

2021 Water Resource Management Plan Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District

The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District was first established April 21, 1976 by resolution of the Chisago County Board of Commissioners. The District was reactivated by resolution of the County Board August 21, 1984. Resolution No. 090225-1 delegating specific authority to the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District and authorizing certain expenditures by the Lake Improvement District Board was approved by the Chisago County Board of Commissioners on February 25, 2009. The District was re-established with an enlarged boundary by Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order of the Chisago County Board of Commissioners on September 16, 2015.

The lakes in the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed are:

Bloom	Little Green	South Center
Chisago	Mattson	South Lindstrom
Emily	North Center	Spider
Green	North Lindstrom	Swamp (Northern LID)
Kroon	Ogren	Swamp (Southern LID)
Linn	Pioneer	Wallmark
Little	School	

The District is approximately ten miles long and averages 9.3 miles in width.

Mission Statement

Restore, preserve, protect and enhance the water resources of the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.

Goals

- Preserve, protect and enhance water quality within the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.
- Maintain the ditch and weir system in order to control water levels during high water events.
- Encourage environmentally sound land use practices for urban and agricultural areas to protect water quality within the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.
- Support safe and balanced recreational use of surface water.
- Restore, improve and maintain navigation channels between the lakes.
- Protect, encourage and restore native shoreline to improve fish and wildlife habitat.
- Promote environmental education, awareness and stewardship within the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.
- Promote the reduction of non-native aquatic invasive species.

Goal 1: Preserve, protect and enhance water quality within the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.

Objective 1: (Water Plan Objective) Implement Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed-wide lake water quality monitoring plan.
Objective 2: (Water Plan Objective) Develop an annual water quality monitoring report describing the water resources that were monitored and what parameters they were monitored for. The annual report will provide a complete summary of the monitoring results.
Objective 3: Support participation in the Lower St. Croix River One Watershed One Plan.

Goal 2: Maintain the ditch and weir system to control water levels during high water events.

Objective 1: (Water Plan Objective) Maintain the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes watershed ditch and weir system to control water levels during high water events. According to the 2016 Operation and Maintenance Plan, perform periodic inspections and maintenance of the lake system channels and overflow weirs. Provide engineering services for planned maintenance of the drainage system.
Objective 2: (Water Plan Objective) Monitor water supplies, lakes and groundwater observation wells to determine if Chisago Lakes lake levels are being impacted by municipal or other water use, and prepare long term plans for lake and groundwater use.
Objective 3: Purchase equipment, supplies, or publications.

Goal 3: Encourage environmentally sound land use practices for urban and agricultural areas to protect water quality within the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.

Objective 1: (Water Plan Objective) **Support adoption of** uniform water protection ordinances within Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed communities, and possibly areas where Chisago County has jurisdiction, consistent with the Minimal Impact Design Standards Pilot Project.

Objective 2: (Water Plan Objective) Implement projects that will help meet the goals of the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed Restoration and Protection Plan or those identified in completed subwatershed assessments. Actively market local/state/federal conservation programs that provide incentives to landowners to install Best Management Practices to improve overall water quality within the watershed.

Objective 3: Assist with maintenance of Best Management Practices installed within the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.

Goal 4: Support safe and balanced recreational use of surface water.

Objective 1: Make recommendations, as requested, to the Chisago County Board, Water Patrol, and local entities on recreational and safety issues as necessary.

Objective 2: Support a recreational waterway trail system for the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes.

Objective 3: Support recreational use of local parks adjacent to lakes such as Allemansratt, Eagles Nest Peninsula, Ki-Chi-Saga, Lindstrom Beach Park, Lorens Park, Ojiketa, Paradise Park or other parks and the channel between North Lindstrom and North Center Lakes.

Objective 4: Support placement of special needs access dock/piers.

Goal 5: Restore, improve and maintain navigation channels between the lakes: Green/Little Green, South Center/North Center, North Center/North Lindstrom, North Lindstrom/South Lindstrom

Objective 1: Support channel improvements, Environmental Assessment Worksheet, project designs and development, property acquisition, permit coordination with state & local agencies, between North Lindstrom and North Center Lakes.

Goal 6: Protect, encourage and restore native shoreline to improve fish and wildlife habitat.

Objective 1: Provide technical and educational information to interested landowners and local units of government to implement urban and shoreland Best Management Practices within the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.

Objective 2: Develop and implement a cost share program to assist landowners to implement urban and shoreland Best Management Practices within the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.

Goal 7: Promote environmental education, awareness and stewardship within the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes watershed.

Objective 1: Promote participation for county fifth grade students in the annual Chisago County Children's Water Festival.

Objective 2: Promote water resource education by collaborating with organizations such as the East Metro Water Education Program, Metro Watershed Partners, Project NEMO (Nonpoint source pollution Education for Municipal Officials), Blue Thumb, **St. Croix Watershed Environmental Education Partnership, and Wildlife Forever.**

Objective 3: Promote public outreach and awareness of the various LID programs.

Objective 4: Develop and maintain the Hook, Line and Sinker program.

Objective 5: Support area Coalitions of Lake & River Associations.

Objective 6: Provide garbage, recycling or composting options at boat launches.

Goal 8: Promote the reduction or control of non-native aquatic invasive species.

Objective 1: When appropriate, provide assistance with costs and grants associated with treatment of or education about non-native aquatic invasive species such as Purple Loosestrife, Curly-leaf Pondweed, Eurasian Watermilfoil, Zebra Mussels, Invasive Phragmites along shorelines and others.

Objective 2: When appropriate, provide assistance with costs and grants associated with rapid response for new aquatic invasive species infestations.

Objective 3: Develop and implement carp control plan for the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.

Objective 4: Create long-term program to survey aquatic plants or animals for location and abundance, including point intercept surveys, veliger monitoring, zebra mussel monitoring plates, statewide monitoring efforts for starry stonewort, and others.

Staff and Administrative Support

Objective 1: Contractor Meeting Attendance.

Objective 2: Per Diems.

Objective 3: County Staff Support.

Objective 4: Miscellaneous Expenses.