

Policy Committee Meeting Agenda

Clean Water Council

July 24, 2026

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

[WebEx Only](#)

Policy Committee: John Barten, Rich Biske (Chair), Gail Cederberg, Kelly Gribauval-Hite, Chris Meyer (Vice Chair), Peter Schwagerl, and Jessica Wilson

9:30 Regular Business

- Introductions
- Approve today's agenda and previous meeting minutes
- Chair update
- Staff update

9:45 Public Comment

Members of the public who would like to provide comment about something not on the agenda are welcome to do so at this time.

10:00 (DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEM) Chloride deicers policy statement

Helpful feedback from Washington County staff has come in regarding the draft policy statement. As this meeting will be the last opportunity to review that feedback prior to the August Council meeting where it is intended to be adopted, some time has been set aside in this meeting to discuss.

10:30 Break

10:45 (DISCUSSION ITEM) Public input implications for policy priorities and needs

A fair amount of public input referenced the need for policy support to reach clean water goals. This agenda item will feature an opportunity for a round-robin reflection and discussion regarding policy-related topics for future consideration.

11:30 (DISCUSSION ITEM) Policy priorities for this budget cycle

Policy statements often complement budget recommendations or have stated priorities for consideration in setting those recommendations. As the August Clean Water Council meeting will be the first opportunity to review the draft budget, this Policy Committee meeting serves as a good opportunity to review one more time for budget-related needs identified in our current policy platform.

12:00 Adjourn

Policy Committee Meeting Summary
Clean Water Council (Council)
May 29, 2026, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Committee members present: John Barten, Rich Biske (Chair), Kelly Gribauval-Hite, Peter Schwagerl, and Jessica Wilson.

Members absent: Gail Cederberg and Chris Meyer (Vice Chair).

To watch the Webex video recording of this meeting, please go to <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/clean-water-council/policy-ad-hoc-committee>, or contact [Brianna Frisch](#).

Regular Business

- Introductions
- Motion to approve the May 29th meeting agenda and the April 24th meeting summary by John Barten, seconded by Jessica Wilson. Motion carries unanimously.
- Chair update:
 - This is the first Policy Committee meeting since the Minnesota Legislative session ended, and there were many water related items that did not make it through. From the conservation and environmental communities, there has been a lot of reflection on the Legacy bill over this last session, and how the last week played out. External groups have been meeting as it relates to the recommendations for the upcoming session. There is an importance of an engagement process, and to increase awareness about the Clean Water Funds (CWFs) and the Legacy Amendment. This group could dedicate some time to elevate communication to different audiences. There have been previous efforts to increase water information. As we move forward, we need to make sure we build support and ownership in these recommendations from external participants.
- Staff update:
 - Long range water planning meeting took place earlier this month with researchers from the University of Minnesota. Very collaborative meeting looking at past changes in water and considering current trends and possible outcomes that could catalyze rapid change. There was a lot of information that came out of that process. I am looking forward to seeing how this work proceeds in the future.
 - Forever Green Field tour update. Council members included Rep. Pursell, Bonnie Keeler, Ole Olmanson, and Jen Kader. It is always great to see progress year over year. This time it was focused on market support, before recruiting farmers along with discussions regarding sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), Pennycress, Kernza, and fulfilling calls embedded within the nutrient reduction strategy.
 - This summer the Cannon River Joint Power Board will be hosting a tour and would love to have Council members participate.
 - Jen has an invitation to the Minnesota Watersheds Summer Tour to share with Council members, and they will be featuring CWF projects! It will be in the Detroit Lakes area.

No Public Comment (Webex 00:28:00)

Public Participation Plan Update (Webex 00:28:45)

- In our budget process, we are pivoting now from individual proposal review to developing the draft budget, and this is a crucial opportunity for public input to help influence and inform decisions to be made. As we prepare, wanted to bring the plan back to the fore. We are working to keep the public informed, listening to and acknowledging concerns and aspirations, and we will provide feedback on how the public input has been received and how it has influenced our decisions. It will be good to hear from the public, and in particular the highest priorities for the Council to consider. We are at the consulting level. This will be the public comment meeting on June 15. This input will be valuable for the Interagency Coordination Team (ICT) as well.
- This is the degree of influence of a decision changes over time. Please see graphics in meeting packet. The input shapes the review of the proposals. There will not be any new proposals. The Council will be looking at the priorities, reviewing comments, reviewing dollar amounts, and as we move through the input from outside parties is less impacting.

- Through this whole process, pulling information from a lot of people, and incorporating that information, the Council can move forward with the key items and themes, those items help shape the final recommendations developed at the end of the year.
- The Council has already received a lot of information: survey from the fall, field tour, research reports and relevant plans coming forward recently (e.g., The Value of Water report), and public comment letters and emails.
- For the upcoming June 15 meeting, we will want to summarize input received (including proposals). We will want to review the nature of the decision, such as statutory explanations and what an additional \$30 million extra means in the existing context. We will want to dig into emergence of items. We will want to consider the outcomes and those criteria for the BOC to apply in setting the priorities and drafting the funding directions to proposers.
- A lot will happen in the next few months.

Questions/Comments:

- John Barten: We are looking to have them address and comment on the process and the criteria we will use to determine the funding direction? *Answer:* Yes. However, if people have specific requests or programs they want to support, it would be helpful to share *why* it is important. That input can help shape the criteria that comes out of this process.
- Rich Biske: Some groups have commented before that they have become conditioned to speak to individual programs and a target amount because that is typically what they have reacted to. For us, we don't want to over interpret what that means. We will get a mix. We will need to respond to specific recommendations as well.
- John Barten: We will need to mention the financial constraints. We need to explain to these folks the funds, so they recognize that we cannot fulfill all the desires from the input they've provided. We are responding but cannot fund everything.
- Rich Biske: We need to budget our time on whom we will respond to these funds. I do not know about the Council's follow-through. We should not respond to every individual letter, but how we respond is important for the public. If people are putting effort into reading through the materials and participating in the meeting, I want to caution about a generic blanket response. For those that take time to comment, can see themselves in those responses, is important. When we do that is also key. We should dedicate some time to putting together a thoughtful response. If we are going to ask for input, we need to prepare to respond to the input. *Response:* Yes, talking through this process is good. Thinking through what a meaningful response would look like and taking time to do that. So, when we hit our decision point, and we have our budget, we can do a final follow-up at that point. To share how the public's input interacted all the way through. Perhaps, an intermediary feedback response to share the considerations that came out of this process based on all input. Giving people a chance to react to it, to confirm it for accuracy. Then, being able to show what that final criterion was to the commenters. We can make those responses as we go through the process, also keep some folks with us to the end as well. It would be good to set aside time to talk about this topic at the next meeting.
- Rich Biske: If there are limitations to it, we should name it. I think it will help build trust and sustain engagement.
- Jessica Wilson: Putting it in writing demonstrates that we are generally looking at these things. I think it would be helpful, me included, to digest this input. It also puts it in context of all the components. It helps to show comments in line, as well as those that are unique and specific. Having dedicated public discussion about it gives them a look inside our process. We can have a focused conversation about the comments as well. It reveals how we are using the information. I remember Paul had that organized for our review. *Response from Jen Kader:* Yes, we have a spreadsheet going (just like Paul Gardner, previous Administrator of the Council). It summarizes in a few sentences the public comments. We can dig into it more. This is in the SharePoint file, so Council members can sort and view it for their individual review as well as for their constituents.
- Rich Biske: Having these reference documents helps us look back. We can also pull information forward too. It is great documentation and data to have on hand. It is part of the engagement and looking at it over time.

The chloride de-icers policy statement has been further revised since our last meeting.

- Changes to highlight include: There were some questions on the use of beet juice, so those are addressed in the policy statement. It is an additive but does not reduce chloride use, so it is in addition to it. Source control is key strategy, so “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure” was added. They shrunk and focused on the audience and purpose section. They tried to mirror the formatting of the recent large water user’s policy. Renumbered and reordered some recommendations. Added some more details on recommendation twelve and identified some partners in that part. Finally, policy ideas is an area of further discussion.
- Twelve items are a lot to digest. This is where we landed on these priorities. They were renumbered to emphasize these priorities (there is a priority matrix on the SharePoint). There would be more need of support for Legislators. Some items are high effort items but could have a larger impact on moving the needle.
- We have the State Salt Purchase Report (February 2025), where agencies reported how much salt they bought by agency. There are two years of data. For the average of 2023-2024 for state agencies (or the property owners), the average was 1,330 tons of salt. For the City of Edina, we tracked our purchase overtime. I did the same time period to compare, over that average (granular salt spread and the salt to make brine) and it was 1,177 tons average annual. So, the state is averaging a little more than the City of Edina is averaging (16 square miles of city). That puts the report into context. If a state is purchasing as much salt as a city, as a baseline they should be using those Smart Salting practices. They should only be paying their contractors if they are using those practices. Then, I looked into 1,330 tons of salt, that is how many teaspoons (because one teaspoon permanently pollutes five gallons of water). It is about 240 million teaspoons, so it would be over a billion gallons of water permanently polluted annually. It is a lot. That seems like a high value item to implement.

Discussion:

- How do people feel about the top four items?
 - John Barten: I like them. I think we should also move item number seven up. So, we have a top five instead of a top four. It is also a significant item, especially for legislators. I like how this reads and flows.
 - Jessica Wilson: In our prioritization process, we talked about it. The reason we pulled them down a little bit was that occupational licensure gets people into more training. There is also some more pressure on that area as well. Local groups are advancing it locally. Perhaps, in six months we will learn more. I am not sure how often we update the policies, and there is movement in this area. Dual track was also discussed, and could be added in. We did capture the idea, but there has been a lot of energy at the city level. I am not sure we want to take up that prioritized spot.
 - Rich Biske: I agree with John, and agree with Jessica as well, at the municipal level there is movement. However, it may assist more in that movement at the legislative level. It does not preclude cities from acting.
 - Jessica Wilson: Cities would love that too. Cities will continue to do what they can to make progress. The dual track idea of keeping it up at a legislative recommendation also makes sense.
- Rich Biske: Within the problem statement, the volume of salt purchased was helpful, what are some problems raised that have resonated with them to instigate action. Infrastructure damage and the cost can resonate with a city administrator or Council member. How much influence does that have on folks? *Answer from Jessica Wilson:* It is a good question. At the municipal level there are many drivers of doing better on your service level, it is not just the cost. There are departments on permit compliance and environmental protection, so although there is a regulatory process, people who are working on that space work to meet it. There are infrastructure costs, and it does influence their capital planning – looking at service, environmental protection, and prolonging the infrastructure life cycle. From the private side, it lands likely more on how it influences at a residential scale is probably abstract. It would be harder for most people. At a property manager level, they have a good sense of cost. However, safety is number one for everyone, so that short term safety and perception of safety does carry weight when comparing to long term damage to infrastructure. Jen Kader: Everyone has a different thing that hooks them into the conversation (fishermen, pet owners, gardeners, bikers, etc.).

- John Barten: I think putting a number in the policy can be impacting, a comparison statement. From the report of state facilities. So, there is some context of how many tons of salt are used. I think it would be informative.
 - Jessica Wilson: The City of Edina may be a part of a case study on salt use. We are seeing almost a fifty percent reduction, but we are not ready to publish it in a document yet. We are looking for a third-party assessment of it before it is published. It is not widely shared at this point. In a few years, it will likely change. Soon, there will be more data. We have the estimate of the statewide chloride management plan, so we could use that value instead. We could convert it into teaspoons as well, and how many gallons of water it would pollute. We need a number that is published. I also do not want to pick on any city or county, until everyone is reporting their numbers. The state facilities usage report could also be used.
 - Glenn Skuta, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA): Hearing this still does not give me a picture in my head either. So, more context would be good.
 - Jessica Wilson: I think the best number to use is the statewide number of 404,000 tons as an estimate for the salt use in the state, as it is likely the firmest number. It is abstract, for the outcomes to the impact on Minnesota's waters. There are some studies that can help give us ideas too, which could be referenced as well. I can see what I can do to get there.
 - Brian Timerson: I think the state salt use report is what you should use, it is a well vetted report. However, some agencies does not include, so include that note as well. I can help you with it. It is a published report, but in many ways underestimates the salt usage. It reports lower than it is, and it is hard to get some agencies to get us the information. There will be a new report on the first of the year.
 - Jessica Wilson: I can put in some text; I can let you know to chime in.
- Glenn Skuta, MPCA: A lot of items makes sense, and the prioritization are great. However, many of these items would need more funding than would be likely right now. If a fee does not go into place, how do we see this policy getting implemented? With CWFs there are limited resources. Are we thinking about the cost of these implementation items? It is what needs to be done and seeing if items are approved. Jen Kader: Implementation steps may include studying the cost to get this implemented. Perhaps, it is too big right now for funding or the political will that is present.
 - Jessica Wilson: Some items are more about investigating feasibility investigations. It starts with some study work. Perhaps, legislative appropriations for that initial work. However, as the monitoring program is being done, it can be something we are keeping an eye on as well. I do not think it is necessary to figure out how we fund these items yet. I do not know the costs of these prioritizations either.
 - John Barten: I don't think we need to address funding for it, as the policy committee. In the past with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the led pipes, the policy came first and the funding came form elsewhere. So, it may be instigated elsewhere. Perhaps, licensing fees or other funds be allocated to it. We can deal with some of those items later. At this point, we are getting the ball moving.
 - Glenn Skuta, MPCA: Thank you that helps. Understanding that there is a certain amount of lag time with the adoption of a policy, to get momentum moving.
 - Rich Biske: Chloride has not gotten as much attention. This is a way to elevate the importance of it. This can hopefully pull some weight and get some actions moving. It is a step in the direction. Additional policies and fundings will follow. It advances conversation.
- Change is to move the occupational licensure from number seven up to the top priorities, which would make it have five top priorities. Additionally, add more context in the problem statement, to provide more information on amount of salt.
- *Motion to adopt the policy statement, with the two changes (moving occupational licensure up to the top priority and adding a little more context about a specific salt quantity use to amount of contaminated water example in the problem statement), by John Barten, seconded by Peter Schwagerl.*

Discussion on the motion:

- Jessica Wilson: What would be the next step for the Council, knowing that the June 15 meeting is very busy with the public comment process, will we talk about it? Would it be provided in June or July? It may impact on budget recommendations.
- Jen Kader: We can include it as a part of the update at the start of the meeting.
- Rich Biske: Then, we can include it on the July agenda.
- Kelly Gribauval-Hite: Can we include it on the SharePoint for everyone to view?
- Jen Kader: We will include it in the meeting packet.
- Rich Biske: We will ask BOC leadership to mention it at their next meeting as well.
- *Motion carries unanimously.*

Adjournment (*Webex 02:15:04*)

Reducing Chloride Pollution from Winter De-icing Chemicals

Summarized Policy Statement

The Clean Water Council recommends that the State of Minnesota implement the following actions to reduce chloride pollution from winter de-icing chemicals (salts) in Minnesota's surface water and groundwater.

Highest Priority Recommendations

While all recommendations are important and interconnected, the Clean Water Council identifies the following as especially critical near-term actions for the legislature to consider:

(1) Implement a granular salt fee

A granular salt fee would create a direct market incentive to reduce unnecessary salt use, encourage innovation and efficiency, and generate sustainable funding for chloride reduction efforts, research, training, and remediation.

PHE Comments: A concern for many state, local, and private applicators is public safety and liability. It's cheaper to oversalt than to be sued. Finding a balance with safety, liability, and environmental concerns is needed. Implementing a salt fee does not spread education to applicators on appropriate application rates and does not educate the public about why we can and should use less salt and what that means for their safety in the winter. A salt fee could lead to a positive reduced rate of salt application, but without the proper education of how much to reduce application rates by it could lead to dangerous road conditions and public safety concerns. Sequentially, roads with less salt (even if providing the same amount of safety due to accurate application rates) may lead to increased public pushback and complaints. Education is key to both applicators and the public.

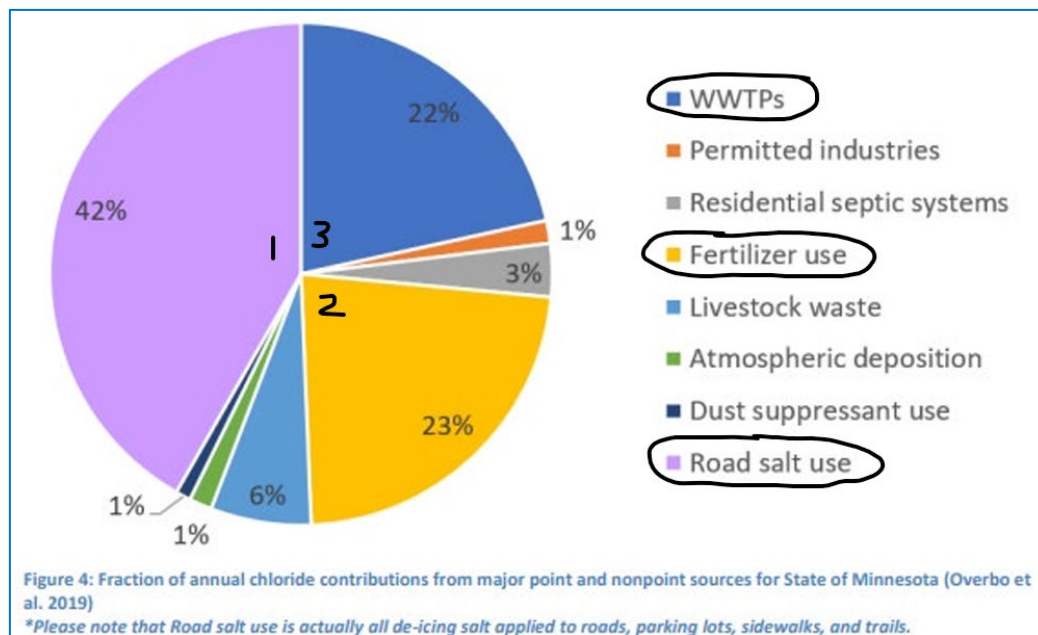
Washington County Groundwater Plan actions:

Public Work Comments: This is an unfunded mandate on local governments. A per-ton fee lands directly on county and city maintenance budgets — we'd be paying more for the same salt to keep the same roads safe. If the state wants to fund chloride reduction research, training, and remediation, that appropriation should come from the Legislature to the agency, not be raised through what amounts to a new tax on the local governments doing critical winter maintenance.

On chloride being "the problem": It's worth keeping perspective that salt remains the most cost-effective, reliable product available for snow and ice control. The packet itself acknowledges there's no alternative without tradeoffs in cost, performance, or other environmental harm.

On the "cost to society" figures: The packet cites \$1,700–\$17,000/ton in societal cost but leaves out the other side entirely — the cost of NOT salting. Untreated roads mean crashes, injuries, and fatalities on

our highways. Any honest accounting of salt's true cost has to weigh the public-safety consequences of using less of it. That's the tradeoff we manage every storm, and it should be visible in the framing.



(3) Investigate feasible approaches for restoration and remediation.

Minnesota currently lacks a practical strategy for addressing the growing inventory of waters impaired by chloride pollution. Research is needed to identify feasible remediation technologies and long-term management approaches.

PHE Comments: We support chloride research as chloride management is needed across different types of chloride pollutant sources: road salt, water softeners, and fertilizers for both surface and groundwaters. A better understanding of the public health concerns and environmental impacts of chloride is imperative.

(5) Incorporate low salt design standards into building and site development.

Many sites are unintentionally designed in ways that require excessive salt use. Updating development standards can reduce long-term winter maintenance needs while improving safety and reducing costs.

PHE Comments: Regardless of a buildings design snow falls on all surfaces, it is the applicators responsibility to apply salt to those surfaces if needed for safety (after plowing or shoveling). Therefore, untrained and uneducated salt applicators remain of concern. In addition, public perception of safety with salt may increase salt usage even when a building has a low salt design. Additionally, low salt design is still a new concept that will require more validation and testing of how effective the building changes actually reduce excessive salt application and the cost savings. Not every building or design can benefit from low salt design strategies, therefore building requirements may not make sense and would be better as recommendations for new builds rather than incorporating them into development standards. We support the concept of low salt design where it is applicable in building designs such as incorporating extra stormwater drainage but would use it as guidance or a recommendation in site development.

One suggestion would be to encourage engineering schooling programs to adopt cold-climate design concepts into curriculum rather than mandating it as “low salt designs” into building standards. Many of our cold-region states would benefit from incorporating some of these concepts due to various winter challenges like drifting snow and drainage problems from snow melt. It is better to have these concepts understood by those creating the designs to be aware of winter problems than to mandate designs ahead of curriculum standards.

From a climate change perspective - Low salt design would recommend tree removals from the sides of roadways or near buildings to limit shading on the road and sidewalks, however shade is key in the summer to reduce urban heat effects and reduce road temperatures. The costs and benefits of low salt design need validation and research. Washington County is currently working on developing a climate change action plan.

Public Works Comments:

These aren't established standards that I am aware of. Low Salt Design is voluntary design guidance developed by Connie Fortin / Bolton & Menk in a June 2025 draft report to MPCA.

https://stormwater.pca.state.mn.us/introduction_to_low_salt_design

As voluntary guidance, it's reasonable. Much of it is common-sense cold-climate site design — snow storage placement, grading meltwater away from saltable surfaces, shade and wind considerations. These are things we already do to some extent and we would support promotion of these concepts.

However, mandating it would be premature. Asking the Legislature to convert draft guidance into required development standards before it's finalized, field-validated, and supported by Minnesota cost data is putting the cart ahead of the horse. MPCA's own guidance already notes Low Salt Design can conflict with existing standards (e.g., parking-lot islands required for shading and traffic calming are plow obstacles under LSD). For county road projects, geometry is driven by safety and MnDOT State Aid design requirements that won't always yield to salt minimization.

We would suggest supporting Low Salt Design as a voluntary tool and encourage MPCA to finish and validate the guidance, but caution against legislating it into mandatory standards until it's complete and reconciled with existing road and site design requirements.

(6) Require Smart Salting for state contracts and facilities.

The State of Minnesota should lead by example by requiring best practices and certified applicators for publicly funded winter maintenance activities.

PHE Comments: Would each county also be included into this requirement as it says “publicly funded” winter maintenance activities? Washington County currently funds one Smart Salting in the county each year. However, if this is a required training, will the training location be funded and provided by MPCA trainers with a cost per person to attend or will hosts still be responsible for funding and a training location?

The Smart Salting for Roads training is currently a 5.5-hour presentation with a class activity for calculating application rates and an exam - the certification is good for 5 years. One suggestion would

be to incorporate physically showing applicators how to calibrate their trucks with them during the class with their own equipment to target over application concerns.

(7) Establish an occupational licensure program for winter maintenance professionals.

Similar to Minnesota's pesticide applicator licensing program, winter maintenance professionals should meet standardized training and competency requirements because their work directly affects public safety and environmental health.

PHE Comments: Would state contracts and facilities be exempt from needing an occupational license due to recommendation (6) Smart Salting requirement for state contracts?

Minnesota State Pesticide Act Ch. 18B MN Statutes governs the licensing requirements, rules, and enforcement by the Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture for pesticides and fertilizers. Minnesota does not have a Chloride Act and has limited statute guidance besides the Chloride Management Plan. Sec. 160.215 MN Statutes Snow Removal; Salt and Chemicals Restricted: states the use of salt or other chemicals is allowed on hills, intersections, and high-speed or arterial roadways for vehicle traction only if snow removal cannot be accomplished within a reasonable time. 7151 - MN Rules Chapter is about aboveground storage of liquid substances: salt brine solutions.

Without a State established core framework for chloride, developing a licensure program may be preemptive. An occupational license program seems feasible once state guidance and regulations are in place. Guidance can then be set forth on how complaints and violations are set for over application and introduce risk and liability concerns to address the reduced rates of salt application.

Recommendation (11) risk and liability should be a top priority. Ensuring protection from public legal actions could reduce winter salt use. The Washington County Groundwater Plan reference: 4.B.2 "Support limited liability legislation for salt applicators and support best practices to reduce chloride contamination from road salt and water softeners."

Topic	Policy name	1st Adopted in	Updated	Current platform?	Key Policy Recommendations (most recent version if updated)	Progress	What is left to do
Altered hydrology	Water Retention, Storage and Infiltration	FY 13-14			Require all major (HUC 8) watersheds outside 7-county metro area develop comprehensive watershed management plans.	All non-metro water planning and implementation is	Continue the Watershed Framework
Altered hydrology	Multi-purpose drainage management	FY26-27		x	Identify more opportunities for multi-purpose drainage management and water storage that improve water quality and complement WRAPS and 1W1P		
Altered hydrology	Multi-purpose drainage management	FY26-27		x	Request data to quantify the effectiveness of MDM relative to nutrient transport and hydrologic changes compared to traditional drainage systems, and an estimate of the hydrologic impact of drainage projects on downstream rivers and streams		
Altered hydrology	Multi-purpose drainage management	FY26-27		x	Support opportunities for training of drainage engineers, drainage authorities, and other relevant professions on the benefits of MDM and resources available, to encourage line-item estimates for conservation practices, and to encourage cost-benefit analysis of water storage and its resulting impact on drainage system and maintenance costs		
Altered hydrology	Multi-purpose drainage management	FY26-27		x	Develop a drainage endorsement for the MAWQCP with the input of the Drainage Work Group and other stakeholders.		
Chloride	Reducing de-icing chloride (road salt) pollution	FY18	FY22-23	x	Fund the Smart Salting applicator training and certification program, and the MPCA's chloride reduction budget to support the development and maintenance of tools, resources, policies, trainings and assistance programs to reduce chloride pollution.		
Chloride	Reducing de-icing chloride (road salt) pollution	FY22-23			Request that the Legislature give the MPCA the authority to charge a fee for chloride training.		
Chloride	Reducing de-icing chloride (road salt) pollution	FY18	FY22-23	x	Provide liability protection for the Smart Salting program certifying private winter de-icing applicators for reduced salt applications.		
Chloride	Reducing de-icing chloride (road salt) pollution	FY18	FY22-23	x	Provide research funds to develop new technology and alternatives to chloride-containing de-icing chemicals, and best management practices.		
Chloride	Reducing de-icing chloride (road salt) pollution	FY22-23		x	Encourage and support the adoption of MPCA's Chloride Reduction Model Ordinance Language by local governmental entities.		
Chloride	Reducing de-icing chloride (road salt) pollution	FY22-23		x	Have the MPCA convene and lead a stakeholder process to develop recommendations for new labeling requirements on bags of de-icing chemicals sold in Minnesota.		
Chloride	Reducing chloride pollution from water softening	FY22-23		x	Provide financial support and technical assistance to municipalities to reduce chloride discharges and allow flexibility for how municipalities achieve these reductions.		
Chloride	Reducing chloride pollution from water softening	FY22-23		x	Update the state plumbing code to effectively prohibit the installation of new water softeners in Minnesota that use timers rather than on-demand regeneration systems.		
Chloride	Reducing chloride pollution from water softening	FY22-23		x	Fund a program for activities, training, and grants that reduce chloride pollution. Grants should support upgrading, optimizing, or replacing water softener units.		
Continuous Living Cover	Increasing Continuous Productive Vegetative Cover	FY 19			Establish a Minnesota Agricultural Diversification Steering Council	The Council recommended funding for establish the Minnesota	
Continuous Living Cover	Increasing Continuous Productive Vegetative Cover	FY 19			Create a Minnesota Agricultural Diversification Network		
Drinking water	Advancing Drinking Water Protection	FY 16-17			Property Transfers: Notify the buyers the potential existence of lead-pipes between the water main and taps, and provide informational material to mitigate risks.		
Drinking water	Advancing Drinking Water Protection	FY 16-17			Renters: Notify the renters the potential existence of lead-pipes between the water main and taps and provide informational material to mitigate risks.		
Drinking water	Living Cover for Drinking Water Protection	FY16-17			Require the establishment of living cover in vulnerable areas such as wellhead & upstream of surface water intakes		
Drinking water	Disclosure of well water quality at time of sale	FY22-23			Require all sellers of real property to test drinking water from wells for bacteria, nitrate, arsenic, manganese, and lead.		
Drinking water	Disclosure of well water quality at time of sale	FY22-23			Inform buyers and renters of the test results.		
Drinking water	Disclosure of well water quality at time of sale	FY22-23			Direct buyers to mitigation guidance from the Minnesota Department of Health.		

Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY24-25			Direct the Minnesota Department of Health to promote adoption of county ordinances that require private well testing and a disclosure of the testing at the time a property is transferred, and develop model ordinances. Ordinances should reflect the contaminants of particular interest to the geology of a given county.		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY24-25			Use the Clean Water Fund to provide opportunities for all Minnesota private well owners to test their water for five major contaminants (nitrate, lead, arsenic, manganese, and bacteria).		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY24-25			Develop cost-effective strategies for private well owners to help mitigate wells that do not meet Minnesota health-based guidance for those five contaminants, with a particular focus on low-income households.		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY26-27		x	Completion of a private well inventory, starting in SE MN, as well as timely updates to the Minnesota Well Index		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY26-27		x	Information to well users to reduce their risk, including well testing		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY26-27		x	Support local and state capacity to manage testing, mapping, and education		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY26-27		x	Support stable, reliable funding of cost-effective strategies for private well users to mitigate wells that do not meet Minnesota health-based guidance to five contaminants, with a particular focus on low-income households		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY26-27		x	Publicize aggregated and anonymized well data		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY26-27		x	Support land use compatible with private well protection (e.g. forage, continuous living cover, working lands easements, etc.), including the prioritization of areas draining to vulnerable private wells		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY26-27		x	Support adequate technical and financial assistance for fertilizer and pesticide management, irrigation education, and manure storage and use		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY26-27		x	Support development and adoption of local government ordinances that require well testing and a disclosure of the testing at the time a property is transferred		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY26-27		x	Financial support for regulation of feedlots and the land application of manure		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY26-27		x	Evaluation of current programs for efficacy in meeting drinking water source protection goals		
Drinking water	Advanced drinking water protection	FY26-27		x	Consider designating acreage that drains to the most vulnerable private wells for protective practices like DWSMAs		
PFAS	PFAS	FY24-25		x	The CWF be a partial source of funding to implement Minnesota's comprehensive PFAS Blueprint. Of the ten key issue areas prioritized in the Blueprint, there are three in which the CWF would fulfill both the Clean Water Legacy Act and the Blueprint: Quantifying PFAS risk to human health, Limiting PFAS exposure from drinking water, and Reducing PFAS exposure from fish and game consumption.		
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceutical Pollution Prevention	FY18-19			Require the words or symbols for "do not flush" be printed on all prescription pharmaceutical labels, and remove any existing instructions to flush unused portions.		
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceutical Pollution Prevention	FY18-19			Adopt a "Secure Drug Take-Back-Act" modeled after the legislation recently adopted by Washington State.		
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceutical product stewardship	FY24-25		x	Fund research on the pathways of pharmaceuticals into surface water and groundwater, identify priority pharmaceuticals that pose the greatest risk to human health and aquatic life, identify and support practicable solutions to reduce their entry into Minnesota waters, and recoup reasonable costs through an industry-funded safe medication return program.		

Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceutical product stewardship	FY24-25		x	Adopt a "Safe Medication Return Program". This legislation should provide flexibility by utilizing the current collection infrastructure, requiring manufacturers to support public education and outreach activities, cover all administrative costs (including but not limited to collection, compensation to authorized collectors, transportation, secure receptacles, and environmentally sound disposal), allowing residents to take unused medications to drop-off locations or use a mailing envelope (both for free, and providing drop-off locations that are "equitable and reasonably convenient."		
Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceutical product stewardship	FY24-25		x	Require the words or symbols for "do not flush" be printed on all prescription pharmaceutical labels and remove any existing instructions to flush unused portions.		
Riparian buffers	Riparian Buffers	FY 14-15			Require buffers along Public waters and ditches and private ditches that drain into Public waterways	Minnesota Buffer Law was signed into law in June 2015 and requires 50 foot	Ensure the Buffer Law remains in effect over time.
Riparian buffers	Riparian Buffers	FY 14-15			Fund local implementation & enforcement	CWF provides funding for technical	Continue funding as needed.
Riparian buffers	Riparian Buffers	FY 14-15			One State Agency oversee Local activities	Board of Soil & Water Resources (BWSR) has overall	Continue BWSR oversight of Buffer Law.
Underground utilities	Minnesota underground utilities	FY24-25		x	The State of Minnesota should develop an accurate map of all underground utilities installed in the state and require Minnesota's public and private sectors to support sharing of necessary data in a secure and confidential manner.		