Brown’s Creek Watershed District:
Working with the Community to Preserve and Improve the Quality of the District’s Water and Natural Resources

The Brown’s Creek Watershed District (BCWD) is the governmental unit with primary responsibility for protecting the water resources of the Brown’s Creek Watershed. The District was established in 1997 under the Minnesota Watershed District Act. The District includes portions of the Cities of Oak Park Heights, Grant, Hugo, Lake Elmo, and Stillwater along with portions of May and Stillwater Townships. The upper portion of the District is largely rural with farms, large-lot development and undeveloped grassland, cropland and forestland dominant. The lower portion of the District includes rapidly developing urban areas within the Cities of Stillwater and Oak Park Heights.

The District covers approximately 30 square miles within Washington County that drain into Brown’s Creek, which then enters the St. Croix River. The watershed includes Brown’s Creek—a DNR designated trout stream, and several small tributaries. Brown’s Creek has been listed as impaired. A TMDL and implementation plan has been completed to identify ways to reduce total suspended solids and high temperatures to the creek.

The watershed includes twelve major lakes and numerous wetlands. Several of the lakes have been listed as impaired for excess nutrients, including Long, Goggins, North & South School Section and Lynch.

For more information — Contact the District Administrator:
Karen Kill – 455 Hayward Ave N, Oakdale, MN 55128
651-339-8220 x226 or karen.kill@bcwd.org

Or Visit Us at the Brown’s Creek Watershed Website: www.bcwd.org

Brown’s Creek Watershed District has leveraged over $900,000 in state grant funding since 2010! Improving Brown’s Creek, Long Lake, McKusick Lake, and the St. Croix River!

BCWD Board of Managers
The BCWD’s five Board of Managers are appointed by the Washington County Commissioners and can be contacted through the BCWD office.

Regular Board Meetings held at 6:30PM Second Wednesday of the Month
Craig Leiser, President
Sharon Schwarze, Vice-President
Gail Pundsack, Vice-President
Gerald Johnson, Secretary
Connie Taillon, Treasurer

2014 Participating Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) Members included:
Marvin & Paulette Jones
Carol Pavendo
Tom Henderson
Karen & Paul Richtman
Lee Miller
Carol Palmquist

July 22, 2014 & September 3, 2014 - Joint BCWD Board and CAC Meeting to develop 2015 Budget and workplan and assessed the progress of the 2014 workplan.

Please contact the Administrator if you would like to serve on the CAC!

Take a look at the new Brown’s Creek Watershed District website www.bcwd.org and like us on Facebook!

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2014 Actual
Revenue: $781,605
Expenses: $962,815*

*Expenses exceed revenue due to spending down previous years budgeted carry forward

Total Budget = $1,743,911
Revenue:
Permit Fees 2% = $37,180
Grants 14% = $241,850
Carry Over 36% = $630,941
Levy 48% = $833,940

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Highlights of 2014 Accomplishments & 2015 Planned Projects

2014-15 - Northern Chain Lakes Management Plan to address excess nutrients in Lynch, North & South School Section, Plaisted and Goggins Lakes

Brown’s Creek Stream Rehabilitation – 2013 Design and 2014 Install: Collaboration with the MN DNR Trails to reduce sediment to Brown’s Creek by creating floodplain and realigning trail (before and after)

Countryside TSS Reduction – 2013 Design and 2014 Install: Collaboration with the MN DNR Trails to reduce sediment to Brown’s Creek with an underground treatment chamber (before & after)

Long Lake Water Quality Improvements -2015 Design and Implementation Stormwater retrofits and Curb cut Rain gardens

 Neal Ave Neighborhood Raingardens – 2013 Design & 2015 Install to reduce sediment and runoff temperatures to Brown’s Creek

Brown’s Creek Trails Park – 2015 Design and 2016/17 Install: Collaboration with Stillwater & Washington County using a $204,350 2015 Clean Water Fund Grant to address thermal and sediment loading to Brown’s Creek by retrofitting the parking lot with a rock crib, bioswale and associated stormwater-treatment facilities to treat up to 6 acres. (before)