

Diversity, inclusion and equity in Clean Water Fund work

Katrina Kessler, P.E. | Assistant Commissioner
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency



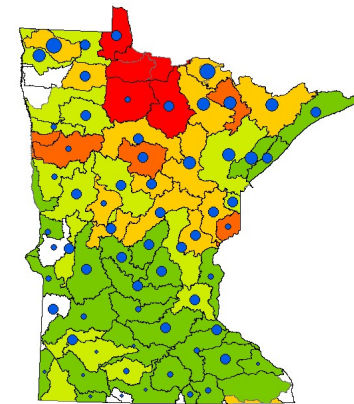
Integrated into our strategic plans

Our strategic plan

Sixteen strategic goals for our agency | 2018-2022



Water	Land	Air	Cross agency	Operations
<p>Reduce chloride (salt) entering surface waters and groundwater.</p>	<p>Reduce food waste from households and businesses by generating less and recycling more.</p>	<p>Improve air quality in population centers.</p>	<p>Incorporate strategies to address environmental justice concerns in all programs.</p>	<p>Increase the diversity of the agency's workforce, through best efforts in recruitment, hiring and retention.</p>
<p>Accelerate prioritized and targeted reductions in nutrient pollution by integrating strategies with local watersheds.</p>	<p>Identify and address emerging risks by completing assessment of backlogged contaminated sites.</p>	<p>Offset excessive emissions and advance diesel reductions via the Volkswagen Settlement.</p>	<p>Increase involvement of communities in decisions and actions that affect them.</p>	<p>Accelerate the availability of data and information in a self-service format.</p>
<p>Achieve wastewater pollutant reduction goals and maximize cost-effectiveness of public infrastructure investment.</p>	<p>Prevent and reduce risks to groundwater from unlined construction and demolition landfills.</p>	<p>Reduce air permitting backlog.</p>	<p>Act on opportunities to increase resilience of communities and the environment to climate change impacts.</p>	<p>Improve agency's ability to identify, manage and sustain organizational improvement.</p>



Ensure that there are no disproportionate impacts between EJ areas and other areas

We Are Water MN: A humanities-based, equity-based approach to water engagement

"Through sharing of personal experiences, Hmong folklore, and research we hope to share new perspectives and increase the Hmong's participation in water stewardship in Minnesota."
— Hmong Museum website

2/9/2021



Metropolitan Area Water Supply Sustainability Support and Water Demand Reduction Grant Program

Met Council helps bring communities and stakeholders together to ensure sustainable safe water supplies are available to all residents.

Water suppliers – Growing sub-regional work groups ensure all communities are included in collaboration and decision making

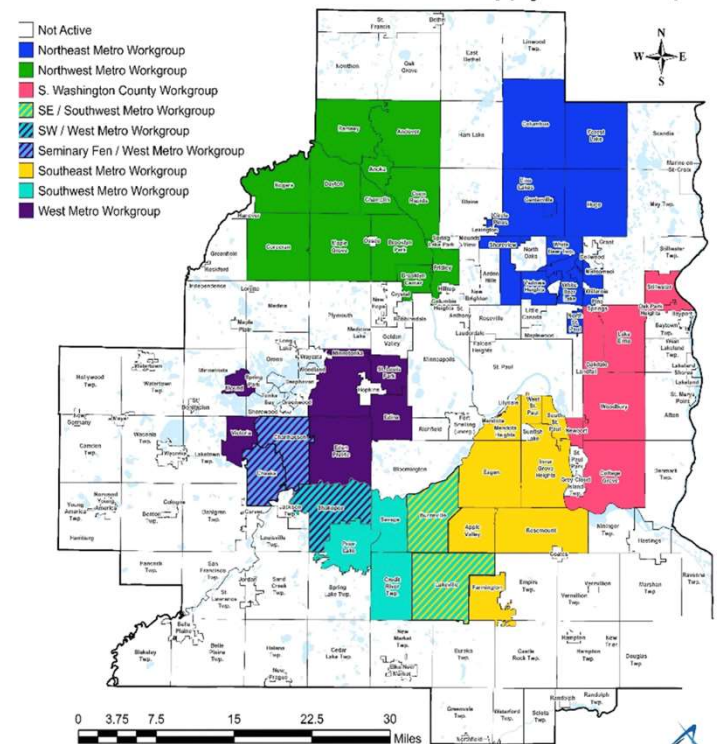
Consumers – Grant programs support the needs of single-family and multi-family residential units

Research partnership with University of Minnesota and Metro Area Stakeholder Groups

“A Community-Centered Framework of the Value of Water in the Twin Cities”

- Assess residents’ perceptions of and values for water and how they vary across communities in the region
- Prioritize community-centered action steps for equitable water planning and policy

Communities in Metro Area Water Supply Work Groups



Lead in water



Identify affected households

- Create an inventory of lead service lines

Increase community outreach and transparency

- Outreach on lead levels, service line inventory, and progress on service line replacement

Protect children

- Supplemental lead testing at schools and daycares

Private well users

Survey: 800 well owners with *Arsenic* above the drinking water standard

34% did not take any action

Less than **20%** tested at recommended frequency

Income is a predictor of installing home water treatment

- People with an income greater than \$100,000 are **twice as likely** to install treatment compared to people with an income less than \$40,000.
- People with incomes less than \$40,000 were five times as likely to select **cost as the reason for not taking action.**

Increasing Diversity in Environmental Careers (IDEC)

Fellowship

Mentorship

Internship



Islamic Cultural Community Center





Thank you!

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



Environmental
Services

