

Brown's Creek Watershed District 2005 Annual Accomplishments

1. BCWD continued to be an active participant in various Washington County water management initiatives, such as the Water Consortium, Groundwater Management planning and development, summer tour and the County Fair booth.
2. BCWD was an active participant in the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts at the state level as well. Two managers and the administrator attended the annual meeting as well as several associated meetings during the year.
3. BCWD continued an active water resource monitoring effort through the addition of one more permanent automated site, several temporary sites in conjunction with the Long Lake management efforts and supporting of the macro invertebrate study with Stillwater HS.
Baseline Monitoring—Five (5) automated stream-monitoring stations, five (5) lakes, fifteen (15) lake gauges and one (1) biological stream-monitoring site
Infiltration Monitoring—Bradshaw Site & Kern Center Pond
Volunteer Biological Stream Monitoring—2 sites, program administration & QA/QC
4. BCWD continued education and public outreach through the re-activation of the citizen advisory committee and continued outreach through the district website and conducted a watershed district tour. Began discussions with Water Consortium regarding a shared Storm Water Education position; dedicated \$15,000 of 2006 funds towards position.
5. BCWD began a review and update of rules to incorporate new technology, new legal terminology, make more consistent with other Washington County watershed districts and to incorporate groundwater issues.
6. BCWD processed seventeen (17) permits for construction and renovation projects in 2005.
7. BCWD worked with the City of Oak Park Heights to review the design and construction project of the Kern Center pond and ultimately amended watershed management plan in order to participate in the funding of the project.
8. BCWD continued to participate in attempting to develop an amicable solution to the long-standing conflict regarding setting of a lake elevation for Long Lake.
9. BCWD began to develop a Long Lake Strategic Lake Management Plan to improve the water quality of Long Lake in Stillwater. BCWD was awarded a 2006-07 BWSR Challenge Grant to implement the plan; \$150,000 worth of activities will be implemented through this grant.
10. BCWD began development of a best management practices cost-share program as a method to educate District residents regarding methods to improve water quality.
11. BCWD initiated the process of developing its' next generation watershed management plan, which is due for submittal and approval in 2006.
12. BCWD conducted an internal audit of the permit application and approval process. The findings will be considered as a part of the rule revision process.
13. BCWD Board and staff reviewed actions and program achievement of the existing management plan and determined priorities in the 2006 work plan as an element in budget development. After discussion and appropriate public input, a 2006 budget of \$751,450 was established with no increase in levee percentage per \$100,000 assessment.