Grain Crops in Wellhead Protection Areas to Protect Groundwater*). This project will establish production-scale fields of Intermediate Wheatgrass (Kernza®) to demonstrate and confirm that reductions in nitrate leaching below the perennial crop can reduce nitrate in groundwater compared to annual row crops in vulnerable wellhead catchment areas. This project combines 64 acres of implementation with a research study to quantify water quality benefits.

**Supplement versus substitute:** This is a new program initiative proposed for FY20-21.

**If applicable – statutory citation that guides program activities:**

**Additional Information:**

**Clean Water Fund pass-through dollars *in the form of grants, loans, or other contracts*:** Not Applicable (NA)

	FY10-11	FY12-13	FY14-15	FY16-17	FY18-19	Total
Entities						
Approximate number of contracts						