

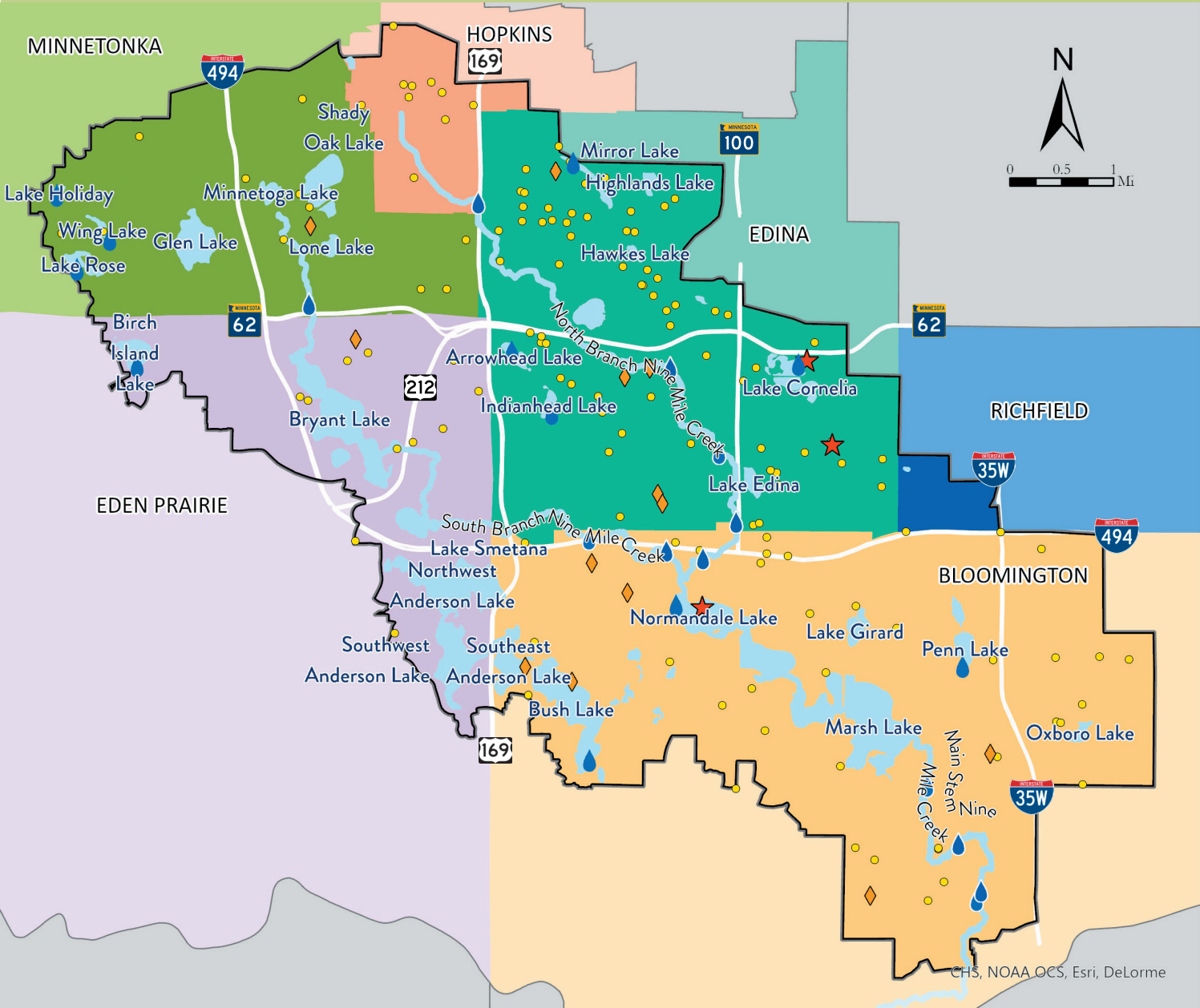
# Nine Mile Creek Managing the Watershed

The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District is a government organization that works to protect and restore the water and natural resources for everyone’s benefit in the land area draining to Nine Mile Creek. The District has regulatory authority over this land area, monitors lake and creek health, installs projects, but also offers grants and programs to improve water quality.

Five managers, appointed by Hennepin County Commissioners to three-year terms, direct the District’s activities. The Board of Managers works with state agencies, Hennepin County and the cities within the District to implement the goals and policies of the approved water management plan set forth in state law. Watershed district activities are funded through property tax levies.

### LEGEND

- Watershed Boundary
- Nine Mile Creek
- Lake
- Monitoring Locations (Lake and Creek)
- 2022 Active Projects
- 2022 Cost Share Grant Projects
- 2022 Permits



## 2022 Annual Communication

Here is a snapshot of the District’s work in 2022. For more details on the work we accomplished in 2022, visit our website or subscribe to our newsletter at [ninemilecreek.org](https://www.ninemilecreek.org).

### Projects

**ROSLAND PARK STORMWATER FILTRATION VAULT**  
This project, located in Rosland Park in Edina, filters phosphorus, a nutrient that can cause algae blooms, from stormwater entering Lake Cornelia. We are testing different types of filter media in the filtration vault to see which one removes the most phosphorous. This information will help improve this project, and others like it, in the future. After the water moves through the filter media in the vault, the cleaner water flows out of spouts and then moves through pipes to Lake Cornelia. Learn more at: [ninemilecreek.org/lake-cornelia-project](https://www.ninemilecreek.org/lake-cornelia-project).

(Photo: Water from the filter flows out of the spout to Lake Cornelia, Edina.)

### Planning

#### FLOOD RISK AND RESILIENCE PROJECT

In 2022, the District completed Phase 2 of the Atlas 14 Flood Risk and Resilience project. This watershed-wide flood risk assessment will help the District, its communities, and other partners gain a better understanding of flood risks throughout the watershed under current precipitation estimates and future climate change projections, as well as characterize the risk of flooding from potential culvert clogging or failure along the creek system. In 2023, the District will evaluate and prioritize flood mitigation projects.

#### WETLAND STUDY

In 2021, the District analyzed all the wetlands in the watershed and prioritized one, Whited Marsh, to protect and restore. The Whited Marsh is a nine-acre wetland in the City of Minnetonka. This rich fen floating mat is a rare wetland type with a high diversity of native plants that is threatened by invasive species like hybrid cattail and purple loosestrife. The District has developed a draft restoration plan identifying which invasive species need to be removed, and how to stop them from growing back. The next step is landowner engagement, and the District hopes to gain community support to begin restoration work sometime in 2023.

### Volunteer Programs

Not only do volunteers help with outreach, but they also help with data collection and monitoring. One such program, SaltWatch: Curbside, takes readings of salt in stormwater runoff. These volunteers help find salt hotspots around the watershed, so we can better target education on reducing oversalting. To learn more ways to help, visit [ninemilecreek.org/volunteer-opportunities](https://www.ninemilecreek.org/volunteer-opportunities).

### Education and Outreach

The Minneapolis Area Realtors (MAR) office in Edina received a District cost share grant in 2021 to help pay for a cistern on the property (pictured here during installation). MAR also installed raingardens and permeable pavers to improve water quality in the creek nearby. In 2022, we developed a Continuing Education course to teach realtors about these practices, how to recognize them, and the benefits of these practices to their clients. Because of the popularity of the course, we will be developing additional courses to offer in 2023.

(Photo: Underground cistern being installed at MAR Office, Edina.)

The District was selected as a host site for a MN GreenCorps member again this year. Alissa Schmidt will help District staff with education and outreach about salt reduction, water quality in lakes and creeks, and more.

### Upcoming in 2023

The Nine Mile Creek South Fork Streambank Stabilization project is anticipated to start construction in the summer/fall of 2023. The District had identified two portions of the South Fork that were degraded and actively eroding. This project will address the erosion issues long-term by using existing downed trees to stabilize the banks. The reconstructed channel will connect the creek back to the surrounding floodplain; it will also create a more consistent flow, allowing for better fish movement through the creek. Learn more at: [ninemilecreek.org/current-projects/southfork](https://www.ninemilecreek.org/current-projects/southfork).

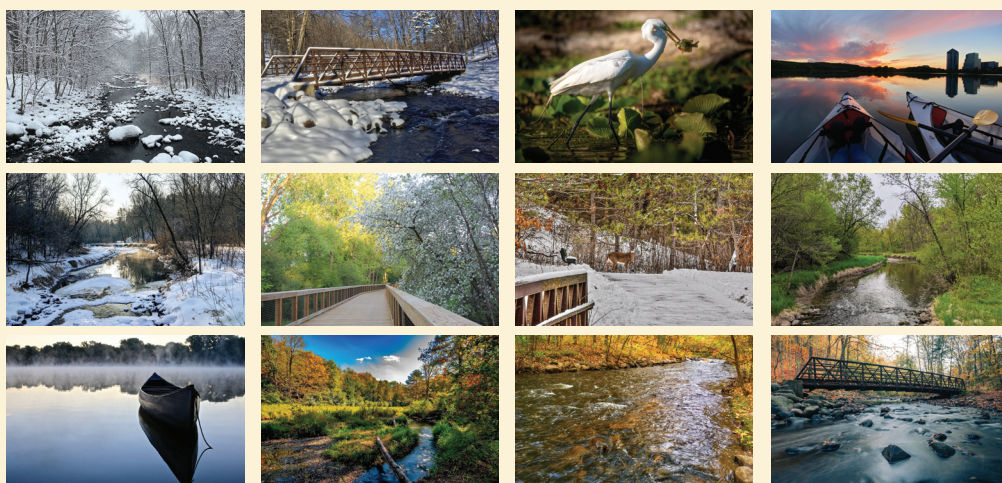
After completing water quality studies on Holiday, Wing and Rose lakes (Minnetonka) and Arrowhead and Indianhead lakes (Edina) in 2022, the District is completing engineering reports on proposed projects to improve the lakes’ water quality. Proposed projects, which could be undertaken in the fall of 2023 or spring of 2024, include: in-lake alum treatments on all five lakes, the potential installation of aeration systems (as needed), and the construction of a re-circulation filtration system on Lake Holiday in Minnetonka. Learn more at: [ninemilecreek.org/current-studies](https://www.ninemilecreek.org/current-studies).



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The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the District Office.





## ABOUT THE NINE MILE CREEK CALENDAR

The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District (NMCWD) works to protect and restore the water and natural resources in the land area draining to Nine Mile Creek. We produce a photo calendar every other year to celebrate these natural resources. The Nature Notes included each month provide ideas of how you can help protect the creek and local lakes. The photos in the calendar were submitted by District visitors and residents and selected through a photo contest. The NMCWD thanks everyone who sent in photos. Without your artistic eye and enthusiasm for capturing the beauty of the local resources, we could not produce this calendar. The NMCWD will hold the next photo contest in 2024 for our 2025 calendar. For more information about the work we do, visit [ninemilecreek.org](http://ninemilecreek.org). Thank you to the members of our Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) who helped select the winning pictures in this year's calendar. If you would like to join the CAC, apply at [ninemilecreek.org](http://ninemilecreek.org). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis when there are open seats.

Calendar Design: The Design Company

Cover photo:

*Eye of the storm*, Bush Lake Izaak Walton League, Bloomington, Paul Erdmann.

### Staff and Consultants at The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District (NMCWD)

#### Managers

Bob Cutshall ([bcutshall@ninemilecreek.org](mailto:bcutshall@ninemilecreek.org)) President / Term Ends: 9/2024  
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 Peggy Kvam ([pkvam@ninemilecreek.org](mailto:pkvam@ninemilecreek.org)), Treasurer / Term Ends: 9/2023  
 Grace Butler ([gbutler@ninemilecreek.org](mailto:gbutler@ninemilecreek.org)), Secretary / Term Ends: 9/2025  
 Erin Hunker ([ehunker@ninemilecreek.org](mailto:ehunker@ninemilecreek.org)), Manager / Term Ends: 9/2023

#### Staff and Interns

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 Elizabeth Boor / Permitting & Communications Intern  
 Brett Eidem (952-356-1999) / Natural Resources Project & Planning Manager  
 Alissa Schmidt (952-800-8307) / 2022-23 MN GreenCorps Member  
 Erica Sniegowski (952-358-2276) / Program & Project Manager  
 Gael Zembal (952-204-9691) / Education & Outreach Coordinator

#### Consultants

Janna Kieffer (952-832-2600) / Engineering Advisor  
 Bob Obermeyer (952-832-2600) / Engineering Advisor  
 Michael Welch (612-344-1400) / Legal Advisor



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Find the District on social media

