

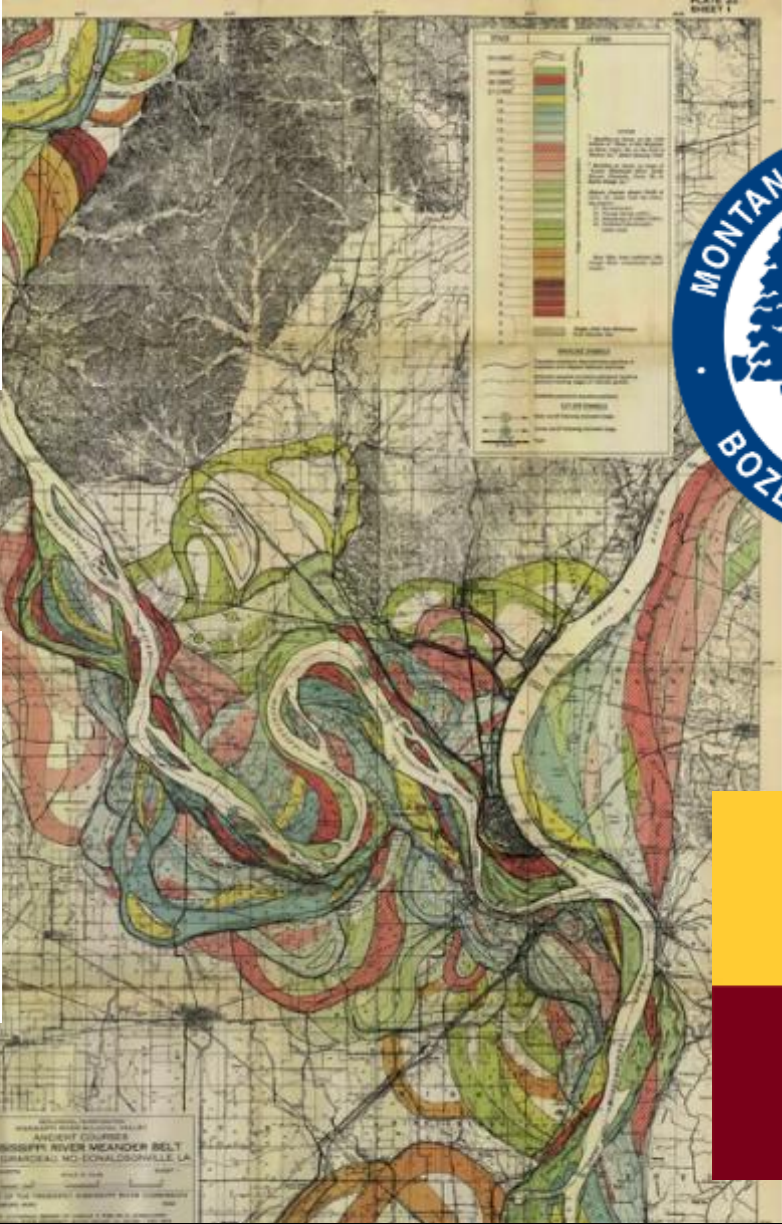


PARTNER GRANT INFORMATION SESSION

FEBRUARY 4, 2025

LINDSAY SCHWANTES
COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM
MANAGER





Lindsay Schwantes
Community Engagement Program Manager

Image source: Harold Fisk Mississippi River Print – sheet 1,



Info Session Agenda

- About CRWD
- Partner Grant Program
 - Program Goals
 - Eligibility
 - CRWD Mission and WMP themes
 - Grant terms
 - Eligible Expenses
 - Elements of strong grant applications
- Questions

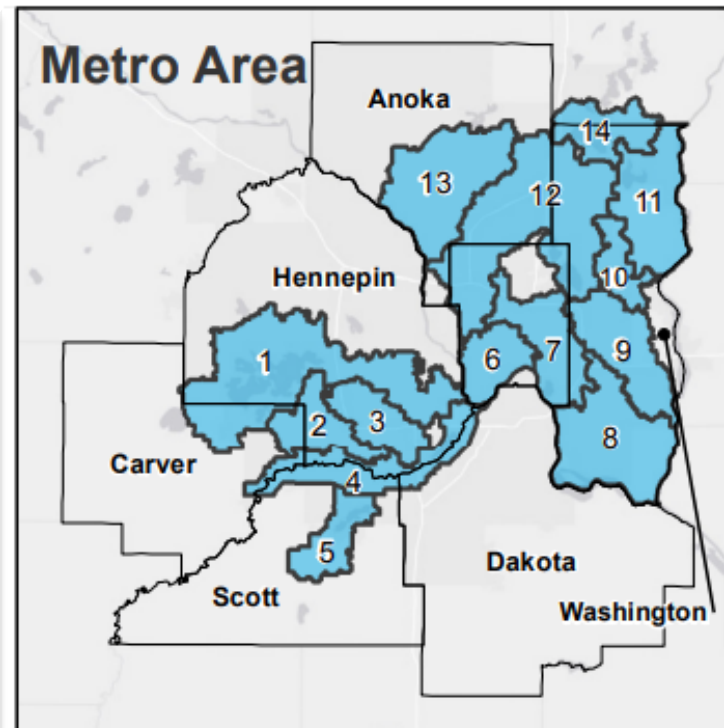
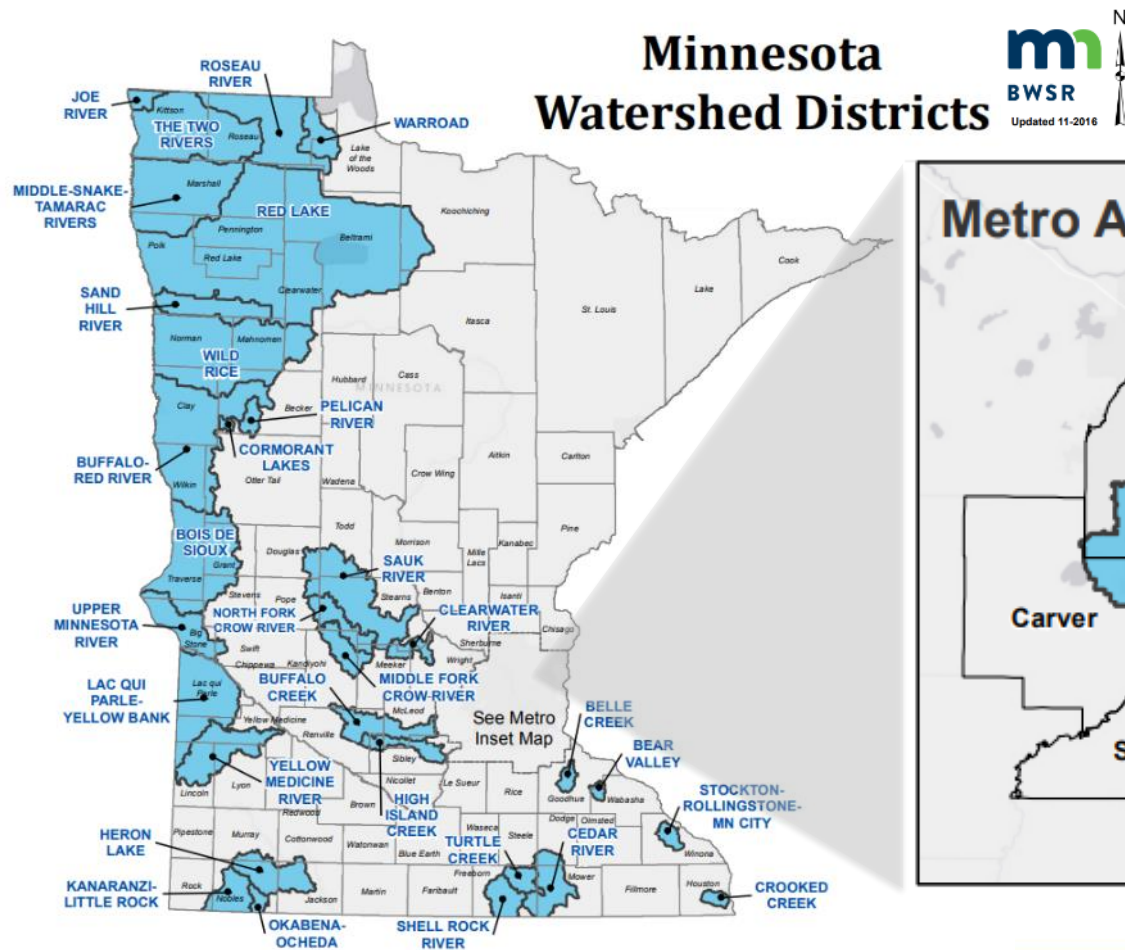


Land Acknowledgement

De Dakota Makóče, this is Dakota Land

CRWD would like to acknowledge the Dakota peoples on whose land we work. We thank the Dakota peoples and their relatives for their care of the land, and we recognize their continuing connection to the land, waters, and community. We pay our respects to Dakota people and their culture; past, present, and future. We pledge to treat this land honorably and respectfully.

Watershed Districts and Watershed Management Organizations in the State of Minnesota and Metro



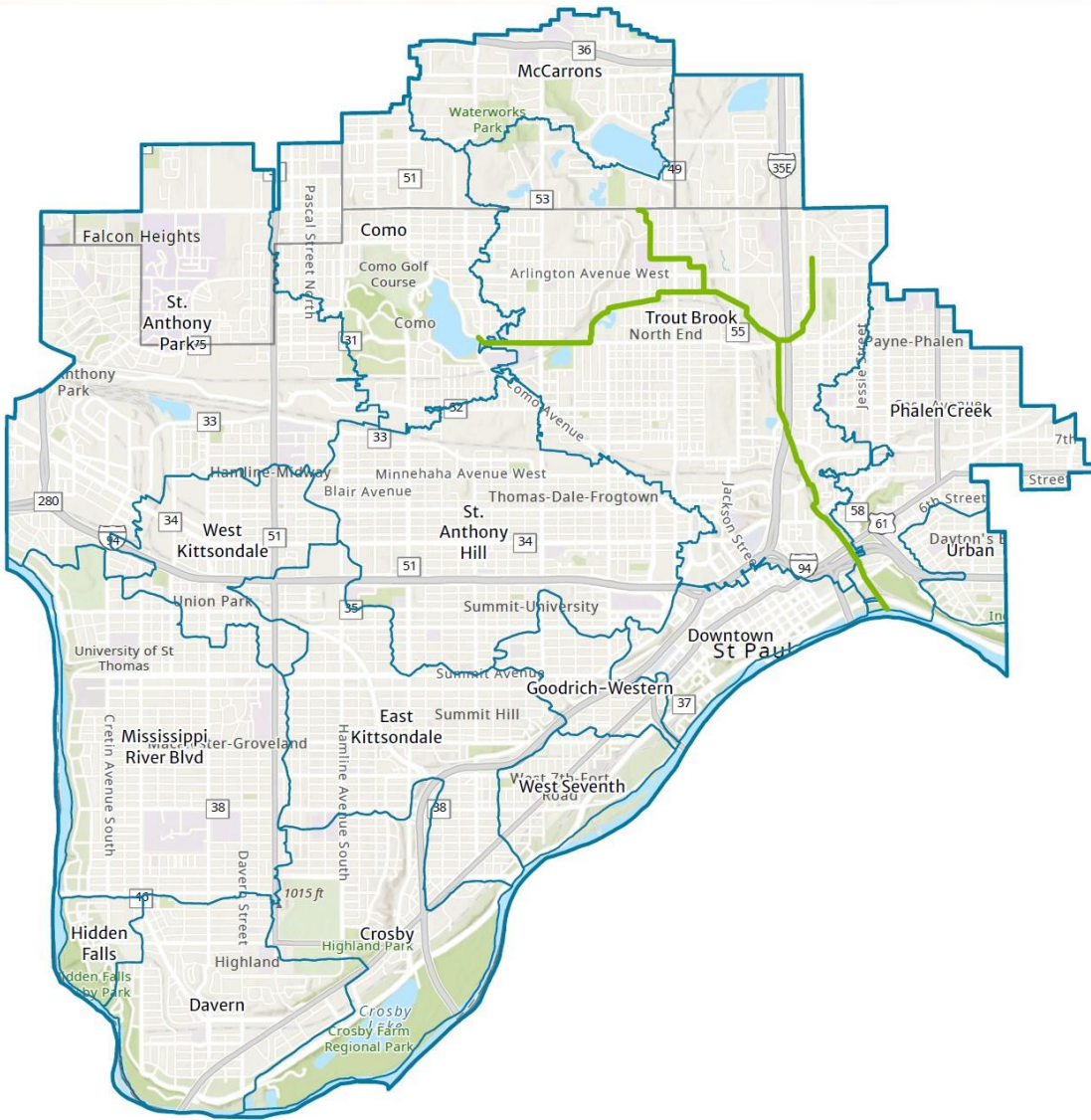
Metro Watershed Districts

- 1, MINNEHAHA CREEK
- 2, RILEY-PURGATORY-BLUFF CREEK
- 3, NINE MILE CREEK
- 4, LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER
- 5, PRIOR LAKE-SPRING LAKE
- 6, CAPITOL REGION
- 7, RAMSEY-WASHINGTON METRO
- 8, SOUTH WASHINGTON
- 9, VALLEY BRANCH
- 10, BROWNS CREEK
- 11, CARNELIAN-MARINE-ST. CROIX
- 12, RICE CREEK
- 13, COON CREEK
- 14, COMFORT LAKE FOREST LAKE



About CRWD

- 41 square miles
- 5 cities
- 212,000 residents
- 5 Lakes
- 1 Mighty Mississippi
- 11 Wetlands
- 19 miles of shoreline
- 500 miles of storm sewers
- 42% hard surfaces



CRWD Mission & Programs



- **Regulatory:** Watershed rules and permitting
- **Monitoring:** Stormwater, lake, river and Best Management Practice (BMP) monitoring
- **Projects, Planning & Grants:** Water resource improvement projects and assistance
- **Communications & Engagement:** Education and outreach programs
- **Facility Management:** Operate and maintain CRWD owned stormwater practices and assist public partners with coordination of maintenance activities.

All of CRWD drains to the Mississippi River





Partner Grant Program Goals

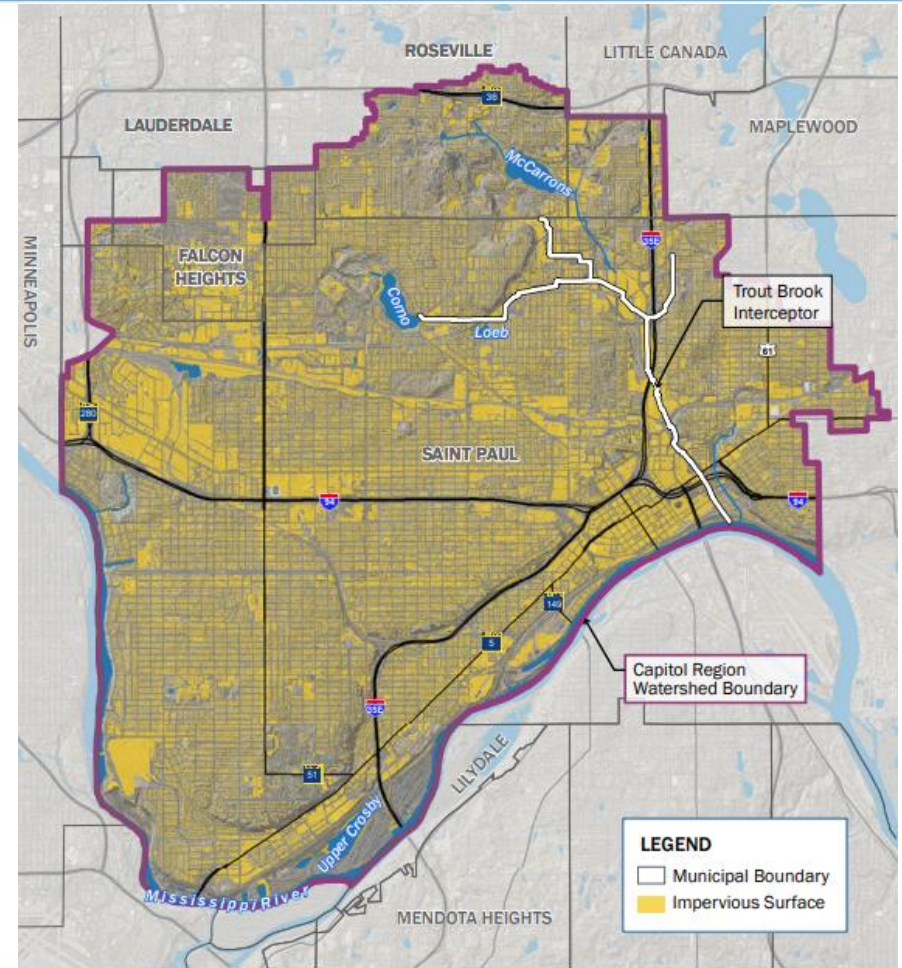
Partner Grants fund programs and projects led by public, private and non-profit organizations that increase clean water knowledge and actions.



Partner Grant Program Goals

Watershed Management Plan – Communications & Engagement Issues:

1. Engagement in activities and actions that protect and improve water resources is not happening to the extent possible due to many factors including lack of community awareness, ability, interest and proximity to water.



Partner Grant Program Goals

Watershed Management Plan –
Communications & Engagement
Issues:

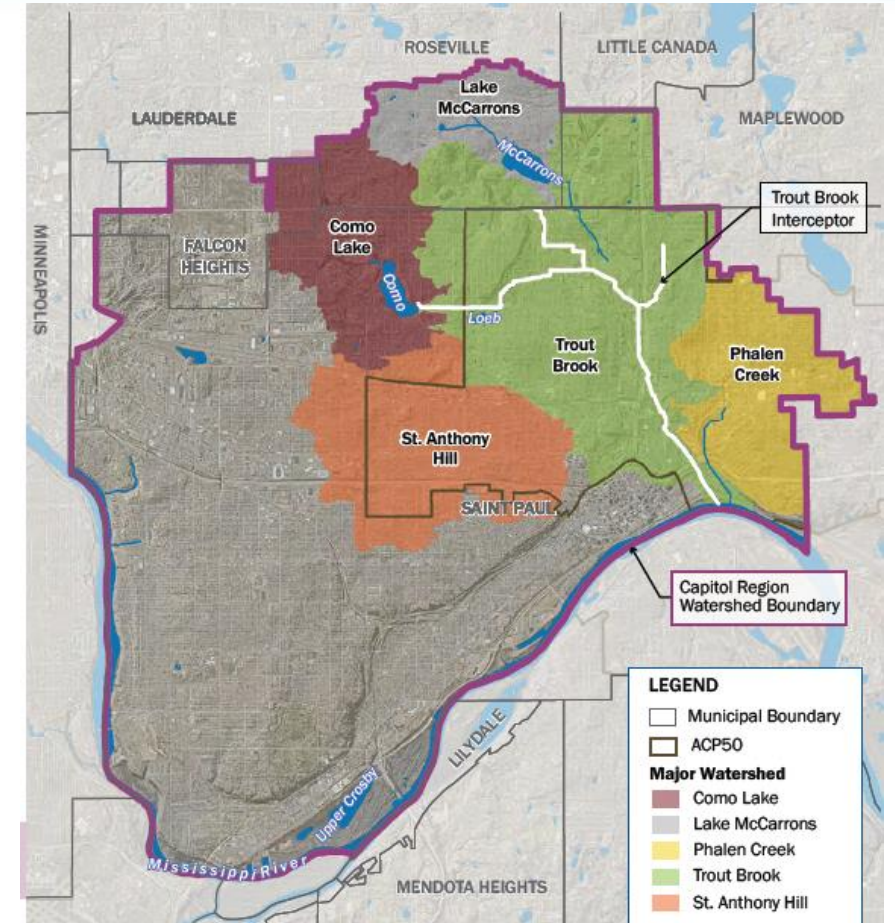
2. The work of the District is not fully
visible to our stakeholders.



Partner Grant Program Goals

Watershed Management Plan – Communications & Engagement Issues:

3. The District is not effectively engaging residents in the central and eastern portions of the District, people of color, recent immigrants, young adults and youth.



Partner Grant Program Goals

Watershed Management Plan – Communications & Engagement Issues:

4. The District needs to establish ways to acknowledge Dakota land and promote connections with the historical and cultural connections to place.



Partner Grant Program Goals

Watershed Management Plan – Communications & Engagement Issues:

5. Relationships with community groups serving diverse audiences, media, and elected officials—necessary to achieve water quality goals—are lacking.



Partner Grant Eligibility

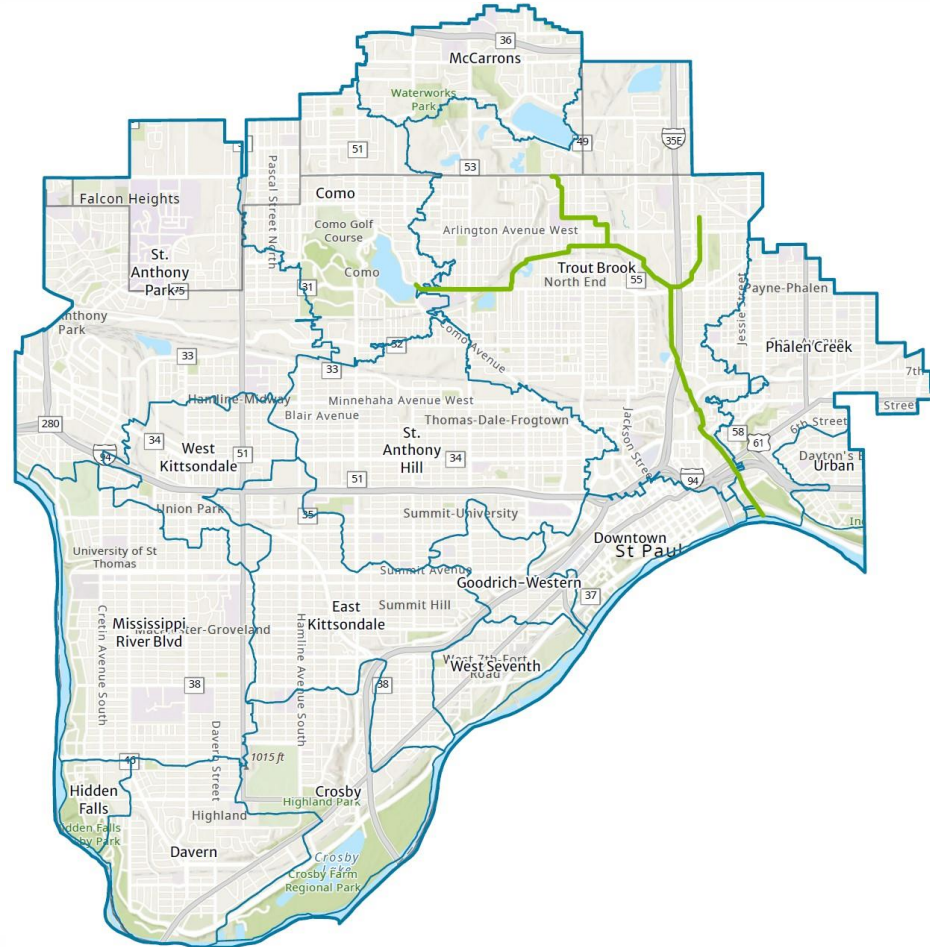
- Public, private, or non-profit organizations may apply.
- The projects must be located within CRWD.
- Attendance or viewing of the 2025 Partner Grant Information Session on February 4 from 3:00-5:00 p.m., is required for all applicants.
- Submit applications received through the online Partner Grant Application.
- Partner Grant Agreement to understand our contracting terms before applying.



Partner Grant CRWD Mission and Themes

Mission:

To protect, manage,
and improve the
water resources of
CRWD and the
Mississippi River.



Partner Grant

CRWD Mission and Themes

WMP Themes:

1. To bring water back
2. Rain as a Resource
3. Community equity and engaging underrepresented groups
4. Recreation
5. Quality of life
6. Climate change and community resilience
7. Partnerships
8. Innovation
9. Adaptive management



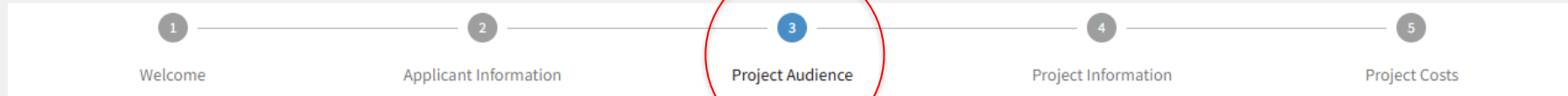


Partner Grant Program WMP Themes

Partner Grant Application Form

IMPORTANT: The application cannot be saved as you work on it. An application template is available on [CRWD's website](#) for reference and a copy of your application will be emailed to you upon submittal.

Required Fields are marked with an asterisk (*)



Project Audience

Your answers below will be used to further understand the audiences served by CRWD's Partner Grant Program and improve our communications and engagement.

Age of participants served by this project, check all that apply*

- 18 years or less
- 19-24 years
- 25-34 years
- 35-44 years
- 45-54 years
- 55-64 years
- 65-74 years
- 75 years or above

Required

Race/Ethnicity of the audiences served by this project, check all that apply*

- White or Caucasian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Asian or Asian American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Middle Eastern or North African
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

Required

Identify the neighborhood, community or focus area served by your project. Additional consideration given to CRWD priority areas. ?

Required

List the languages of primary audience served by this project ? *

Required

Expected number of people served with CRWD funding ? *

Required

If other races or ethnicities are served by this proposal, please list here

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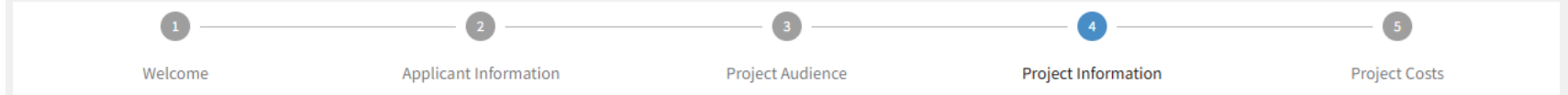
Partner Grant Program WMP Themes



Partner Grant Application Form

IMPORTANT: The application cannot be saved as you work on it. An application template is available on [CRWD's website](#) for reference and a copy of your application will be emailed to you upon submittal.

Required Fields are marked with an asterisk (*)



Project Information

Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) Partner Grants support programs and projects led by public, private and non-profit organizations that increase clean water knowledge and actions. Project proposals must incorporate key themes outlined in CRWD's 10-Year Watershed Management Plan and serve residents within our geographic boundaries to be considered for funding. Projects will receive full, or no funding, so please make clear connections between your proposal request and expected outcomes. Lastly, CRWD will only use the project information provided in your application during proposal review to ensure equal consideration is given to new and returning applicants.

Project Name *

Required

Project connection to CRWD Watershed Management Plan, check all that apply *

CRWD's Watershed Management Plan identifies the themes listed below. CRWD's review process will evaluate proposals' alignment with these themes. Please select all themes that connect to your project.

- Bring Water Back** - The District's goal is to bring water back to the consciousness of the community by restoring resources and engaging residents.
- Rain as a Resource** - By using natural methods to collect and reuse rainwater, the District will reduce the amount of stormwater runoff, minimize flooding and improve water quality.
- Climate Change Resilience** - As our climate changes over time, the District will prioritize sustainable ways to lessen impacts to the watershed and in our community.
- Community Equity and Engaging Underrepresented Groups** - The District will prioritize engaging residents to the central and eastern portion of the District, including people of color, immigrants, younger generations, and those living in poverty.
- Recreation** - Water and natural resources are important recreational assets. The District will support efforts to improve water-based recreation opportunities as a way to connect District residents to water resources.
- Quality of Life** - Healthy natural resources positively impact the quality of life for District residents beyond providing ecological benefits and can decrease urban heat island effects and reduce flood risk.
- Partnership** - The District will continue to foster new and existing partnerships with our cities, government agencies, institutions, neighborhood groups, and residents to protect and improve the District's water resources.
- Innovation** - The District will strive to stay informed about advances in science, design, and engineering related to water resource management and apply these innovations in our work.
- Adaptive Management** - The District recognizes that water and natural resources are living systems that may require adjustments to planned activities based on the latest data.

Required

Have you received a Partner Grant from CRWD in the past? *

Yes No

Required

Partner Grant Program WMP Themes

Project Summary *

Word Count: 0 out of 250

Required

Describe how your project helps CRWD's mission to protect, manage, and improve water resources of the District. *

Word Count: 0 out of 250

Required

Project Outcomes *

Word Count: 0 out of 250

Required

Partner Grant Grant Terms

1. CRWD will fund up to 10 proposals.
2. Grantees can apply for \$10,000 – \$40,000.
3. Applicants will receive full or no funding.
4. The grant term will span two years: from the time of an executed agreement through November 30, 2026. Work can span the two-year term or be a one-time event.
5. Applicants should only include deliverables and outcomes expected as a result of CRWD funding. This information will be used to determine the cost per participant and to compare project deliverables across proposals during the review process.



Partner Grant Grant Terms

6. Applicants should designate if they would like a 25% upfront payment on their application.
7. An annual report is due no later than November 30 each year.
8. Grantees have the option to submit quarterly invoicing for work completed to be reimbursed throughout the term of your grant.
9. If funded, grantees must submit their final report and receive reimbursement prior to applying for another grant.



Partner Grant Program Grant Terms

Project Outcomes ? *

Word Count: 0 out of 250

Required

Project Schedule ? *

Word Count: 0 out of 250

Required

List any other project partners and describe their involvement

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Partner Grant Eligible Expenses

Staff time and material expenses are eligible for reimbursement.

The screenshot shows the 'Partner Grant Application Form' interface for the Capitol Region Watershed District. The header includes the district logo and the MS4Front logo. A progress bar at the top indicates five steps: 1. Welcome, 2. Applicant Information, 3. Project Audience, 4. Project Information, and 5. Project Costs. The current step is 'Project Costs'. Below the progress bar, there is an important notice: 'IMPORTANT: The application cannot be saved as you work on it. An application template is available on CRWD's website for reference and a copy of your application will be emailed to you upon submittal. Required Fields are marked with an asterisk (*)'.

Total Project Costs
Please create and upload a project budget using the form linked below; [Partner Grant Project Budget Template](#). Then enter the totals for staff time and material expenses on this page. Complete your budget details to the best of your ability with your expectations. Specific suppliers or retailers do not need to be listed unless already known and confirmed.

[Partner Grant Project Budget Template](#)

[Add Budget Attachment](#)

Name	Date Added	Type
No Attachments Added		

Total Requested Funding for Staff*

Required

Total Requested Funding for Materials or Other Expenses*

Required

Total Requested CRWD Funding

[Back](#) [Submit Partner Grant Application to CRWD](#)



Partner Grant

Submitting a strong proposal

1. Clearly connect your project to our mission and management plan themes.
2. Present realistic outcomes.
3. Consider key audiences and geographies identified by CRWD.
4. Ask questions – Program staff want to hear from you!



Questions

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