

# **The City of Ramsey Surface Water Management Plan**

## **Project 14-31 October 21, 2015**

I hereby certify that this plan, specification, or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision, and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

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## **APPENDICES**

- Appendix A - Ramsey Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (not included)
- Appendix B - Comment Letters

## **I. PURPOSE OF PLAN**

The purpose of this Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) is to promote, preserve and enhance the natural resources within the City of Ramsey. The City will protect water quality and unique and fragile environmentally sensitive land from adverse effects that can potentially be caused by poorly sited development or incompatible activities. The City proposes to accomplish this by regulating land disturbances and development activities.

This plan was originally prepared in 2008 by Bolton and Menk, Inc. (the “2008 Plan”). This document is intended to update the 2008 Plan as required (the “2015 Update”). The City has prepared the 2015 Update utilizing the 2008 baseline data prepared by Bolton and Menk.

Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410 (Metropolitan Area Local Water Management) requires specific elements to be addressed in local water management plans. The various chapters of this report are designed to address each element required under these rules. In addition, this plan follows the Metropolitan Council’s 2040 Water Resources Management Policy Plan requirements. At the time of drafting of this report, the Metropolitan Council was in the process of completing the 2040 Water Resources Policy Plan, which replaces the plan mentioned in this paragraph. As part of the City’s 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update, the City will review the need to update this document. IN 2002, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency designated the City of Ramsey as a mandatory Municipally Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) community needing to submit a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit regulating its storm water runoff. As such, the City submitted a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) with its permit application in 2003. The permit was reissued in 2006 and 2013. The City has update the SWPPP to meet the requirements of each reissue. Accordingly, an additional purpose of this SWMP is to control or eliminate storm water pollution. Key contributors to storm water pollution are soil erosion and sedimentation. The city-wide SWPPP incorporates ordinance changes that address erosion control, sedimentation associated with construction activities as well as illicit discharges to surface waters, all primary contributors of storm water pollution.

The City’s goal is to minimize conflicts and encourage compatibility between land disturbing activities, water quality and environmentally sensitive lands. This will be accomplished through detailed development ordinances, plan review standards and recommended pollution control procedures in an effort to strike a balance between urban growth and the protection of water quality and natural areas. This SWMP, in conjunction with the policies set forth in the City ordinances, establishes standards and specifications for conservation practices and planning activities to minimize storm water pollution, soil erosion and sedimentation.

This submittal is a culmination of research, mapping, land use analysis/planning and hydraulic design. The end product is a detailed design tool that can be used by the City of Ramsey in planning growth and infrastructure replacement. This summary report represents only a small part of the total work product created through the master planning process. The current City ordinances have also been revisited as part of this process, as they are the best means to implement the recommendations made in this report.

Following the approval of this SWMP by the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization (LRRWMO), the City will have administrative authority for the approved SWMP and ordinances. The City will also have the duty to enforce the SWMP and associated ordinances. The City places a high priority in improving impaired waters and intends to work with the LRRWMO and other agencies to achieve water quality goals by reducing the impact created by the City.

## II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### A. Plan Purpose and Background

Storm water regulations have changed significantly since the original Comprehensive Storm Drainage Plan was approved in 1980 and the southeast growth area was revisited in 1997 and 2002. The plan was updated in 2008 and renamed the Storm Water Management Plan. The following is a listing of those regulatory changes:

#### 1. 1982

The *Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act* was passed. The Act was originally included in Minnesota Statute Chapter 509. The Act was recreated and modified in 1990 and became Minnesota Statute 103B.205 to 103B.255.

Originally, the former State of Minnesota Water Resources Board oversaw implementation of the act. When that board was merged with two other boards to form the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources in 1987, the Board of Water and Soil Resources assumed responsibility for the act. Forty-six watershed management organizations (36 joint powers Watershed Management Organizations and 10 Watershed Districts) were originally responsible for preparing plans to:

- protect, preserve, and use natural surface and groundwater storage and retention systems
- minimize public capital expenditures needed to correct flooding and water quality problems
- identify and plan for means to effectively protect and improve surface and groundwater quality
- establish more uniform local policies and official controls for surface and groundwater management
- prevent erosion of soil into surface water systems
- promote groundwater recharge
- protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and water recreational facilities
- secure the other benefits associated with the proper management of surface and groundwater<sup>1</sup>

#### 2. 1985

The Lower Rum River Water Management Organization (LRRWMO) was formed to meet the requirements of the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act.

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<sup>1</sup> Excerpt taken from the Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources Website:  
<http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/watermgmt/metroareasurface.html>

3. 1987

The Federal Clean Water Act was amended to address storm water as a pollution source. This resulted in the EPA developing a NPDES Phase I permit that targeted Cities with populations in excess of 100,000. As a result, in 1991, Minneapolis and St. Paul were required to apply for permits. One permit requirement was the development of a city-wide Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that included approximately 30 mandatory Best Management Practices (BMPs) addressing everything from education and good housekeeping for municipal operations to mandatory city ordinances.

4. 1991

The Minnesota Legislature passed the Wetlands Conservation Act (WCA). The WCA is administered according to Minnesota Rules Chapter 8420 to implement the purpose of the Act, which is to:

- Achieve no net loss in the quantity, quality, and biological diversity of Minnesota's existing wetlands
- Increase the quantity, quality and biological diversity of Minnesota wetlands by restoring or enhancing diminished or drained wetlands;
- Avoid direct and indirect impacts from activities that destroy or diminish the quantity, quality, or biological diversity of wetlands
- Replace wetland values where avoidance of activities is not feasible and prudent.<sup>2</sup>

5. 1992

The Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR) developed Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410. This set of rules consists of 18 parts that define the scope, general structure and content required for BWSR approval of a Local Surface Water Management Plan. The table of contents of this report and the content within each chapter has been structured to meet MN Rule 8410 as well as the specific requirements of the City of Ramsey.

6. 2003

NPDES Phase II, the second round of the 1987 Federal Clean Water Act amendment, targeted cities with populations over 10,000. The City submitted a permit application and SWPPP in accordance with MPCA deadlines.

The City finalized its most recent SWPPP in 2013. That SWPPP is attached in Appendix A to this report.

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<sup>2</sup> Excerpt taken from the University of Minnesota Duluth website:  
[http://www.d.umn.edu/fm/safety\\_envir/wetlands/pdf\\_pages/4.0%20Wetland%20Regulations.pdf](http://www.d.umn.edu/fm/safety_envir/wetlands/pdf_pages/4.0%20Wetland%20Regulations.pdf)

7. 2005

The Metropolitan Council has requirements for local governments to include local water management plans as part of their Comprehensive Plans. The Metropolitan Council does not have authority to set policy or administer local storm water regulations. This Surface Water Management Plan Update is designed to address current requirements governing local water management plans. The general boundary of the plan includes all property within the City limits of Ramsey. When accepted by all local, regional, state and federal agencies having jurisdiction, the City of Ramsey will be the sole responsible party for administering this plan.

8. 2012

The Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization adopted their Third Generation Plan. The new plan requires infiltration for new and redeveloped sites, use of the Atlas-14 rainfall distributions and reductions in Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and Total Phosphorus (TP) for runoff discharged from new permitted projects.

**B. General Content of Required Local Plans**

This SWMP follows the general report structure listed in Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410.0170, the general requirements in Minnesota Statute sections 103B.205 - 103B.255, and the Metropolitan Council's requirements for local water management plans as adopted May 2005 as part of the Metropolitan Council's *Water Resources Management Plan*. As stated above, the City will update this plan subsequent to the adoption of the Metropolitan Council's 2040 Water Resources Policy Plan.

**C. Summary of the Goals, Problems, and Potential Solutions**

The general findings of this Surface Water Management Plan report are summarized as follows:

1. Ramsey is located in the Anoka Sand Plain. The area is well known for its highly permeable soil. As such, the runoff from significant rainfalls is generally reduced to the extent that the existing drainage network functions well with no significant flooding outside the Mississippi River, Rum River, Trott Brook, Ford Brook, County Ditch 43 and County Ditch 66 flood plains.

Because of the pervious nature of the Anoka Sand Plain, the City will need to review its development ordinances to mitigate the adverse effect that a significant increase in impervious surfacing and mass grading can have on runoff conditions. The addition of significant amounts of impervious surfaces and the reduced permeability associated with the soil compaction in mass grading without a reasonable attempt to restore or duplicate the current infiltration pattern could create very significant increases in runoff volumes and downstream flooding. This is especially true in the Trott Brook, D66, EMISS and WMISS watersheds (see Figure 9), where improvements in uppermost watershed limits must flow a significant distance to the ultimate watershed outlet. The longer flow path associated with each of these watersheds allows greater opportunities for peak flows from conventional detention ponds to coincide.

One solution to the problem of coincident peak flows is the use of low impact development techniques. There are a variety of low impact development techniques. The current low-density residential developments in northern

Ramsey are a close approximation of what a low impact development can be like. This area has a noticeably lesser storm water impact than that of either high-density residential developments or commercial/industrial developments.

However, Ramsey's land use plan creates a variety of land use types in which low-density residential is not planned for all areas of the community. With these development plans in mind to balance low impact development with the City's economic development goals, the City must consider other techniques to encourage maximized infiltration of storm water.

This report recommends modifying the current development ordinances to encourage infiltration and soil ripping of mass grading to compensate for lost infiltration conditions as well as requiring oversized retention ponding to mitigate and compensate for increases in runoff. Innovative solutions to the storm water runoff increases associated with the increase in impervious surface will be investigated and encouraged when deemed appropriate. Potential solutions include pervious pavements, rain gardens, infiltration basins and low impact development among others.

2. An integral part of this SWMP is updating the comprehensive storm water runoff modeling performed in 2008. The 2008 modeling effort captured the existing conditions throughout the entire city. This modeling includes:
  - a. Mapping out the small watersheds draining to general collection points such as low points in roadways and intersections, wetlands or ponds.
  - b. Estimating the runoff from the 2, 10 and 100-year rainfall events.
  - c. Routing the runoff through the existing system.

The existing system may be a pipe network, a pond, a wetland or a waterway. The modeling predicts the high water levels and flows associated with each rainfall event modeled.

This modeling provides a baseline for comparison purposes as new developments change the drainage pattern. With this modeling information, City staff can readily review the cumulative impacts of large developments for effects on the baseline conditions across the entire watershed.

Storm and Sanitary Analysis (SSA) software was used in the comprehensive modeling. This software is based on the industry standard EPASWMM process and the St. Venant equations. The model can be used to input actual rainfall events from rain gauges and can model the transport of pollutants through the system. This will be very useful in evaluating the BMP measures to address future TMDLs.

3. Where the cumulative effect of regulated development is potential flooding, the recommended practice is the construction of retention ponds or detention basins, including infiltration, as a requirement of further development of the outlying growth areas. It is further recommended that the post construction peak outflows from new developments be limited to no more than the existing peak flow for the 2-, 10-, and 100-year storms. The Third Generation Lower Rum River Watershed Management Plan requires infiltration of the first 1" of runoff from new impervious surfaces. This will better mitigate the cumulative effects of increased impervious surfacing and increased runoff volume from new developments.

Because the majority of the area is served by large stream/wetland complexes, regional ponding is not possible for a significant part of the city. Where they are possible, the creation of regional ponds is preferred because of the limited maintenance (compared to a multitude of individual development ponds) and the opportunity to control larger drainage areas. By contrast, a multitude of scattered ponds associated with each individual site development may be designed to reduce the peak outflow for its smaller area, by storing the excess runoff and releasing it at a lesser rate for a longer duration. This longer pond outflow duration may coincide with the reduced peak flows from other individual site ponds and create a larger combined peak flow than the original undeveloped condition. Hence, regional ponds are recommended where physically possible, because of the opportunity to control the runoff on a larger scale and ensure that the downstream system is not adversely impacted by uncoordinated development that meets a typical runoff ordinance. The greater control afforded by regional ponds may also reduce the flows to the downstream system and allow for decreased costs in downstream infrastructure improvements.

4. The proposed infiltration requirements and pond network is part of the goal of accommodating continued responsible growth. Revisions will be required as formal developer layouts are presented to the City. Although this plan forms a sound basis for future development, it is important to remain flexible in finding ways to manage runoff while still accommodating the continued development of the city.
5. The maps attached at the end of this report are for general illustration purposes. As part of the plan development, large scale maps and GIS compatible files have been prepared as part of the 2008 SWMP and updated with preparation of this plan. The GIS maps and files show more detailed information including watershed areas, proposed pond areas and storage volumes, estimated flow rates into and out of the proposed ponds for both the existing and developed conditions, proposed interconnecting pipe sizes between ponds, etc.
6. The City will pursue outside funding to help finance the recommended capital improvements described in this plan. Local financing will most likely come from a combination of storm sewer trunk fees and the City's storm water utility fund.  
  
Any determined storm water management charges or area charges to new developments should be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that changes in land acquisition, construction cost, bonding cost, legal cost, etc. are included in the computed fee.
7. The 2008 SWMP included a complete wetland functions and values assessment as part of a greater wetlands management plan.  
  
The wetland buffers recommended in the Wetlands Function assessment were approved by City Council when the 2008 SWMP was approved. Further review of the buffers by the City Council resulted in a policy decision to delay the implementation of the wetland buffers recommendations.  
  
Wetlands are to be further protected by controlling discharges from developing areas. The proposed controls include pretreatment BMPs and runoff controls designed to maintain the current hydrology and maintain or improve the current functions and values of the wetland.

**D. Amendments and Updates**

This report is intended for the coverage period to 2022. It should be considered as a working document that should be updated and amended in accordance with the procedures described in Section IX. Amendment will be needed as development progresses and actual new development data is integrated into the overall model.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has not completed total maximum daily load (TMDL) studies for the impaired waters within the city boundaries of Ramsey (see Table 15 for the list), and is still completing the TMDL study of Lake Pepin (downstream from Ramsey). The Lake Pepin TMDL may have a major impact on all NPDES permittees in the metro area. The City of Ramsey is aware of the potential need to amend the local water management plan prior to 2022 based on the implications and requirements of the Lake Pepin TMDL and the TMDLs for the impaired waters within the city.

The City has updated the SWPPP in accordance with the reissuance of the MS4 permit in 2013. The SWPPP addresses the education components required by the surface water management plan.

### III. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS AFFECTING PLAN

The following is a brief summary of the primary Statutes and Rules governing storm water management in the 7-County metropolitan area. These requirements establish and control the content of this plan and cite objectives regarding surface water management:

#### A. Minnesota Rules Chapter 8410.0170

These rules outline the structure of a SWMP. Each SWMP must have the following at a minimum:

1. A purpose statement outlining the purposes of the water management programs required by MN Statute sections 103B.205 - 103B.255.
2. A section of water resource related agreements
3. A land and water resource inventory (required by part 8410.0060)
4. A section on the establishment of policies and goals
5. A section on assessment of problems
6. A section on corrective actions
7. A section on financial considerations
8. An implementation program discussing which components of the implementation program the City will prioritize
9. A section on the City's amendment procedures

This document is intended to meet these rules and hence each requirement is included.

#### B. Minnesota Statute 103B.235

This state law predates Minnesota Rule 8410 and includes additional requirements as follows:

1. Subdivision 1 - Requirement states that the City of Ramsey is required to submit a watershed management plan because it is within the 7-County metropolitan area.
2. Subdivision 2 - Contents states that the SWMP shall:
  - a. Describe existing and proposed physical environment and land use;
  - b. Define drainage areas and the volumes, rates, and paths of storm water runoff;
  - c. Identify areas and elevations for storm water storage adequate to meet performance standards established in the watershed plan;
  - d. Define water quantity and water quality protection methods adequate to meet performance standards established in the watershed plan;
  - e. Identify regulated areas; and
  - f. Set forth an implementation program, including a description of official controls and, as appropriate, a capital improvement program.
3. Subdivision 3 - Review states that, after consideration but before adoption by the governing body, the City shall submit its SWMP to the area water management organization (WMO) for review for consistency with the watershed plan adopted

pursuant to section [103B.231](#). The Lower Rum River Water Management Organization (LRRWMO) has WMO jurisdiction in Ramsey. According to the statute, the LRRWMO must approve or disapprove the plan or parts of the plan. The LRRWMO has 60 days to complete its review; provided, however, that the LRRWMO shall, as part of its review, take into account the comments submitted to it by the Metropolitan Council pursuant to subdivision 3a. If the WMO fails to complete its review within the prescribed period, the SWMP shall be deemed approved unless the City agrees to an extension.

- 3a. Subdivision 3a - Review by Metropolitan Council states that the City shall submit its SWMP to the Metropolitan Council for review and comment. The council shall have 45 days to review and comment upon the SWMP or parts of the plan with respect to consistency with the Metropolitan Council's comprehensive development guide for the metropolitan area. The Metropolitan Council's 45-day review period shall run concurrently with the 60-day review period by the LRRWMO. The Metropolitan Council shall submit its comments to the LRRWMO and shall send a copy of its comments to the City. If the Metropolitan Council fails to complete its review and make comments to the LRRWMO within the 45-day period, the LRRWMO shall complete its review as provided in subdivision 3 of State Statute 103B.235.
4. Subdivision 4 - Adoption and Implementation requires the City to adopt and implement its plan within 120 days after approval of the SWMP by the LRRWMO and to amend its official controls accordingly within 180 days.
5. Subdivision 5 - Amendments states that to the extent and in the manner required by the LRRWMO, all major amendments to the SWMP shall be submitted to the LRRWMO for review and approval in accordance with the provisions of State Statute 103B.235, subdivisions 3 and 3a for the review of plans. All minor amendments will be reviewed and approved by the City Council.

All of these required MS 103B.235 items are covered in this document.

#### C. **Local Ordinances**

The City of Ramsey will administer and enforce the water resource-related ordinances under the direction and control of, and subject to the powers expressly reserved to, the City Council. Following approval of this SWMP and ordinances, the City shall have administrative authority for the approved SWMP and ordinances. The Applicant, permittee or any other person or political subdivision with an interest in the determination of the City's interpretation or application of these ordinances may file a written appeal to the City Council within fifteen (15) business days of said determination. Said appeal shall state the specific grounds upon which the appeal is based. Within thirty (30) days of the date of receipt of the appeal, the City shall schedule the appeal for a regular or special meeting of the City Council. The City Council shall make its decision to affirm, reverse, or remand the determination by adopting a resolution stating findings of fact.

**D. Total Maximum Daily Loads and Impaired Waters**

The 1987 amendment to the Federal Clean Water Act required all impaired waters to be corrected. In making rules to meet the 1987 Amendment, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) first set criteria to determine a list of impaired waters depending on the potential use of the water. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) worked to set guidelines to establish intended uses for the waters of the state and then set acceptable water quality criteria. After testing to determine the water quality, waters failing to meet the water quality criteria are placed on the 303d Impaired Waters list that is submitted to the EPA. Table 15 in Section IV, page 16 of this report, lists the current (2006) MPCA 303d Impaired Waters in Ramsey. It should be noted that, as of 2007, only about 25% of the waters of the State of Minnesota had been tested. Hence, the impaired waters list is likely to increase in the Ramsey area.

The process to remedy the impairment includes establishing a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) allocation to each contributor to the problem. A TMDL is a calculation that determines the allowable pollutant load that can be discharged into the impaired water so that the limited load will ensure that the water improves to levels where it is no longer impaired. The typical process is initiated by the MPCA and includes a series of stakeholder meetings to formulate viable solutions and mutually work out a reasonable allocation of acceptable pollutant loading.

**E. Specific Lakes and Streams with Water Quality Problems**

Since a TMDL study has not been completed for the known impaired waters in Ramsey and downstream from Ramsey (such as Lake Pepin), the City should identify the priority it places on addressing impaired waters and how the City intends to participate in the development or implementation of TMDL projects. The Rum River and Mississippi River watersheds are too large for the City of Ramsey to take the lead on the TMDL Stakeholder process for these two waters. It is recommended that the City volunteers to participate in the Stakeholder process for these waters. Through this SWMP, the City of Ramsey has the capability of modeling contaminant transport using the SSA model. The City will work with the LRRWMO and the MPCA to formulate a TMDL for the impaired Rogers Lake.

Once a TMDL study is completed for the impaired water, the City must include, in this SWMP and its City-wide SWPPP, an implementation strategy including funding mechanisms that will allow the implementation of the TMDL requirements. As MPCA completes its TMDL process for each impaired water, the implementation of the measures to meet the TMDL will immediately become a priority item for the City of Ramsey.

**F. Lower Rum River Water Management Organization**

The City of Ramsey entered into a Joint and Cooperative Agreement for the Establishment of the *Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization to Plan, Control and Provide for the Development of the Lower Rum River Watershed* in June of 1995. The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources officially signed the Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Order accepting the Second Generation Watershed Management Plan on August 26, 1998. The LRRWMO updated its plan in 2012. The LRRWMO's plan update will trigger the mandatory re-evaluation and potential need for an update of the City's SWMP within two years from the date the LRRWMO's plan is approved by BWSR. Update of the City's SWMP was delayed to incorporate the requirements associated with the reissuance of the MS4 permit in 2013.

## G. NPDES Requirements

In 1987, the US Congress amended the Clean Water Act to include storm water pollution and directed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to initiate rulemaking. The first round of EPA rules were implemented in 1991 when NPDES Phase I permits were required for all cities exceeding 100,000 in population. Phase II was implemented in 2003 and targeted all cities with populations exceeding 10,000. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) assumed responsibility for implementing the rules and issuing all Phase II permits. The City of Ramsey was required to submit a permit for its Municipally Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) in March of 2003. The permit was reissued in 2006 and 2013. The permit required the City of Ramsey to meet six minimum storm water control measures as follows:

1. Public education and outreach
2. Public participation and involvement
3. Detection and elimination of illegal discharges
4. Control of large construction sites runoff
5. Post construction storm water management
6. Pollution prevention or housekeeping for municipal operations

To show that the City of Ramsey is committed to implementing its Phase II permit, it was required to submit a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP), which is essentially a list of promised steps the City proposes to make to meet these minimum control measures. The promises are in the form of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be implemented at specified times over the life of the permit.

In general, the NPDES storm water discharge permit program is designed to reduce adverse impacts to water quality. The primary targets of acceptable storm water management plans are urban runoff and construction runoff. This is because urban runoff carries pollutants from cars, lawn fertilizers, pesticide spills and other contaminants into our lakes, wetlands and streams without entering wastewater treatment systems. Construction runoff is often laden with sediment caused by large amounts of un-vegetated soil that is loosened by excavation and grading.

The MPCA mandates are intended to regulate these sources of continued environmental degradation. To comply with the NPDES permit requirements, the City's SWPPP was drafted to establish measurable goals using the Best Management Practice (BMP) approach and to be able to track performance and progress.

Erosion and sediment control measures must be included in the City-wide SWPPP. The minimum standard is the General Permit Authorization to Discharge Storm Water Associated With Construction Activity Under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System Permit Program Permit MN R040000 (NPDES/SDS Permit) issued by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on August 1, 2013, as amended. Some components of the NPDES/SDS Permit include:

1. If land disturbing activity is taking place on a site where the soils are currently disturbed (e.g., a tilled agricultural site that is being developed), areas that will not be disturbed as part of the development and areas that will not be disturbed according to the time frames and slopes specified in the NPDES General

Construction permit Part IV.B.2, shall be seeded with temporary or permanent cover before commencing the proposed land disturbing activity.

2. Where one (1) or more acres of disturbed soil drain to a common location, a temporary (or permanent) sediment basin must be provided prior to the runoff leaving the site or entering surface waters. The basins must be designed and constructed according to the standards in the NPDES General Construction Permit Part III.B.
3. The Permittee or applicant must ensure final stabilization of the site in accordance with the NPDES General Construction Permit requirements. The site will be considered as having achieved final stabilization following submission of Certificate of Completion by the permittee or applicant, and inspection and approval by the City.

#### H. **Non-Degradation Rulemaking**

The MPCA is currently going through due process to update its non-degradation rulemaking effort and amend the state rules governing the non-degradation of waters (Minn. R. 7050.0180 and 7050.0185). Rules protecting Outstanding Resource Value Waters were adopted in 1984, while rules governing non-degradation of all waters were adopted in 1988. Since then, there have been many changes to the state and federal structure for water protection and to the understanding of water quality. The MPCA intends, with the assistance of a significant stakeholder effort, to thoroughly investigate the issues associated with non-degradation of waters, and to adopt rules that will address those concerns.

The MPCA has already taken the first steps in the rulemaking process by publishing two Requests for Comments regarding our intent to amend the current non-degradation rules. These Requests for Comments were published in the *State Register* on January 29, 2007, May 29, 2007 and February 25, 2013.<sup>3</sup>

This language was copied from the MPCA website in January 2015. The City of Ramsey will incorporate the non-degradation policies into this SWMP when they are formally adopted into the state rules.

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<sup>3</sup> Excerpt taken from MPCA website:  
<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/water/water-permits-and-rules/water-rulemaking/nondegradation-rulemaking.html>

**IV. LAND AND WATER RESOURCES INVENTORY**

Each plan must contain an inventory of water resource and physical factors affecting the water resources based on existing records and publications. If data publications and maps are available at a convenient central location, they may be included by reference. The plan must include a brief summary of the data and must identify where the publication can be obtained. The following subsections are required.

**A. Precipitation**

The state climatology office has records of all official rain gauges throughout Anoka County. The monthly precipitation totals and county-wide monthly averages for Anoka County are available online at:

<http://climate.umn.edu/HIDENannual/>

The two closest high-density rain gauges are:

1. No. 211785, Coon Creek
2. No. 217308, Saint Francis

Information is readily available from 1971 to the present. Over this time period, the aggregate annual precipitation ranged as follows:

Lowest annual precipitation..... 16.5 inches in 1976  
 Highest Annual Precipitation..... 39.09 inches in 1983  
 Average Annual Precipitation ..... 29.54 inches per year

The following is the average annual precipitation per decade:

1970s..... 26.8 inches per year  
 1980s..... 29.9 inches per year  
 1990s..... 31.2 inches per year  
 2000s..... 29.6 inches per year  
 2010s..... 29.2 inches per year

On the average, June is the wettest month, followed by July and May.

**B. General Geology and Topographic Data**

The City of Ramsey is nestled between the Rum and Mississippi Rivers and within 2 miles of the confluence of these rivers. The general terrain is relatively flat and is often called the Anoka Sand Plain. The elevations range from approximate elevation 920 feet above mean seal level in northwestern Ramsey to near 840 feet at the lower Rum River. The straight-line distance between these points is approximately 60,000 feet, making the average slope less than 1 percent. In general, the land slope is in the 2 to 5 percent range.

There are steep slopes within the shoreland protection zone of the Rum and Mississippi Rivers, as well as scattered locations throughout the City. From the aerial photographic contour map, the slopes near the rivers can be as high as 65 percent. A map showing the areas with slopes between 12 and 18 percent and separately showing the areas with slopes greater than 18 percent is attached as Figure 1.

Virtually all of the Ramsey city limits is within the Anoka Sand Plain, which consists of highly permeable soils. Figure 2 shows the general subsurface geology of aquifers in the vicinity of Ramsey. The Anoka Sand Plain is part of the undifferentiated drift (Layer 1). The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Geological Survey generated Figure 3 as part of the Regional Hydrogeologic Assessment for the Anoka Sand Plain.<sup>4</sup> Based on Figure 3, waterborne contaminants in the Ramsey area can reach upper aquifers within hours or months of release, necessitating additional care in regulating surface water contamination. The majority of Ramsey is rated with the highest geologic sensitivity to pollution in the uppermost aquifer.

The Board of Water and Soil Resources website indicates that Anoka County, though not participating in the official metropolitan groundwater planning process, has prepared a “groundwater protection assessment.” The county public health department coordinates the county groundwater planning and management activities.<sup>5</sup> However, there is no mention of the assessment on Anoka County Health and Environment Department website.

The City Wellhead Protection Plan was completed in the September of 2007. The final draft of Part 1 was accepted by all review agencies and City staff is currently working on Part 2. Figure 4 shows the 10-year capture zone (Well Head Protection Area, WHPA) as well as the Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) for the seven municipal drinking water wells in Ramsey. Storm water infiltration will not be allowed inside the 10 year capture zone.

### C. **Surface Water Resource Data**

#### 1. **Public Waters**

A map of the public waters, streams, lakes, and public ditch systems established under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 103D or 103E, including the location of existing dams and control structures is shown in Figure 5. A map of the natural drainage routes is also attached as part of the Parks Map in Figure 6.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) uses the U.S. Fish and Wildlife classification system (Circular 39) for wetlands and currently requires a permit for alteration of wetland types 3-5 which are 2.5 acres or larger. Ramsey City Code Section 117-124, Environmental Protection Overlay Districts includes provisions designed to further protect wetlands. . As stated previously, this section of code does not include required vegetative buffers for new developments around the perimeter of wetlands.

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<sup>4</sup> Minnesota [Dept. of Administration / Office of Geographic and Demographic Analysis / Land Management Information Center](http://www.lmic.state.mn.us/chouse/metadata/asp.html). Website: <http://www.lmic.state.mn.us/chouse/metadata/asp.html>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/watermgmt/metrogroundwaterplans.html>

In addition to the protected waters list, the Mississippi River has a designated Critical Area Corridor and the Rum River is designated as a Wild & Scenic Outstanding Resource Value Water (see Figure 6 – Parks Map).

2. Shoreland

In order to control the development and utilization of shoreland along protected waters thereby preserving the water quality, natural characteristics, economic values and the general health, safety and welfare, the following waters in the city limits have been given a shoreland management classification. These protected waters within the city limits have been classified by the Commissioner of Natural Resources as follows:

**Natural Environment Lakes                      DNR I.D. #**

1.	Lake Eddy	2-109
2.	Itasca	2-110
3.	Rogers	2-104

**Recreational Development Lakes                      DNR I.D. #**

1.	Jeglens Marsh	2-111
2.	Peltzer Pond	2-112
3.	Grass (Sunfish)	2-113

**General Development Lakes                      DNR I.D. #**

1.	Ramsey Terrace Pond	2-114
2.	Magnesium Street Pond	2-116
3.	Industry Avenue Pond South	2-117
4.	Industry Avenue Pond North	2-118

**General Development Streams                      Locations**

1.	Trott Brook	Sections 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, T32N, R25W
2.	Ford Brook	Sections 1 & 2, T32N, R25W

The above shorelands of the city are designated as a Shoreland Overlay District. The purpose of the Shoreland Overlay District is to control the utilization of shoreland areas and to preserve the quality and natural character of these protected waters within the City. The shoreland overlay districts are shown on the City’s Mississippi/Rum River Overlay Districts Map. Boundaries of the overlay districts can be determined by scaling distances off the official environmental overlay map.

All wetlands on the National Wetlands Inventory map are shown on Figure 7. The National Wetlands Inventory Map is not all inclusive, wetlands exist in the City of Ramsey that are not shown on the map. Each site proposed for development must be evaluated for wetlands as required in City Code.

Pretreatment of all storm water from new developments is required prior to discharge into any wetlands. Wetlands may be, and are currently being used for storm water storage for larger rainfall events. They may continue to be used for this purpose – even after upstream development, provided that:

1. There is acceptable Best Management Practice pretreatment of the runoff in accordance with the MPCA NPDES/SDS Construction Permit, Section III.D., Permanent Stormwater Management System.
2. The impacts of stormwater from new development discharging into a wetland will be determined through a Minnesota Routine Assessment Methodology (MnRAM) assessment of the wetland.

The Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) requires the designated Local Governmental Unit (LGU) in charge of administering the WCA to generate a Notice of Wetland Conservation Act Decision for any impact to wetlands within the City of Ramsey. In all but minor decisions, the LGU will call for a Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) review of the application or impact prior to issuing a decision. The LGU must give notice of proposed actions affecting wetlands to all of the following:

- a. The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
- b. The Soil and Water Conservation District
- c. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- d. The Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization
- e. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- f. Interested citizens requesting notification of such actions

If a TEP meeting is required, all listed parties are invited to review the proposed action. However, it is not uncommon for a TEP meeting to consist of only a small contingent of this list, as some invitees may have no jurisdiction over the proposed action.

3. Watersheds

A general watershed map breaking the City of Ramsey into seven primary watersheds is attached as Figure 8. The naming convention for the nodes (i.e., pipes, channels, junctions, manholes, and ponds) is based on the county section and quadrant numbers and is described in Figure 9. The subsequent Figure Nos. 10 through 23 show the subwatersheds and drainage pattern within each of the separate primary watersheds. Storm water ponds, 100-year peak pond elevations and outfalls are also shown on these maps.

The City Storm Sewer infrastructure is also shown on the individual primary watershed maps. In the GIS database for these maps, the pipe network is color coded to reflect the various pipe sizes.

4. Flood Levels

Floodplains are covered by City of Ramsey Code Section City Code Chapter 117, Article II, Division 4, Subdivision III. A comprehensive map showing all of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) flood plains is attached as Figure 24. Flood studies have been performed for the following waterways:

- a. Mississippi River
- b. Rum River
- c. Trott Brook
- d. Ford Brook

Copies of the flood studies are available at the office of the City Engineer or online at the [FEMA Map Service Center](#). These studies have been incorporated into the Official Zoning Map in accordance with Ramsey City Code Section II Chapter 117, Article II, Division 4, Subdivision III... The Official Zoning Map is on file in the Office of the City Administrator and the City Zoning Administrator.

In addition to the flood levels predicted by the FEMA flood studies, Bolton & Menk performed a flood study of County Ditch 66 using the HEC-RAS stream modeling program. This information has been coordinated with the SSA modeling software and submitted to FEMA for agency acceptance as a flood plain elevation. The 100-year flood plain has been recorded on the map along with the FEMA data. The color-coded legend of Figure 24 helps to differentiate between the federally modeled floodplain and the unofficial City flood plain.

In addition to the flood map, Tables 1 through 7, located in the Tables Appendix of this report summarize the modeled 100-year flood levels and peak discharges of existing storm water ponds and natural depressions that correspond to the peak discharges of channel flow passing through the watershed.

After a detailed review of the new and available flood profile information, the results appear consistent and provide a reasonable hydraulic grade from the upper reaches of the various flood channels to the ultimate confluence with the Rum and/or Mississippi Rivers.

5. Water Quality Information

Section 303d of the Clean Water Act requires that each state submit a list of Impaired Waters. The MPCA website lists the impaired waters as officially designated in 2014. Table 15 lists the impaired waters found in Ramsey:

**Table 15**

303d Impaired Waters List Excerpt from MPCA

Name	Affected Use	Pollutant or Stressor	Year Designated	Target Start	Target Completion
Rogers Lake	Aquatic Recreation	Excess Nutrients	2006	2013	2017
Rum River	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury, FCA	1998	2008	2025
Mississippi River	Aquatic Consumption	Mercury, FCA	1998	2008	2025
	Aquatic Consumption	PCB, FCA	2002	2002	2025

The Minnesota DNR maintains a database on all Minnesota lakes. Some of this data is very limited or not available, while other lakes have been studied in great detail. To find the most current data on the lakes in Ramsey, access the [Lake Finder](#) on the DNR Website.

The WMO document has a list of monitoring locations. The [Anoka Conservation District](#) (ACD) has water quality information. The ACD has also published a water atlas.

6. Water Appropriations

Upon approval by all of the review authorities, the City’s approved Wellhead Protection Plan will be incorporated into this plan by reference. At present, the draft includes all of the current municipal ground water appropriations. The City is considering obtaining surface water appropriations from the Mississippi River for a 20 MGD water treatment plant. The scope of the project will require Regional Participation. The City is working with the Metropolitan Council and other regional partners to explore a regional funding solution to locally operated surface water supply treatment plant. The water treatment plant is intended to supply water for the anticipated population growth of the City. When the new water treatment plant is approved and constructed, the existing City wells and permitted groundwater appropriations are planned to remain unchanged to be readily available as backup for water needs.

7. Soil Data

Ramsey City Code, Section 117-424 covers types of soil that are adequate for septic systems. According to Ramsey City Code, the City adopts the Anoka County Soil Survey, 1977 (Soil Survey) and supplemental operational soil surveys as its official soil survey and makes it a part of the City Code. The Anoka County soil survey map of the Ramsey area is attached as Figure 25. In general, the City of Ramsey has soils in SCS Hydrologic Soil Type A. Table 16 lists the recommended infiltration rates based on SCS hydrologic soil types.

**Table 16**  
Infiltration Rates per Soil Type

Hydrologic Soils Type	Unified Soil Classification	Infiltration Rate	Soil Texture
A	GW, GP	1.63 inches/hour	Gravel, sandy gravel, and silty gravels
A	GM, SW, SP	0.8	Sand, loamy sand, and sandy loam
B	SM	0.45	Silty Sand
B	ML, OL	0.3	Silt loam, loam
C	GC, SC	0.2	Sandy clay loam
D	CL, CH, OH, MH	0.06	Clay, clay loam, silty clay loam, sandy clay, and silty clay

*Source: Minnesota Stormwater Manual.*

8. Land Use and Public Utility Services

Necessary land use and public utility services information is limited to information that existed at the time the plan or plan amendment was developed, including:

- a. A general map of existing land uses (Figure 26A);

- b. A general map showing anticipated land uses (Figure 26B); and
- c. A reference to the location of the metropolitan urban service area.

Land use is one of the primary mechanisms that affect flooding and water quality. As prairie and forested areas are converted to agricultural and urban uses, the volume and rate of storm water runoff increases. This increase in storm water runoff can cause a change in the bank full flow of area streams and conveyances. This can cause stream bank erosion and deterioration of the stream. In addition, increased area runoff can cause erosion in steep areas. The conversion of natural land cover also increases the amount of pollutants in storm water runoff such as the levels of pesticides and nutrients from agricultural land use, and trace metal concentrations from urban land use. Pollutant loading analysis has not been included within this report. This plan estimates the future land use throughout the study area in order to evaluate the drainage system needs.

Although pollutant concentrations may not vary greatly between land uses, pollutant loadings are a function of both runoff volume and concentration. The volume of runoff is directly related to the amount of impervious surface from a particular land use. For example, if a fictitious *Area A* has twice the runoff due to higher impervious land cover as *Area B* with the same pollutant concentration, *Area A* will have twice the pollutant loading. This is the basis for the major difference in water quality between residential and commercial land uses and affects surface water planning strategies for the different land uses. The Minnesota Land Cover Classification System (MLCCS) cover types for the Ramsey area are shown in Figure 26C.

9. Water-based Recreation Areas and Land Ownership

Figure 6 – Parks Map shows the location of all Parks and the location of all DNR public water accesses within the City of Ramsey.

10. Fish and Wildlife Habitat

The City of Ramsey has applied to the DNR for an updated list and description of the conclusions and recommendations of biological surveys or reconnaissance studies in December of 2014. The list has been received. Since this list is sensitive it is not included in this report, but is on file in the office of the City Engineer.

11. Unique Features and Scenic Areas

The Mississippi and Rum River Corridors within the City are unique and valuable local, state, regional and national resources. The rivers are an essential element in the local, regional, state and national transportation, sewer and water and recreational systems and serve important biological and ecological functions. The prevention and mitigation of irreversible damage to these resources and the preservation and enhancement of their natural, aesthetic, cultural and historic values is in furtherance of the health, safety and general welfare of the City. The Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area and the Rum River Scenic River are protected under Ramsey City Code Chapter 117, Article II, Division 4, Subdivisions II and V Respectively.

Ramsey City Code Section 117-252 regulates bluff land and river land development in order to protect and preserve the outstanding scenic, recreational, natural, historical, and scenic values of the Rum River in the city of Ramsey in a

manner consistent with Minnesota Statutes, §104.31 - 104.40, Minnesota Regulations NR78-81, and the Management Plan for the Rum River (6 MCAR 1.2700 - 12720).

The City has an Environmental Policy Board that has been actively documenting and mapping the City’s existing natural features, through a Natural Resources Inventory and a Wetland Functions and Values Assessment, including:

- a. Native prairie communities
- b. Woodlands
- c. Functions and values of wetlands
- d. Rare and endangered species
- e. Historic and heritage buildings and features

Their report, which may be found on the City website, is included in this document by reference. The link is: <http://cityoframsey.com/environmental-services>.

The Scenic River Land Use District is divided into two areas designated as the Urban Area Overlay District, or Rural Area Overlay District and are covered under City of Ramsey Code Section 117-254.

**Pollutant Sources**

The City of Ramsey has one closed landfill (the Anoka Regional Solid Waste Facility). The MPCA keeps the records. The City is not aware of any other landfills.

There was a high nitrate area east of Armstrong Boulevard between 158<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 161<sup>st</sup> Avenue that was attributed to agricultural activity. There was a hog farm west of TH47 at 157<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The City does not have any permitted wastewater discharges.

The City does not keep a list of storage tanks. These records are currently kept at the Anoka County Environmental Services office.

The MPCA “[What’s in My Neighborhood?](#)” website lists known and potential sources for soil and groundwater contamination. The majority of the sites listed are Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup (VIC) sites. There are 215 sites listed in Ramsey. A text based search for Anoka County and Zip code 55303 will list over 600 permits; however, some of the addresses were in the Cities of Anoka or Andover which share a zip code with Ramsey. Additionally many sites had multiple permits at the same address. These are listed in Table 17.

**Table 17**

Known or Potential Sources of Soil or Groundwater Contamination

Activity ID	Activity Name	Address	
VP20690	14140 Azurite	14140 Azurite St NW	Ramsey
VP24480	A100143 - Alpine Park	6600 Alpine Dr NW	Ramsey
MND985724061	Aca Management 367	5195 142nd Ave NW	Ramsey

<b>Activity ID</b>	<b>Activity Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	
MNR000058230	Accent Precision Wood Products	6250 McKinley St NW	Ramsey
MNR000118802	Accurate Auto Inc.	9716 Highway 10	Ramsey
MND982220089	Accurate Auto Inc.-Ramsey	9617 Highway 10 W	Ramsey
VP18690	Ace Solid Waste - Ramsey	6601 McKinley St NW	Ramsey
MND985702851	Adrien Mechanic Services	6021 Bunker Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MNR000079889	Aero Restoration & Repair Co	7101 143rd Ave NW Ste B	Ramsey
MNRNE35D6	All-Brite Graphics LLC - ISW	6320 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNS000177972	Allina Health Ramsey Clinic	7231 Sunwood Dr NW	Ramsey
MNR000060970	Allina Medical Clinic - Ramsey - Alpine Drive	5300 Alpine Dr NW	Ramsey
MND985752047	Alloy Recovery Co Inc.	7060 142nd Ave NW	Ramsey
MNR000027722	Alpha Power & Technology	14000 Unity St	Ramsey
SA7044	Alsil Stephens Dump	See location description	Ramsey
MND089476451	Altron Inc.	6700 Bunker Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MNR000081067	Amcor Precast Inc.	6640 Industry Ave	Ramsey
MND982071714	American Trade A Bus Inc.	14000 Sunfish Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MNR000078246	Anderson & Dahlen Inc.	6850 Sunwood Dr NW	Ramsey
MNR000015057	Anderson Wade	15031 Hematite St NW	Ramsey
SA7100	Anoka County State Hospital Demo Fill	See location description	Ramsey
SA7111	Anoka Municipal Regional Landfill	14730 Sunfish Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MND985705292	Anoka Ramsey Automotive - Hwy 10	6262 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MND985753730	Anoka Ramsey Dental	5300 153rd Ave NW Ste 3	Ramsey
MNR000032169	Anoka Ramsey Sport Center	6760 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey

<b>Activity ID</b>	<b>Activity Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	
MNS000177618	Anoka-Ramsey Dental	5400 140th Ave NW Ste 104	Ramsey
MNR000114918	AR Honing	6250 Bunker Lake Blvd NW Ste 219	Ramsey
MNS000143404	Arrow Components Corp	6230 McKinley St NW Ste A	Ramsey
3789	Auto Ranch	7665 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MN0000036038	Auto Truck Hydraulics	7445 Highway 10 NW Ste 3	Ramsey
MNR000115139	Automated EDM Inc.	6231 McKinley St NW	Ramsey
MNR000023234	B & A Cylinder Head - Ramsey	14165 Ramsey Blvd NW	Ramsey
MND985684406	B & D Auto	14966 Nowthen Blvd NW	Ramsey
MND982642936	B & D Repair - Ramsey	9451 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNS000172445	B&K Swiss Inc.	14220 Basalt St NW	Ramsey
MNR000115022	Bailey Woodworking	6250 Bunker Lake Blvd NW Ste 216	Ramsey
MNR000101824	Baker White Inc.	6111 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNS000131292	Barnett Family Dentistry	7962 Sunwood Dr NW Ste 200	Ramsey
VP4771	Barnett Olds #2	6415 Hwy 10 NW	Ramsey
MNS000178897	B-Brothers Auto	7103 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
VP8482	BK Ramsey Site	7205 Hwy 10 NW	Ramsey
MND985709401	Blass Automotive	6100 Industry Ave	Ramsey
MND982212045	Blatz Automotive	7105 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MND985720952	Blue Line Collision Center	6260 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
VP8481	BNSF R-O-W #2	See location description	Ramsey
MN0000380881	Boart Longyear Co - Anoka	6300 Industry Ave	Ramsey
MNR000064659	C & F Race Cars	7101 143rd Ave NW Ste P	Ramsey
VP18650	Cabinetry Concepts	14410 Azurite St	Ramsey

<b>Activity ID</b>	<b>Activity Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	
MNRNE35J5	Carbon Products/ Division of Graphel Corp - ISW	6251 McKinley St NW	Ramsey
MN0000043513	Champlin Towing	14300 Sunfish Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MNS000133942	Chips Tool Repair Inc.	6250 Bunker Lake Blvd Ste 206	Ramsey
MND985695808	Cjs Auto Repair	17600 Gibbon St NW	Ramsey
MNS000135558	Class C Components Inc.	6825 Sunwood Dr NW	Ramsey
MND985738293	Coated Abrasive Products Co	14059 Sunfish Lake Blvd	Ramsey
MNS000174011	Coborn's Pharmacy 33	7900 Sunwood Dr NW	Ramsey
MNS000118869	Collision 2000 Inc.	3345 Viking Blvd	Ramsey
MNR000042424	Command Tooling Systems	13931 Sunfish Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MND985680040	Commercial Asphalt Co - Plant 906	6640 141st Ave NW	Ramsey
MNS000141010	Concrete Masonry Unlimited	9411 Alpine Dr NW	Ramsey
MNR000033787	Connexus Energy	14601 Ramsey Blvd NW	Ramsey
MNRNE373P	Countryside Printing Inc. - ISW	6250 Bunker Lake Blvd NW Ste 113	Ramsey
MNS000186908	Courage Kenny Sports & Physical Therapy Center Ram	7231 Sunwood Dr NW Ste A	Ramsey
VP26500	CSAH 116 Reconstruction - ROW	6100 Industry Ave NW	Ramsey
VP25020	CTT Properties, LLC	6600 Sunwood Dr NW	Ramsey
MNS000140152	Cullinan Rigging & Erecting Inc.	6815 McKinley St NW	Ramsey
MN0000012450	D Cobey Co Inc.	9340 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MND006220719	Dahlheimer Beverage LLC	13554 Tungsten St NW	Ramsey
MND982640476	Danny's Trannys Inc.	14050 Basalt St NW	Ramsey
MNR000004036	Detail Tool & Engineering Inc.	6511 Industry Ave	Ramsey
MND985669936	Diamond Automotive Inc./ Auto Fitness & Service Ctr	7029 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey

<b>Activity ID</b>	<b>Activity Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	
MNS000141085	Diamond Graphics	14350 Azurite St NW	Ramsey
PW6124218640	Dickenson Diesel	NW Highway 10	Ramsey
MNR000119271	Die Concepts Inc.	13915 Radium St NW Ste F	Ramsey
MNR000077495	Digital Tool & Automation	6501 McKinley St NW	Ramsey
MNR000103978	Dynamic Group Inc. - Ramsey	13911 Unity St NW	Ramsey
MND985729847	E & L Machine	5944 168th Ln NW	Ramsey
MNS000168625	Eddy's Auto & Body Repair Inc.	6845 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNR000076554	Egan Oil Co	500 Bunker Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MNR000013532	Erin Contracting	8050 147th Ave NW	Ramsey
MNR000119669	E-Z Auto Sales Inc.	7751 Highway 10 Ste 6	Ramsey
MNR000115501	Falcon Machine Inc.	7101 143rd Ave NW Ste N	Ramsey
MNR000060186	Ferrellgas - Anoka	7255 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNR000100057	First Cut Products Inc.	6250 Bunker Lake Blvd NW Ste 104	Ramsey
MNNONGEN1170	Flavor Midwest Inc.	9459 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MN0000275925	Food N Fuel C15	13939 Saint Francis Blvd	Ramsey
MN0000196147	Galindo Electric	15645 Traprock St NW	Ramsey
MN0000083741	GEC Auto Service ink - Ramsey	7129 Highway 10 NW Site C	Ramsey
MND985722420	Gerdes Racing	7321 152nd St	Ramsey
MNS000177170	Gibbs Lawn	6300 Bunker Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MNR000080655	Gibbs Lawn - Radium Street	13915 Radium St NW Ste D	Ramsey
MNRNE39NX	Graphel Carbon Products ISW	6251 McKinley St NW	Ramsey
MNR000015867	H Ten Sports	8110 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey

<b>Activity ID</b>	<b>Activity Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	
VP26700	Harber Industries	6690 Sunwood Dr NW	Ramsey
MND985749530	Harold's Our Own Hardware	6000 167 Ave NW	Ramsey
MNRNE39BB	Health Care Marketing Inc. dba Perry Products ISW	6023 167th Ave NW	Ramsey
MNS000147306	Heartland Tire	7151 Riverdale Dr	Ramsey
MND982642894	Heichel Brian	6933 164th Ln NW	Ramsey
MN0000036061	Hi Tech Collision Frame	7445 Highway 10 NW Ste 2	Ramsey
3700	Hills Property	7443 Highway 10	Ramsey
MNR000066407	Hitech Motorsport Inc. - Ramsey	13915 Radium St NW Ste C	Ramsey
3473	Hi-Ten Sports Center	8110 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNS000117358	Home Dame Brothers Painting	15621 Barium St NW	Ramsey
MNR000117317	Import Auto Sales Inc.	7443 Highway 10	Ramsey
MNR000115113	Intech Industries Inc.	7180 Sunwood Dr NW	Ramsey
MNR000051607	Integrity Tool & Engineering	6221 McKinley St NW	Ramsey
MNR000022061	Intercity Oil	6021 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNR000076778	ISD 11 Ramsey Elementary	15000 Nowthen Blvd NW	Ramsey
MND985704634	Jac Auto Repair & Sales	6336 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MND985764141	Jacks Auto Repair	14290 Sunfish Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MNS000130245	JDI Signs & Graphics	6451 McKinley St NW Ste P	Ramsey
MNR000112235	JR Data Solutions Inc.	6250 Bunker Lake Blvd NW Ste 204	Ramsey
MN0000367144	Julian M Johnson Construction Corp	6191 140th Ave NW	Ramsey
MNR000078725	Just Precision Inc.	6250 Bunker Lake Blvd Ste 213	Ramsey
MND071773733	Kens Automotive	15415 St Francis Blvd	Ramsey
MNR000111534	Kit Masters Inc.	6250 Industry Ave NW Ste 211	Ramsey

<b>Activity ID</b>	<b>Activity Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	
MNS000214106	Kovar Sales	14047 Azurite St NW	Ramsey
MND985721208	Ksiazek Charles	15710 Juniper Ridge Dr NW	Ramsey
MND981535230	Lamey Dave	15940 Sodium St NW	Ramsey
MND981802390	Lano Equipment Inc.	6140 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNR0534DB	Life Fitness Div of Brunswick Corp - SW	14150 Sunfish Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MN0000190736	Links At Northfork	9400 153rd Ave NW	Ramsey
A00002353	Listul Industries Inc. - SW	13900 Sunfish Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MNR000007898	Mach 5 Auto Service	7129 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MND985714658	Marshall Concrete Products Inc. - Ramsey	14141 Unity St NW	Ramsey
MNR000058859	Mat Inc.	6230 McKinley St NW Ste E	Ramsey
MND057087678	Mate Punch & Die Co	6400 Industry Ave	Ramsey
MND022705834	McKay's Auto Sales	6415 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNS000191544	Metro Dentalcare - Ramsey	7600 Sunwood Dr NW	Ramsey
MNR000078980	Midwest Car Care - Ramsey	6745 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNR000027802	Midwest Overhead Crane Corp	13900 Sunfish Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MN0000625962	Minnesota Sawdust & Shavings Co Inc.	14100 Jasper St NW	Ramsey
MNR000069252	Minnesota Tool & Die Works Inc.	6220 McKinley St NW	Ramsey
VP22410	Minnesota Waterjet	See location description	Ramsey
MNS000111344	Mississippi West Regional Park	13935 Traprock St NW	Ramsey
VP21480	MNDOT TH 10 & CTY RD 56	Ramsey Blvd & Hwy 10	Ramsey
MND982605495	MPCA Ramsey Municipal Center	15153 Nowthen Blvd NW	Ramsey

<b>Activity ID</b>	<b>Activity Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	
MNS000172833	Multisource Manufacturing LLC Ramsey	6690 Sunwood Dr NW	Ramsey
MND982613234	Noard Machine Tool Inc. - Anoka	6760 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MND008797938	Noons RV Center	7405 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNR000069179	North Country Concrete	7040 143rd Ave NW	Ramsey
MN0069396	Northern Lights 2009-2010 Zone EF	Address Unknown	Ramsey
MNS000174284	Northwest Metro VA Clinic	7545 Civic Center Dr NW	Ramsey
MNU000661	Oak Terrace Mobile Home Park	6545 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNR000016972	Oil Change Anywhere Inc.	14620 Fluorine St NW	Ramsey
MNS000138859	Oldcastle Precast Inc.	6820 143rd Ave NW	Ramsey
MNS000179796	Optimum Appliance & Recycling Center LLC	9539 Highway 10 W	Ramsey
MN0000998948	Outside Services Inc.	14140 Azurite St	Ramsey
MNS000107490	PACT Charter School - Ramsey	7250 Ramsey Pkwy E	Ramsey
MNR000119677	Park RV	9919 Highway 10 W	Ramsey
MND982212532	Pearsons Trucking Inc.	14050 Azurite Blvd	Ramsey
4542	Peck Construction	13900 Sunfish Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MNR000026880	Pine Ridge Pet Care - Ramsey	7245 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNR000080648	Plateworks Inc. - Ramsey	6230 McKinley St NW Ste B	Ramsey
MNS000162735	Pleasureland RV Center	7900 Riverdale Dr	Ramsey
MN0068691	Prairie Meadows/Kelly Acres	Armstrong Blvd NW & Tiger St NW	Ramsey
MNR000023374	Pro Power Sports & Marine Inc.	6781 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MND985717925	Production Products Inc.	14161 Basalt St NW	Ramsey
VP15161	QDP and JBT Alliance Site (see Waste Management Site)	See location description	Ramsey
MNS000100776	Quail Manufacturing Co Inc.	6250 Bunker Lake Blvd NW Ste 222	Ramsey

<b>Activity ID</b>	<b>Activity Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	
MNS000147835	Qwest - Ramsey Garage	6651 141st Ave NW Ste 2	Ramsey
MNS000147546	Rain for Rent	9550 156th Ave NW	Ramsey
MNS000113290	Ramsey Brake & Exhaust Inc.	5143 179th Ln NW	Ramsey
MNR000013086	Ramsey city of Public Works	14100 Jasper St NW	Ramsey
MND985703941	Ramsey Dental Center	15243 Nowthen Blvd NW	Ramsey
MNS000177782	Ramsey Police Department	7550 Sunwood Dr NW	Ramsey
MND985677723	Ramsey Public Works Shop	St Francis Blvd & 142nd Ave	Ramsey
VP26860	Ramsey School Site	See location description	Ramsey
VP22580	Ramsey Vacant Land Parcel	See location description	Ramsey
MND985764968	Renolette Trucking	6100 Industry Ave Ste 201	Ramsey
MNS000210823	Residence - 9131 178th Ave	9131 178th Ave NW	Ramsey
4573	Rivenwick Village North	6897 139th Ln NW	Ramsey
3591	Rivenwick Village Outlot B	Riverdale Dr & Highway 10	Ramsey
MNS000123760	RJM General Paper Products Inc.	6650 143rd Ave NW	Ramsey
MND982219297	Rockford Autobody	14000 Basalt St NW	Ramsey
VP19380	Rotary Systems	Azurite St NW	Ramsey
MND985700012	Royal Concrete Pipe Ramsey	6640 Industry Ave	Ramsey
MND138781364	Rum River Hills Golf Club Inc.	16600 Saint Francis Blvd	Ramsey
MNR000109751	Sauter & Sons Inc.	6651 141st Ave NW Ste 2	Ramsey
MND099055691	Sauter & Sons Inc. - Azurite St	14050 Azurite St NW	Ramsey
VP19550	Senior Housing Parcel	County Road 116	Ramsey
MNR000059618	Shorewood RV Center	8390 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNR000103952	Signature USA Inc.	8781 162nd Ln	Ramsey
MNR000078733	Simhof Manufacturing Tech	6250 Industry Ave Ste 112	Ramsey

<b>Activity ID</b>	<b>Activity Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	
A00022596	Solo Manufacturing Inc. - ISW	6230 McKinley St NW Ste C	Ramsey
MN0000341545	Sorby Jan	16301 Azurite St NW	Ramsey
MNR000080069	Specialized Coatings Inc.	6250 Bunker Lake Blvd NW Ste 214	Ramsey
MN0001025162	Spider Staging Corp	6250 Industry Ave Ste 108	Ramsey
VP19590	St. Anthony Gun Club	16128 Variolite St NW	Ramsey
VP18800	St. Paul Terminals - Ramsey	14050 Basalt St NW	Ramsey
MNR000055376	Star Auto Sales Inc.	7009 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MNR000023036	State Of Minnesota Weigh Scale	9225 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
VP16770	Sunfish Business	See location description	Ramsey
MNR000017889	SuperAmerica 4508	14000 Saint Francis Blvd	Ramsey
MNR000004333	Superior Striping Inc.	14021 Basalt St NW	Ramsey
MNR000056010	Tech One Motorsports Inc.	6250 Industry Ave Ste 106	Ramsey
4270	The Lighthouse Bar And Grill	6937 Highway 10	Ramsey
MND985749522	Tim's RV Service	14050 Azurite St NW	Ramsey
MND922222135	Trade A Bus	Sunfish Blvd	Ramsey
MNR000056887	Utili Trax Contracting Partnership	6300 Industry Ave	Ramsey
MND982619983	Vance Brothers Inc.	14021 Azurite St NW	Ramsey
SA7043	Ve-Ve, Inc. Caustic Soaps	See location description	Ramsey
MN0065501	Vision-Ease LP dba Vision-Ease Lens	7000 Sunwood Dr NW	Ramsey
MNR000109900	V-Tech Motorsports Inc.	14000 Sunfish Lake Blvd Ste I	Ramsey
MNR000100792	Walser Outlet Center	7955 Riverdale Dr NW	Ramsey
VP5021	Waltek Inc. II	14310 Sunfish Lake Blvd	Ramsey
VP15160	Waste Management Site	Sunfish Lake Boulevard	Ramsey

<b>Activity ID</b>	<b>Activity Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	
MN0000234179	Welsh Engine Sales	6150 Highway 10 NW	Ramsey
MND985677970	Welsh Engine Sales	15443 Ramsey Blvd NW	Ramsey
VP31280	Wendell's Inc., Ramsey	6601 Bunker Lake Blvd NW	Ramsey
MN0000010769	Westside Auto Body	6140 1/2 NW Highway 10	Ramsey
VP20930	Wildlife Research Center	Azurite St	Ramsey
PW6124274140	Wuorio Truck Sales	9619 Highway 10 W	Ramsey
MNRNE35LF	Zero Zone Refrigeration - ISW	6151 140th Ave NW	Ramsey

#### D. **Design Requirements**

The Ramsey SWMP has a dual purpose: 1) It will serve as a guide for the construction of storm drainage facilities, and 2) It will provide a basis for a consistent approach to the preservation of lakes, wetlands, streams, and the Mississippi and Rum Rivers. The following issues have been incorporated into this plan:

1. Division of the City into major watersheds based on contour maps, grading plans and natural topography
2. Determination of storm water runoff problems under current land use conditions
3. General layout and sizing of trunk storm sewers and open channels
4. Tributary areas, storage volumes, and high water levels of all existing ponding areas
5. Recommendations to accommodate the ultimate land use conditions
6. Recommendations for the revision of the current development ordinances
7. Recommendations for standard Operations and Maintenance procedures
8. Recommendations for specific construction site erosion control practices
9. Estimated construction and implementation costs of the SWMP
10. Recommendations for education of City residents, staff, and development community.

The primary function of an urban storm drainage system is to minimize economic loss and inconvenience due to periodic flooding of streets and other low-lying areas. Adequately designed storm drainage facilities provide flood control, minimize hazards and inconvenience associated with flooding, and protect or enhance water quality. The SWMP takes the entire drainage basin with future saturation development into consideration.

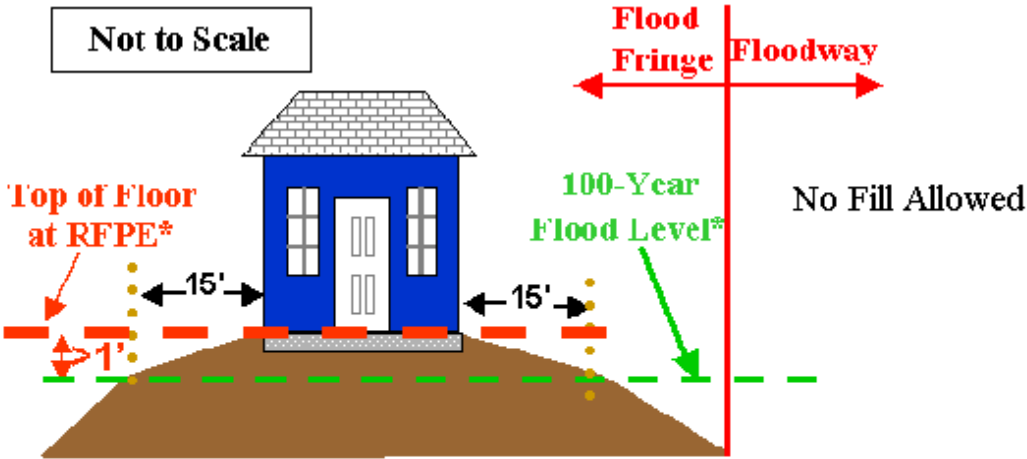
Design of stormwater facilities shall be governed by Appendix E of the LRRWMO Third Generation Plan and City Code. These standards are summarized below:

- Volume control – infiltration of the first 1 inch of runoff from all impervious surfaces on site.
- Peak Flow Rate Control – Post Development peak runoff rates shall not exceed existing rates for the 2, 10 and 100 year storm peak discharges.
- Water Quality – Storage areas shall be designed to NURP standards and provide annual removal efficiencies of 60% total phosphorus and 90% total suspended solids.
- Precipitation Data Sources – rainfall amounts for hydrologic analyses shall be based on NOAA Atlas 14.
- Storage Design – ponding areas shall be designed to retain the 100-year event. Ponding areas without a discharge shall be designed to retain runoff from the 100-year/10-day runoff or 100-year/10-day snowmelt, whichever is more restrictive.

Wet water quality ponds upstream of dry regional infiltration basins (where possible) will help control the rate and the volume of storm water runoff. To provide flood protection for adjacent property, the design storm interval for ponding areas is a 100-year storm as compared to a 10-year storm for design of storm sewer piping. Any new residential, commercial, industrial and other habitable structures shall be constructed with the following low floor elevation: The low floor elevation of all development, including basements, must be at least 3 feet above the highest anticipated ground water table, 2 feet above the designated or designed 100-year flood elevation, or 1 foot above the emergency overflow, whichever is higher. The area of a pond's HWL plus 1 foot of freeboard shall be contained entirely within an outlot that is owned and maintained by the City or within a drainage and utility easement.

In areas adjacent to designated flood plains as mapped on a Flood Insurance Rate Map, the Regulatory Flood Protection Elevation (RFE) applies. The RFE is defined as the mapped 100-year flood elevation plus 1 foot. However, the LRRWMO requires that the low floor elevation of structures be 2 feet above the calculated flood elevation. Therefore, all structures, including accessory structures, must be elevated on fill so that the lowest floor including basement floor is 1ft above the Regulatory Flood Protection Elevation or 2 foot above the mapped 100-year flood elevation. The finished fill elevation for structures shall be no lower than the Regulatory Flood Protection Elevation and the fill shall extend at such elevation at least fifteen (15) feet beyond the outside limits of the structure erected thereon. The following drawing better defines the Regulatory Flood elevations.<sup>6</sup>

The following exhibit applies only when fill is required to bring a structure at least two (2) feet above the 100-year flood level.



- \* RFPE – Regulatory Flood Protection Elevation
- \* 100-Yr Flood Level includes the flood stage increase (of up to ½ foot) due to filling in flood fringe

*Minimum Standards for Structures in 100-year floodplain*

<sup>6</sup> Taken from the Minnesota DNR website:  
[http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt\\_section/floodplain/rfpe.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt_section/floodplain/rfpe.html)

The numerous natural depressions found throughout Ramsey have been incorporated into the SWMP as ponding areas. The effective use of ponding areas enables the installation of outflow sewers with reduced capacities since the design storm duration is effectively increased over the total time required to fill and empty the ponding reservoirs. Storm sewers represent a sizable investment for the community and this investment can be more efficiently utilized by ponding storm water in designated ponding areas and allowing smaller diameter pipes to be used as outfall lines.

Equally as important as flood control and cost considerations, is the use of ponding areas to:

1. Improve water quality;
2. Return storm water to the groundwater table;
3. Increase water amenities in developments for aesthetic, recreational and wildlife purposes.

For water quality ponds, the storage below the outlet is the most important consideration. The area and depth of the ponds may differ from the values presented here, storage below the outlet must be provided so that the prescribed pollutant loading of the system is not exceeded.

From time to time, local developers proposed enhancing required storm water ponds to also serve as an amenity for new development. Most frequently, this entails allowing the storm water pond to consistently maintain a certain level water. Amenity aspects are maximized by careful planning in the initial development of any residential or industrial area and by integrating the ponding system into an overall comprehensive SWMP. However, care should be given to make the developer responsible for the design water level to serve as the amenity above and beyond the base storm water requirements. If development plans show a permanent water level, it is strongly advised that the City include a provision in its development agreements making the developer and ultimately the subdivision or development area responsible for maintaining the water level. The City's review should include wording that specifically addresses water quality and hydraulics and not the permanent water level. The Anoka Sand Plain is known for its high infiltration capacity as well as its fluctuating water levels. The City of Ramsey should not be involved in maintaining or engineering water level maintenance.

The wildlife aspects of the ponding areas shall be maximized in design and the proper location of the trail system will allow good access to these areas for wildlife observation.

It is extremely important that each area be re-evaluated at the time of final design to confirm the criteria used in this study and to make any changes that a proposed development may dictate. Special consideration must be given to areas that develop differently than shown in the Comprehensive SWMP, especially when a higher runoff coefficient (higher impervious surface ratio) is likely to result from development.

All storm sewer facilities, especially those conveying large quantities of water at high velocities, shall be designed with efficient hydraulic characteristics. Special attention shall be given during final design to those lines that have extreme slopes and create high hydraulic heads.

The Best Management Practices (BMPs) recommended by the MPCA shall be followed wherever necessary or plausible. Before the City would enforce any of these BMPs, they first need to be adopted by ordinance on a case by case basis. This paragraph is not intended to be a blanket adoption of BMPs.

Rain gardens and infiltration basins are a viable alternative to storage ponds. These structures are encouraged by many review agencies as a way to mimic the original runoff conditions from a site. By incorporating infiltration, the basin provides volume and water quality management. A water quality basin does not need to have standing water, just a permanent “dead-pool” volume to meet the MPCA water quality requirements. The rain gardens and infiltration basins will assist in meeting MPCA regulations. However, rain gardens and infiltration basins are not recommended in a wellhead protection zone. Figure Nos. 3 and 4 show areas where rain gardens and infiltration may not be the best runoff management solution. City Policy adopted in conjunction with infiltration requirements of the LRRWMO Third Generation Plan permits infiltration in areas within the Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA), so long as it is not also within the 10-year capture zone.

The process outlined in the LRRWMO Third Generation Plan shall be followed when a development is proposed inside the 10-year capture zone and infiltration is not permitted on site.

The LRRWMO Third Generation Plan includes specific Wetland Protections that are stated below (refer to Appendix G of the LRRWMO plan for details):

- Temporary Wetland Protections During Construction – Areas within 16.5 feet of a wetland boundary must be protected from land grading and other disturbance during the construction process. The area shall be demarcated with properly installed heavy duty silt fence.
- Native Plant Seeding in Common Spaces at the Conclusion of Construction – Within common spaces, areas adjacent to wetlands that are disturbed through the construction process and ponding areas (stormwater management areas) should be seeded with a BWSR native seed mix that matches site conditions.
- Wetland Protections after Construction – Following construction, site stabilization, and vegetation establishment certain activities shall be prohibited within 16.5 feet of the wetland edge. Activities prohibited include:
  - Structures, excluding fences. Fences are not allowed inside the wetland boundary.
  - Paving, except projects with a public purpose such as public trails.
  - Retaining walls.
  - Filling, dumping or yard waste disposal.
  - Fertilization
  - Septic Systems.
- Relationship to Drainage and Utility Easement - Drainage and utility easements must encompass the area within 16.5 feet from the wetland edge.

The process outlined in the LRRWMO Third Generation Plan shall be followed when a development is proposed adjacent to wetlands.

## E. Storm Water Modeling

### 1. Runoff

Storm water runoff is defined as that portion of precipitation, which flows over the ground surface during, and for a short time after, a storm. The quantity of runoff is dependent on the intensity of the storm, the length of storm, the amount of rainfall, the type of ground cover, and the slope of the ground surface.

The intensity of a storm is described by the amount of rainfall that occurs during a specific time interval. A specific rainfall amount occurring during a given time interval will statistically recur, on the average, at a certain frequency (usually measured in years). This is called a return frequency. A return frequency designates the average time span during which a single storm of a specific magnitude is likely to occur. For example, a 100-year rainfall event in Ramsey is that 24-hour rainfall amount (7.1 inches) that recurs, on the average, once in 100 years.

The degree of protection afforded by storm sewer facilities is determined by selecting a return frequency to be used for design based on good economic sense and current engineering practices. See section E.3 for further discussion.

### 2. Hydrographs

Storm sewer and associated detention basin design is typically based on hydrograph analysis. A hydrograph is graphical depiction of the time versus rate of runoff for a particular area. For example, if a rainstorm started at midnight, the first few minutes is spent with sprinkles and wetting the various surfaces. As the storm intensifies, the rainfall overwhelms the ability of the pavement and adjacent ground to absorb it, and water begins to runoff. At the peak of the storm, the water runs off at its greatest rate. Finally, as the storm passes, the runoff begins to slowly taper off. Figure 28 is an example of a typical runoff hydrograph.

The U.S. Soil Conservation Service (SCS) has performed extensive research in hydrograph analysis and developed a standard hydrograph. Technical Release No. 20 (SCS TR 20) describes a methodology that is generally accepted by the reviewing authorities and hydrologic engineers across the United States. The SCS procedure is based on a standard rainfall hydrograph that is modified by local parameters (i.e., rainfall, soil type, watershed size, watershed shape, the fall across the watershed, etc.). Based on local conditions, the SCS hydrograph was used for development of the Ramsey storm water models in this plan.

A SCS 24-hour Type II storm distribution with 100-year intensity was used for the design of ponds and drainage systems. The Soil Conservation Service has determined from National Weather Bureau data that a Type II distribution is the storm event recommended for the upper-Midwestern United States.

The SCS hydrograph method is based on sound hydrologic theory and is commonly used to analyze runoff for the design and analysis of flows and water levels. The detailed modeling computations for this plan have been performed using the SSA Modeling Software as developed by Boss International, Inc.

### 3. Rainfall Probability

Rainfall amounts for hydrologic analyses should be based on:

NOAA Atlas 14: Sanja Perica, Deborah Martin, Sandra Pavlovic, Ishani Roy, Michael St. Laurent, Carl Trypaluk, Dale Unruh, Michael Yekta, Geoffrey Bonnin (2013). NOAA Atlas 14, Volume 8, Version 2, *Precipitation-Frequency Atlas of the United States, Midwestern States*. NOAA, National Weather Service, Silver Spring, MD.

More recent updates of these documents shall be used, if available.

The SCS National Engineering Handbook snowmelt data shows the 100-year, 10-day snowmelt event is 7.3 inches over 10 days.

#### 4. Pond and Pipe Design Criteria

To provide reasonable protection of downstream facilities, analysis of flood levels, storage volumes and flow rates for water bodies and detention basins shall be based on the range of rainfall and snow melt durations producing the critical flood levels and discharges. This report recommends a 10-year frequency design for storm sewer pipe using the Rational Method<sup>7</sup>. It is further recommended that pond design be based on the greater of the 100-year, 24-hour frequency SCS rainfall event, or the 100-year, 10-day snowmelt event for overland drainage and pond storage design. In comparing the peak pond elevations for each of these events, the 100-year SCS rainfall event, with the assumption that the infiltration rate was negligible, created the highest peak pond elevations. Hence, throughout the remainder of this report, the peak 100-year pond rates are discussed for typical pond High Water Levels (HWL). These design criteria were selected for the analysis and design of the drainage system for this SWMP. In addition, a 10-inch, 24-hour rain event has also been modeled over the entire city to analyze all ponds, overflow drainage ways and natural channels to evaluate whether the emergency over flows (EOFs) function as intended.

All detention facilities must be designed to limit discharge from to the existing rates for the 2, 10 and 100 year storm peak discharges.

Storm water detention facilities with peak discharge rates less than 2 cfs/40 acres are typically susceptible to high water levels during snowmelt conditions. Special consideration of the snowmelt condition becomes critical for areas, like the Anoka Sand Plain where infiltration dampens the effect of runoff from rainfall. These areas can accept high amounts of rainfall during the warm, summer months, but often remain frozen later in the season and are relatively impervious in the spring during the snowmelt. Hence, snowmelt runoff can be a greater flood hazard than a large summer rainfall due to the impermeable nature of frozen soil. Accordingly, final basin design must consider snowmelt conditions when sizing storage and outlet structures.

When rainfalls exceed the recommended 10-year storm sewer infrastructure design, the excess runoff will be accommodated by ponding in low spots in streets for short periods of time and outflow through overland drainage routes and/or EOFs. With proper planning, this short-term flooding and overland drainage should minimize damage to property that would occur if those facilities were not provided. Drainage routes and EOF locations should be protected and preserved either by ordinance or through recorded permanent easements. Where possible, storm water pond designs shall include an emergency overflow to

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<sup>7</sup> The Rational Method is markedly different than the SCS methodology in that it does not deal with runoff volumes, only flow rates. An explanation of the Rational Method is made later in this report.

provide an outlet one-foot below the lowest floor elevation of any adjacent structure for added safety.

The Rational Method is a flow rate design method that ignores volumes and assumes a peak flow to each pipe based on hydrologic parameters such as watershed area, time of concentration, and standard rainfall intensity curves. This design method requires the selection and/or computation of a time of concentration and a runoff coefficient. The time of concentration is the time required for the runoff from a storm to become established and for the flow from the most remote point (in time, not distance) of the drainage area to reach the design point. The time of concentration will vary with the slope and type of surface that the rain falls on. Rational Method design including design methodology and hydrologic references should be based on the Minnesota Department of Transportation Drainage Manual.

A minimum concentration time of fifteen minutes for residential areas and ten minutes for commercial/industrial areas shall be used for design of the trunk storm sewer systems. These minimum times shall be considered in the design of lateral systems. As the storm water runoff enters the system, the flow time in the storm sewer is then added to the concentration time and compared to the downstream drainage area concentration time. The maximum of these values is used downstream, which results in a longer concentration time and peak runoff rate as the flow moves downstream from the initial design point.

5. Land Use Factors in Modeling (Runoff Coefficients)

The percentage of rainfall falling on an area that must be collected by a hydraulic facility is dependent on watershed variables such as soil permeability, ground slope, vegetation, surface depressions, type of development and antecedent rainfall. These factors are taken into consideration when selecting a runoff coefficient (C) for the Rational Method or a runoff curve number (CN) for use in SCS methodology.

Under ultimate (fully developed) conditions, the values of the coefficient will increase with increases in the amount of impervious surfaces caused by street surfacing, building construction, and grading.

The antecedent moisture condition (AMC) relates to the moisture content of the soil prior to a given storm event. Curve numbers based on land use can be adjusted based on an assumed moisture condition. For purposes of the model, normal antecedent moisture condition (AMC II) was assumed. Curve number values can be adjusted for dry conditions (AMC I) or wet conditions (AMC III).

Curve numbers are also dependent on the type of soil in a given drainage area. Soil types are classified into four basic hydrologic groups as follows:

- Group A - Includes well-graded gravels, sandy gravels, gap-graded or uniform gravels, sandy gravels, silty gravels, silty sandy gravels, well-graded gravelly sands, gap-graded or uniform sands, gravelly sands.
- Group B - Includes silty sands, silty gravelly sands, micaceous silts, diatomaceous silts, volcanic ash.
- Group C - Includes silts, very fine sands, silty or clayey fine sands.

Group D - Includes clayey gravels, clayey sandy gravels, clayey sands, clayey gravelly sands, low plasticity clays, sandy or silty clays, organic silts and clays of low plasticity, highly plastic clays and silty sands, organic silts and clays of high plasticity.

Curve numbers that were assumed in the development of the model were based on the hydrologic soil group for each watershed based on the information contained in the County Soil Survey. Development plans shall consider post-development site soil conditions when choosing runoff curve numbers for final design.

Curve numbers (CN) are given in SCS TR-55. Average CN values for each land use type are used in the design of the storm drainage facilities in undeveloped areas. For the modeling of existing facilities, CN values were determined for each type of development and current zoned land use in each subwatershed. In general, the unpaved, non-wetland areas were modeled with curve numbers that most closely represent the Anoka Sand Plain. The curve numbers were then adjusted to reflect the percentage of impervious surfacing.

It should be noted that if land use changes to more or less impervious surfacing than the model, it will affect the model and updates may be needed.

## V. GOALS AND POLICIES

### **Problem Statement**

The increase in developed areas within the community, with its associated runoff and sediment-related pollutants will have an impact on wetlands and other water resources including the Rum River and Mississippi River.

### **Mission Statement**

The City of Ramsey, in cooperation with the LRRWMO, Anoka County, state and federal agencies, will prepare a watershed plan which will accommodate anticipated community development and redevelopment while providing clear direction to the developers for controlling the quality and quantity of storm water runoff and properly managing surface and groundwater resources and the physical habitat of existing wetlands, lakes and the Mississippi and Rum Rivers in a consistent fashion. The City is committed to a goal of no adverse impact to, and nondegradation of, its water resources.

### **Goals**

This plan identifies several specific goals to control the City's water resources planning and management functions. The goals of this plan were established in accordance with the purposes of the water management programs required by Sections 103B.201 to 103B.251.

### **Policies**

Each goal has several corresponding policies. A policy is a governing principle that provides the means for achieving established goals.

### **Standards**

Standards are an extension of the policies. They provide specific, detailed guidance regarding water management practices. Plan standards are included in the Implementation Program (Section VIII) of this document.

#### **A. Water Quantity**

The following runoff quantity goals and policies are considered part of this plan.

Goal 1: Control flooding and minimize public capital expenditures.

Policy 1.1: Natural storm water storage areas and manmade detention areas should be utilized to control flooding.

Policy 1.2: The storage capacity of the natural drainage system will be utilized to control rates of runoff. The City will jointly define and adhere to flow rates at municipal boundaries as established in this plan.

Policy 1.3: The City will pursue regional detention wherever targeted land acquisition opportunities arise.

Policy 1.4: All hydrologic studies will be based on standard hydrologic criteria and ultimate or anticipated development of the entire tributary drainage area.

Policy 1.5: Major storm water facilities (i.e., ponds, pond outlet systems, and major conveyance systems) will be designed using a return period of 100 years.

- Policy 1.6: The peak outflow from all new developments shall be limited to the existing peak outflow for the 2-, 10- and 100-year SCS 24-hour rainfall events.
- Policy 1.7: All minor drainage system analyses and design (i.e., piped collection systems and minor conveyance systems) will be based on a return period of 10 years unless otherwise specified. The minor drainage system pipe will be sized using the full gravity flow capacity of the pipe. Pressure flow based on surcharging the upstream manhole or structure to near the street will not be allowed.
- Policy 1.8: Where plausible, detention facility design will include a paved access route or a “Netlon” or approved equal stabilized access route; and dedicated right-of-way, outlot access and/or drainage and utility easement for maintenance of the outlet structure and to the facility in general. Construction and long-term maintenance of these accesses will need to be negotiated on a case-by-case basis.
- Policy 1.9: Where plausible, fences will be restricted from crossing drainage and utility easements. The City will consider encroachment of fences; however, the Owner will be responsible for entering into an Encroachment Agreement to allow the City to remove obstructions for necessary maintenance and waives the City of any liability stemming from improvements within the easement.
- Policy 1.10: The design of storm water facilities will consider and identify location(s) of overflow(s) that prevent property damage to adjacent properties from extreme water levels.
- Policy 1.11: Minimum building elevations should be above designed designated flood levels. The minimum building floor elevation shall be two (2) feet above the 100-year level or 1-foot above the EOF. The 100-year level shall be on the highest 100-year level resulting from a single event analysis; the 100-year, 10-day snowmelt event; a multiple day runoff event analysis, or the critical event analysis. This will likely require that the City begin to require As-Built Certificates of Grading, a practice that is not currently required by the City.
- Policy 1.12: Landlocked runoff basins shall be sized to handle back-to-back 100-year Atlas14 24-hour rainfall events, the 10-inch SCS 24-hour rainfall event or the 100-year, 10-day snowmelt snow melt event, whichever produces the higher peak pond elevation (Landlocked HWL). The minimum building floor elevation around landlocked basins shall be two (2) feet above the Landlocked HWL.
- Policy 1.13: Emergency overflows or outlets to drainage systems will be provided to any landlocked area if the available storm water storage capacity is inadequate to prevent flooding of residences

and if the available downstream conveyance system capacity is adequate to accept additional flow.

Policy 1.14: The City will have standard hydrologic design criteria for all storm water systems to assure consistency.

Policy 1.15: The City will perform maintenance measures to assure proper function of the drainage system.

Policy 1.16: The City will adopt ordinances that control peak runoff consistent with standards and recommendations in the Minnesota Stormwater Manual.

Policy 1.17: New or expanded stormwater discharges to the Rum River are not allowed because it is classified as an Outstanding Resource Value Water by the DNR.

## B. **Water Quality**

Goal 2: Achieve water quality standards in City lakes, streams, rivers, and wetlands consistent with intended use and classification, which include quantifiable limits on specific pollutants (i.e., phosphorus, turbidity, excess nutrients, etc.). The City's ultimate goal is to meet the standards for the designated use of each water body.

Policy 2.1: The ranking system established by the LRRWMO shall dictate intended use and water quality standards. The City will adopt best management practices for development that will result in an annual removal efficiency of 60% total phosphorus and 90% total suspended solids.

Policy 2.2: Future outlets to DNR protected waters must first pass through a sediment pond/trap prior to discharging into the protected water body.

Policy 2.3: Phosphorus loading to a drainage system or water body will be reduced to the greatest practical extent through the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Policy 2.4: All construction plans developed for the maintenance and/or improvement of water quality will include a detailed access and maintenance plan and shall require approval by the City.

Policy 2.5: A community education program relating to preserving and improving water quality will be developed and implemented.

Policy 2.6: All on-site waste water systems will be the responsibility of the owner.

Policy 2.7: A water quality plan outlining education programs, water quality monitoring needs, water quality modeling requirements, phosphorus budgets for subwatersheds, and any other water quality issues should be developed and implemented. The City-wide SWPPP and MS4 permit already addresses the education, monitoring, maintenance, good housekeeping, illicit discharges and construction erosion control.

- Policy 2.8: The LRRWMO and the City should take an active role in implementing the necessary policies to allow development of regional water quality ponds.
- Policy 2.9: The City will perform maintenance measures to minimize pollutant loadings to local water bodies.
- Policy 2.10: The City will adopt best management practices for development that will result in TSS and TP reductions of 90% and 60%, respectively.
- Policy 2.11: The City will adopt best management practices for redevelopment that will result in TSS and TP reductions consistent with the Minnesota Stormwater Manual.
- Policy 2.12: The City will integrate their Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan into their local water management plan, in accordance with MPCA requirements and schedules.
- Policy 2.13: The City will revise its Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan to include the required nondegradation information and summarize or integrate that information into its local water management plan when the nondegradation rules are finalized and become a mandatory part the Municipally Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit.
- Policy 2.14: The MPCA is in the process of preparing a TMDL for Trott Brook for macroinvertebrates, fish, dissolved oxygen and E.coli. The City will work with the MPCA and other agencies to implement the TMDL(s).

**C. Recreation, Fish and Wildlife**

Goal 3: Protect and enhance water recreational facilities, fish and wildlife habitat.

- Policy 3.1: Natural areas, wildlife habitat and wetlands to be protected during construction should be clearly marked and/or fenced in the field.
- Policy 3.2: Buffer zones of natural vegetation are encouraged in privately-owned areas around existing ponds and wetlands located within current wildlife corridors to provide habitat for wildlife in accordance with the Wetland Management Plan.
- Policy 3.3: The water level fluctuation of a wetland or pond shall be maintained consistent with the management function of the water body. Wetlands used for stormwater overflow purposes shall be limited to a maximum bounce of 2-feet between the NWL and HWL.
- Policy 3.4: The City has already assessed the functions and values of all wetlands over ¼-acre in size. The City will not be updating this assessment as part of this SWMP update. When a logical time in the furtherance of future development warrants, likely coinciding with a future Comprehensive Plan Update, the City will consider updating this assessment.

- Policy 3.5: The City supports programs to control aquatic invasive species.
- Policy 3.5: Activities related to recreation, fish and wildlife should be consistent with the Anoka County Regional Park objectives and the City's comprehensive plan.
- Policy 3.6 The City supports the establishment of native vegetation around sedimentation ponds and wetlands following disturbance, and when new ponds are created whenever possible.

**D. Public Participation, Information and Education**

Goal 4: Increase public participation and knowledge in management of the water resources of the community.

- Policy 4.1: The City must call an annual meeting to discuss its SWPPP as part of its MS4 permit. This opportunity will be used to discuss water resource issues affecting the City. The City will explore avenues to increase notification and publicity of this annual meeting. The City will consider holding a special meeting coinciding with major flooding events.
- Policy 4.2: The City will utilize available resources and input from the public to address local water resources issues.
- Policy 4.3: Citizen lake water quality monitoring is encouraged and supported by the City.
- Policy 4.4: The City supports Anoka County's recreation and educational programs related to the water resources of the community.
- Policy 4.5: The City will support natural environment programs in the public schools.
- Policy 4.5: The City will provide information regarding water resource management and a summary of the on-going activities of the LRRWMO through the City newsletter or web site.

**E. Public Ditch System**

Goal 5: Maintain the current ditch system to convey water and maintain the current defined maximum flood levels to protect businesses and residences.

- Policy 5.1: The City will continue to maintain public ditches to provide protection of private property and structures from flooding, provided that such maintenance is in accordance with the Minnesota Wetlands Conservation Act, Minnesota Statute 103E governing agricultural drainage, is acceptable to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and does not adversely affect the value of wetlands or water quality.
- Policy 5.2: With the exception of County Ditch 66 and County Ditch 43 which have been turned back to the City, Anoka County is recognized as having authority over all public ditches within the watershed in accordance with Minnesota Statute 103E.

**F. Groundwater**

Goal 6: Promote groundwater recharge and prevent contamination of the aquifers.

Policy 6.1: Anoka County is recognized as the lead agency regarding groundwater controls.

Policy 6.2: Recharge areas identified by Anoka County shall be protected from adverse development and from potential contamination.

Policy 6.3: Infiltration of the first 1.0-inches of runoff from new impervious areas will be required. This is subject to proximity to wellhead protection zones as noted earlier in this report whereby infiltration shall not be allowed within the 10-year capture zone.

Policy 6.4: Whenever practical, ponds shall be designed as “wet ponds” with storage volume below the outlet to promote infiltration and/or groundwater recharge.

Policy 6.5: The use of grassed waterways shall be encouraged to maximize infiltration. Proper grades shall be maintained insure positive drainage.

Policy 6.6: Any spring area should be identified in the field, denoted on maps by the City and protected from development within the watershed.

Policy 6.7: The appropriate jurisdiction shall use both regulatory (ordinances, permits, etc.) and non-regulatory (Best Management Practices) tools to protect the land area within designated wellhead protection areas.

**G. Wetlands**

Goal 7: Maintain the amount of wetland acreage and try to increase the wetland values within the watershed.

Policy 7.1: The LRRWMO is the Local Government Unit (LGU) administering the requirements of the Wetland Conservation Act in Ramsey.

Policy 7.2: Use and function of all wetlands greater than ¼-acre in size has been determined as part of the 2008 SWMP plan preparation.

Policy 7.3: Restoration of poor quality wetlands shall be prioritized.

Policy 7.4: The City or Anoka County shall identify areas that can be used for wetland mitigation.

Policy 7.5: Wetland mitigation criteria will be established consistent with the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act of 1991 and subsequent amendments and associated rules thereto (e.g., Minnesota Rule 8420), state and federal regulations, the LRRWMO and the needs of the City.

Policy 7.6: Alteration of wetlands is discouraged unless for restoration. Alteration may be allowed on an individual basis if the alteration can be properly mitigated in accordance with the Wetland

Conservation Act (WCA). Allowable alternatives must comply with WCA sequencing requirements including, in order, avoidance, minimization and mitigation. In general, it will require a full Technical Evaluation Panel meeting and majority approval before any wetland impact is allowed.

- Policy 7.7: Wetland banking opportunities will be pursued by the City and/or the LRRWMO in accordance with the Wetland Conservation Act.
- Policy 7.8: The use of native vegetation for buffers in undeveloped and previously developed areas is recommended.
- Policy 7.9: The LRRWMO wetland buffer requirements will be enforced when properties adjacent to wetlands are developed.
- Policy 7.10: The City will implement new buffer requirements as they are adopted by the State.

## **H. Erosion Control**

Goal 8: Prevent soil erosion.

- Policy 8.1: The City will protect natural vegetation to the greatest extent possible.
- Policy 8.2: Soil erosion shall be prevented through the installation of erosion control practices in accordance with MPCA's Best Management Practices Handbook.
- Policy 8.3: Topsoil stockpiled for reuse shall be protected from erosion.
- Policy 8.4: It shall be the responsibility of the developer/contractor to keep streets and property adjacent to construction areas free from sediment carried by construction traffic at site entrances and access points, from sediment laden site runoff and blowing dust.
- Policy 8.5: The MPCA Storm Water Permit Program for Construction Activities shall be followed.
- Policy 8.6: The City has adopted an erosion and sediment control ordinance including provisions that are consistent with NPDES Construction Stormwater permit and its MS4 permit requirements.

## **I. Development Standards**

Goal 9: Residential Grading

- Policy 9.1: Residential lots shall have a minimum surface slope of 2-percent in all directions. Lesser slopes, between 1-percent and 2-percent may be allowed with a certificate of grading.
- Policy 9.2: In acknowledgement of historical consumption data, the City will require water conservation measures for new development such as, but not limited to four inches of topsoil shall be placed in the turf restoration areas of all new residential lots.

Policy 9.3: Where residential lots are newly graded and there is no immediate plan for new housing within the lot, the entire lot shall be covered with 4-inches of topsoil and seeded in accordance with the following schedule:<sup>8</sup>

<u>Type of Slope</u>	<u>Time*</u>
Steeper than 3:1	7 days
10:1 to 3:1	14 days
Flatter than 10:1	21 days

\* The maximum time an area can remain open when the area is not actively being worked.

Policy 9.4 Bluff protection ordinances and shoreland protection ordinances shall govern steep sloped areas.

## J. Regulatory Responsibility

Goal 10: Recognize the regulatory authority of other local, state and federal entities.

Policy 10.1: The City is responsible for establishing and implementing a local permitting program for water resources management. For smaller projects, an administrative Grading Permit shall be sufficient. For larger projects, an Interim Use Permit (IUP) shall be required

Policy 10.2: Other governmental agencies with watershed management responsibility include:

- The Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization (LRRWMO)
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE)
- Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

Policy 10.3: The WMO and the City will require a permit for certain activities, as described in this plan.

Policy 10.4 The LRRWMO Third Generation Plan requires development of an ownership/ responsibility plan for the Anoka Dam. The Rum River Dam is owned by the City of Anoka, and as such has primary responsibility for the maintenance plan. The City of Ramsey will work with Anoka and Andover to implement the plan adjacent to the corporate boundary.

## K. Finance

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<sup>8</sup> Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/State Disposal System (SDS), Application for General Storm-water Permit for Construction Activity (MN R100001)

Goal 11: Equitably finance water resources.

- Policy 11.1: All developments should, to an extent determined by the City, provide land, funding, or a combination of both for management of local water resources, which includes development of regional facilities and planning studies.
- Policy 11.2: The City may establish a fee structure charged to developers for analyzing the impacts of the proposed development.
- Policy 11.3: The City has established a fee structure charged to developers for constructing capital improvements (i.e., trunk conveyance systems).
- Policy 11.4: The WMO should establish an equitable cost allocation formula for water resource project implementation that affects more than one unit of government.
- Policy 11.5: Grants may be sought by the City to fund watershed related projects.
- Policy 11.6: The City should investigate the feasibility of alternative funding sources, such as Ad Valorem Taxes, bond sales, and user charges (storm water utility).
- Policy 11.7: The City should encourage donations and in-kind contributions of public and private organizations and the school systems for plan implementation.
- Policy 11.8: The City shall investigate and evaluate other funding mechanisms that support implementation and enforcement. This shall include but not be limited to pursuing grants with the LRRWMO, utilizing stormwater utility funds for the local match, for water quality improvement projects.

**L. Records Management and Documentation**

Goal 12: The City shall preserve historic data, records, and files pertaining to the water resources of the LRRWMO.

- Policy 12.1: The City should develop a classification to be recorded for each new detention area, including the basis for the classification.
- Policy 12.2: Engineering calculations will be required in a standard format.
- Policy 12.3: Past studies will be documented and filed by the City.
- Policy 12.4: Immediately after extreme rainfall events, high water elevations should be noted and surveyed by the City.
- Policy 12.5: The City will develop a history of flooding and water quality problems by noting past events and recording current floods.
- Policy 12.6: The City will record changes in water quality, such as increased aquatic vegetation, changing thermal conditions, increased sedimentation, reduced fish numbers, and fish kills.
- Policy 12.7: The City will document all items/BMPs provided in the SWPPP and MS4 permit.

## **VI. ASSESSMENT OF PROBLEMS AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS**

This section assesses the water-related problems in the City, prioritizes the problems and includes actions to adequately solve each identified problem.

The City held a public open house on July 11, 2007 to gather input on water resources-related problems in preparation of the original 2008 plan. A public notice was published in accordance with City policies. Four residents attended the open house. The feedback that was received was primarily associated with the desire to protect the City's natural beauty including wetlands, wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors. The primary concern was that continued and uncontrolled development would adversely impact the current environment. All attendees expressed satisfaction that the SWMP is intended to protect these features.

Throughout the course of completion of the 2008 plan and subsequent flooding events in 2011 and 2014, prior to this 2015 update, City staff compiled a list of nuisance flooding areas either noted by maintenance staff or by resident complaints.

Figure 9 highlights all known nuisance flooding areas.

### **A. Specific Lakes and Streams with Water Quality Problems**

Table 15 in Section IV, page 17 of this report, lists the current (2014) MPCA 303d Impaired Waters in Ramsey. There are also waters downstream of the City of Ramsey, such as Lake Pepin, that are impaired. The process to remedy the impairment includes establishing a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) allocation to each contributor to the problem. A TMDL is a calculation that determines the allowable pollutant load that can be discharged into the impaired water so that the limited load will ensure that the water improves to levels where it is no longer impaired. The typical process is initiated by the MPCA and includes a series of stakeholder meetings to formulate viable solutions and mutually work out a reasonable allocation of acceptable pollutant loading.

Since a TMDL study has not been completed for these waters, the City should identify the priority it places on addressing impaired waters and how the City intends to participate in the development or implementation of TMDL projects. Furthermore, the City should volunteer to participate in the stakeholder process.

Once a TMDL study is completed for the impaired water, the City must include, in this SWMP and its City-wide SWPPP, an implementation strategy including funding mechanisms that will allow the implementation of the TMDL requirements. As MPCA completes its TMDL process for each impaired water, the implementation of the measures to meet the TMDL will immediately become a priority item for the City of Ramsey.

### **B. Flooding and Storm Water Rate Control Issues**

Figure 9 is a map of all flooding areas either noted by staff or associated with a resident complaint compiled between 1985 and 2014.

The lake levels in Lake Itasca are historically variable, and have ranged from elevation 863.24 to elevation 871.9 with an average water level of 867.7. The DNR protects the lake to its Ordinary High Water Level of 871.4. To protect the properties around the lake, an emergency overflow should be established above the DNR protected level of 871.4. The overflow may be in the form of a pipe to the south or southeast, or it may be a new outfall to the Mississippi River.

The storm water modeling performed for the area shows few opportunities for property damage associated with rainfall. Ponding areas having a potential for property damage

are shown in red on Figures 10 through 23. The relatively low percentage of potential property damage is presumed to be attributed to the high permeability of the Anoka Sand Plain and proper storm sewer system design.

Because of the pervious nature of the Anoka Sand Plain, the City should be cognizant of the impact that a significant increase in impervious surfacing and mass grading can have on runoff conditions. The addition of significant amounts of impervious surfaces and the reduced permeability associated with the soil compaction in mass grading without a reasonable attempt to restore and duplicate the current infiltration pattern could create significant increases in runoff volumes and downstream flooding.

The City will review and modify its current development ordinances to encourage infiltration and require soil ripping of mass grading to compensate for lost infiltration conditions as well as requiring extended retention ponding to mitigate and compensate for increases in runoff. Innovative solutions to the storm water runoff volume increases associated with the increase in impervious surface will be investigated. Potential solutions include pervious pavements, rain gardens and infiltration basins among others.

Comprehensive storm water runoff modeling of the existing conditions throughout the entire City was completed as part of the 2008 plan. The modeling was updated in 2015 to reflect new development and incorporate the Atlas 14 runoff rates. This modeling will provide a baseline for comparison purposes as new developments change the drainage pattern. With this modeling information, City staff can readily review the cumulative impacts of large developments for effects on baseline conditions across the entire city.

SSA software was used in the comprehensive modeling. This software is based on the industry accepted EPA SWMM process and St. Venant equations. The model can be used to input actual rainfall events from rain gauges and can model the transport of pollutants through the system. This will be very useful in evaluating the BMP measures to address future TMDLs.

The 2008 plan addressed several previous flooding complaints the City had received over a number of years, beginning in 1980. It was determined in 2008 that several of these concerns were solved by later construction of storm sewer systems as the City developed. The areas that were not solved are shown on the flooding area map.

The City experienced high water levels in 2011 and 2014 caused by high snowfall over the winter and heavy spring rains. Staff logged the complaints received in each year. The lists were presented to the Public Works Committee for review.

The 2011 complaints sorted into three (3) categories, clean existing drainage ways and structures, water ponding outside of existing easements, and water ponding in existing easements. Where water was ponding in existing easements the action was homeowner education on the purpose of drainage and utility easements. The action where existing drainage was and structures needed cleaning was to add the work to the Public Works action list. The action where water was ponding outside of existing easements was a combination of performing a detailed study of each area using Consultant Pool and Staff resources. Cost estimates were generated from the studies and presented to the City Council. Several projects were selected for construction, the remainder were deemed infeasible at that time.

The 2014 complaints were also studied. Staff determined that the majority of these complaints would require additional study, these areas could not be drained without causing high water problems on downstream properties. The City wide storm water model is being used in the review of possible solutions to these problems. The Public

Works Committee of the City Council has discussed stormwater ponding concerns several times in 2014 and 2015. Staff is preparing a feasibility study on potential solutions to be brought back to City Council for review.

**C. Impacts of Water Quality and Quantity Management Practices on Recreation Opportunities**

The current City ordinances together with the LRRWMO, County, regional, state and federal rules and laws are designed to protect the existing land and water resources within the City of Ramsey. The City believes that it can allow continued development while maintaining or improving its resources including water quality and recreation opportunities. With the implementation of this plan and the recommended policy and ordinance changes, the developers will be responsible for protecting water quality, mitigating the runoff quantity and ensuring that there will continue to be recreation opportunities in Ramsey. In addition, the City's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan is designed to educate the public to better protect the city's water resources, to implement temporary and permanent erosion and sediment controls for new developments, to ensure good housekeeping of the City's municipal operations, and to detect and eliminate illicit discharges.

**D. Impacts of Stormwater Discharges on Water Quality and Fish and Wildlife Resources**

As stated in C above, the current and proposed ordinances and the City's SWPPP are designed to protect the existing land and water resources within the City of Ramsey. This includes measures that are designed to maintain or improve the habitat of the fish and wildlife throughout the area.

**E. Impacts of Soil Erosion on Water Quality and Quantity**

As part of the City-wide SWPPP and MS4 permit, the City established an erosion and sediment control ordinance governing construction practices. The City will also evaluate existing erosion control problem areas that may not be associated with recent construction and formulate mitigation plans to rectify those issues. Given increased regulation of the typical causes of soil erosion and sediment transport, it is anticipated impacts of soil erosion on water quality in the Ramsey area will be greatly diminished.

The SWPPP and MS4 permit also call for the annual inspection of required structural BMPs (structural BMPs are physical devices designed to trap or filter pollutants from runoff or reduce runoff velocities; an example being silt fence). Maintenance is included in the City's annual budget to ensure that structural BMPs continue to work and provide the design storage needed to ensure continued flood mitigation.

**F. General Impact of Land Use Practices**

As stated in Section VI.B, increases in impervious surfacing will require mitigation to reduce the impacts related to change in permeability from the natural Anoka Sand Plain conditions. The preferred mitigation method is to encourage infiltration to duplicate the existing condition. In addition to infiltration, the City will consider low impact alternatives and oversized regional retention basins to mitigate potential downstream flow changes.

The City also prepared a Wetland Management Plan along with this the 2008 SWMP that includes a function and value assessment of all wetlands in excess of ¼ acre in size.

Although the wetland buffer requirements were later rescinded by the City Council, the

City gathered a great degree of quantitative data to help study the effects of furtherance of developed areas within the community. The City will continue to use this data as a baseline for analysis as well as to consider potential outcomes of development in close proximity to wetlands Adequacy of Existing Regulatory Controls

The City of Ramsey believes it has adequate policies in place to self-regulate the anticipated growth without sacrificing its abundant water resources. In addition to its ordinances, the existing greater area regulatory controls of the LRRWMO, BWSR, the Metropolitan Council, the DNR, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Anoka County, etc. are more than adequate to properly manage or mitigate adverse impacts on public waters and wetlands.

The City must rely on the regulatory authority of Anoka County, the LRRWMO and the regional, state, and federal plans to monitor and control the runoff entering the City from outside its jurisdiction. The City understands that it will also need to address issues brought to its attention by these outside regulating authorities.

The City is also concerned that the ordinance revisions, various permit fees and charges needed to finance the proposed changes will adversely affect development in Ramsey. To ensure that Ramsey has an equal chance of attracting development, the City must rely on outside agencies and WMOs in the area to regionally enforce similar environmental requirements with comparable financing obligations.

**G. Adequacy of Programs**

The City of Ramsey believes that the BMPs promised in its City-wide SWPPP and MS4 permit are designed to adequately:

1. Limit soil erosion and water quality degradation
2. Maintain the tangible and intrinsic values of natural storage and retention systems
3. Maintain water level control structures

**H. Adequacy of Capital Improvement Programs**

The storm water improvements recommended in the City's 5-year Capital Improvement Program are designed to address and correct problems related to:

1. Runoff Quantity
2. Water Quality Management
3. Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Public Waters and Wetland Management
4. Recreational Opportunities

**I. Future Potential Problems**

The greatest potential for future problems with storm water planning is associated with the ever-growing impervious footprint that is inevitable with growth. As stated earlier, highly pervious nature of the Anoka Sand Plain means that the cumulative effect of development could result in drastically increased runoff volume and flow rates.

The recommended ordinance revisions are designed to:

1. Encourage infiltration and soil ripping of newly graded sites so that developed sites can adequately mimic unimproved site runoff and flow rates.
2. Limit post development runoff rates to the existing condition so that multiple developments do not cause cumulative increases in the downstream condition.

In addition, regional pond modifications are also recommended where plausible because of the economic and runoff management capabilities of larger scale hydrologic systems. By implementing the recommendations in the SWMP, these potential future problems are being anticipated and adequately addressed within the City of Ramsey. As stated earlier, the City must rely on the regulatory authority of Anoka County, the LRRWMO and the regional, state, and federal agencies to monitor and control the runoff entering the city from outside its jurisdiction. The City understands that it will also need to address issues brought to the attention by these outside regulating authorities.

**VII. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Typically a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is an itemized program for at least a five-year prospective period. The items and associated costs are subject to at least biennial review. The benefits include setting forth the schedule, timing, and details of specific contemplated capital improvements by year, together with their estimated cost, the need for each improvement, financial sources, and the financial effect that the improvements will have on the local government unit or watershed management organization.

The City recognizes that the detailed modeling exercise of the storm water system for the city laid out many areas of potential full pipes, inadequate flow structures, and potential flooding issues that will need to be constantly re-evaluated as more detailed information is available for the system and as the city grows. As this re-evaluation occurs, the CIP will need to be updated to reflect new projects.

**A. 5-year Capital Improvement Program**

The current 5-year Capital Improvement Program includes the following:

1.	Annual Sediment Pond Cleaning .....	\$125,000
2.	County Ditch 43 Cleaning .....	\$180,000
3.	COR Bunker Lake Boulevard (Armstrong Blvd to Ramsey Blvd) .....	\$560,000
4.	West Mississippi Outlet .....	\$680,000
5.		
6.	<u>Whispering Pines Estates Plat 2 Storm Sewer .....</u>	<u>\$330,000</u>
7.	<u>Annual Drainage Enhancements .....</u>	<u>\$675,000</u>
8.	<u>Stormwater Drainage Improvements –Treatment before discharge to River</u>	<u>\$410,000</u>
9.	<u>Storm Sewer South of Bunker Lake Boulevard -COR .....</u>	<u>\$250,000</u>
10.	<u>Garnet Street Reconstruction .....</u>	<u>\$198,000</u>
11.	<u>Reconstruction of Andrie Street/ 164<sup>th</sup> Avenue .....</u>	<u>\$1,020,600</u>
12.	<u>Reconstruction of Streets -Ford Brook Estates .....</u>	<u>\$237,600</u>
13.	<u>Alpine Drive Reconstruction .....</u>	<u>\$60,700</u>
14.	Reconstruction of Streets – Stanhope Terrace and North Forty .....	\$587,000
15.		
	<b>Total Current 5-year Plan Expenditures .....</b>	<b>\$5,389,500</b>

The financial impact of implementation of the proposed regulatory controls and programs identified in Section VI is anticipated to include the following:

16.	Adopting and Enforcing the SWMP Local Controls and Standards <sup>9</sup> .....	\$25,000/year
17.	SWPPP Annual Cost and Implementation <sup>10</sup> .....	\$100,000/year
18.	Current Five Year Capital Improvements .....	\$5,389,500
	<b>Total 5-year Financial Impact .....</b>	<b>\$6,014,500</b>

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<sup>9</sup> Estimated cost is based on one half-time employee at salaries (plus benefits) of \$50,000 per year.

<sup>10</sup> Estimated cost is based on two fulltime employees at salaries (plus benefits) of \$50,000 per year.

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Although the cost associated with these recommendations can be financed locally, the City will pursue all opportunities for outside funding. Without outside financing the City will need to finance the adoption of, and enforcement of, the local controls and standards, implementation of the specified programs, and capital improvements recommended in this SWMP using one or more of the following:

1. Increasing the storm water development charges (storm water trunk fees)
2. Increasing the storm water utility fees
3. Increasing the general levy (within levy limits)
4. Creating a storm sewer assessment district
5. Accessing funds from other City projects and funds

The City increased the storm water trunk fees and storm water utility fees in 2015.

Outside funding is greatly desired as the impact of increasing these taxes, fees and charges will increase tax burden against homes and farmsteads, increase the utility burden for all parcels or postpone other necessary improvements currently scheduled in the City's Capital Improvement Plan.

The following are potential sources of outside funding that may be available to assist in the financing of the various storm water related issues:

1. Minnesota Clean Water Legacy funds
2. Clean Water Partnership Funds
3. Clean Water Act, Section 319 funds, administered by the MPCA
4. Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (PFA) grants and low interest loans

There is significant competition for these limited funding sources. If these sources are pursued by the City, it will likely involve innovative treatment technologies in addition to timely requests for funding.

The application deadlines for Section 319 and PFA funds are published annually by the State. The PFA prepares an annual Intended Use Plan for each program that lists the projects eligible to apply for loans. A written request must be submitted by the City to the PFA to place a project on the IUP for consideration. The City routinely monitors the deadlines for these programs.

#### **B. Local Financing Options**

Development Charges or Trunk Fees According to City of Ramsey Code section 117-618, anyone creating a new residential lot or a new nonresidential site plan must pay a storm water trunk fee as established by ordinance. Each year the fee is reviewed and approved as part of the City's overall fee ordinance. For residential property, the fee is a flat fee per residential unit. For nonresidential property (commercial / industrial), the trunk fee is calculated on a per acre basis. The monies collected are deposited in the Storm Water Management Fund and are only used to pay for storm drainage financing and improvements. Maintenance of the storm water system is paid for with utility revenue deposited into the Storm Water Utility Fund.

1. Increased Storm Water Utility Fees

According to City of Ramsey Code Section 58-194, the City may impose just and reasonable charges for the use and availability of storm sewer facilities. Rates and charges for the use and availability of the system shall be determined through the use of a Residential Equivalent Factor (“REF”). For the purposes of the Ramsey City Code, one REF is defined as the ratio of the average volume of surface water runoff coming from one acre of land and subjected to a particular use, to the average volume of runoff coming from one acre of land subjected to typical single-family residential use within the City during a standard five-year rainfall event. Rates and charges for the use and availability of the system shall be determined through the use of a Residential Equivalent Unit (“REU”). For the purposes of the Ramsey City Code, one REU is defined as the product of the acreage of a particular parcel multiplied by the REF. The REF shall be based on the relative runoff generated by any land use compared to the expected runoff from a typical half-acre single-family dwelling. This relationship shall be interpreted as a function of the percent of the total lot area that is impervious and shall be applied as determined in City of Ramsey Code.

The City Storm Sewer Utility fee is intended to finance infrastructure maintenance, upgrading, reconstruction and new construction serving previously developed areas. It is not typically used to finance retrofitting the existing system to accommodate new developments. Most cities require the developer to finance the entire new storm sewer system associated with the development. Then, once the new system is accepted and turned over to the City, the municipal maintenance funds (typically storm sewer utility funds) are used to maintain the new system.

2. Increasing the General Levy

If the City has not yet reached its levy limits, financing could come from increases in the general tax levy across Ramsey. This option is generally not favored because it may duplicate costs for property owners who have either directly or indirectly already financed their own developments. Unless tax expenditures for storm water needs can be uniformly spread to all properties, political opposition should be expected from entities that have already invested in storm water facilities.

3. Creating a Storm Sewer Assessment District or Storm Water Tax District

If a watershed is well defined and the greater majority of the property owners have a share in the benefit of the proposed storm sewer improvement, the City could form a storm water assessment district. When improvements or repairs are needed within the district, an advertisement hearing process is required similar to that used for assessments in Minnesota Statute 429. Many cities are not choosing this financing option because it can be cumbersome. Cities also find it difficult, on occasion, to legally prove the level of benefit associated with the assessment.

**C. Recommended Local Financing**

1. The cost of existing system retrofitting and maintenance projects should be borne by the Storm Sewer Utility fund as this is the primary focus of these funds.
2. The cost of new improvements in undeveloped land should be borne by the developer.

3. The cost of retrofitting the downstream system to accommodate new developments should be borne by newly established New Development Charges or Trunk Fees.
4. Increasing the general levy for storm sewer related costs is not recommended.
5. Creating a storm sewer assessment district is not recommended.

## VIII. IMPLEMENTATION OF PRIORITIES AND PROGRAM

### A. Special Waters

According to the MPCA's Special Waters list (January 2004), special waters in the Ramsey area include:

1. The **Mississippi River** is considered part of the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA) from the western borders of the cities of Ramsey and Dayton to Hastings. The cities of Ramsey and Dayton had previously also been included in the Wild and Scenic Designation until 2012, when these cities received an exemption from the Minnesota Legislature as these areas were also included in the MRCCA.
2. The **Rum River** is considered Scenic/Recreational from Highway 27 bridge in Onamia to Madison and Rice Streets in Anoka.

The City will meet State requirements for development near these waters as identified in the Minnesota Stormwater Manual by designing storm water basins using the sizing criteria described in [Design Calculations for Wet Detention Ponds](#), by William Walker Jr. The City will also encourage storm water practices that promote infiltration/filtration and decrease impervious areas (better site design and integrated stormwater management), where practical.

### B. City-wide SWPPP and MS4 Permit

The City-wide SWPPP, associated with its MS4 permit, is available on the City's website. The SWPP was updated to reflect the 2013 re-issuance of the MS4 Permit. A copy of the SWPPP is attached in Appendix A.

### C. Implementation Schedule

In accordance with Minnesota Rule 8410.0010, the City of Ramsey must provide for the adoption of necessary regulatory controls, storm water design standards, education programs, data collection programs, and maintenance programs. This SWMP must clearly distinguish the City's responsibilities versus the responsibilities of the LRRWMO and Anoka County with respect to implementing each program element.

According to Minnesota Rule 8410, each organization plan must include a schedule for implementation by the organization, joint powers agreement members, and affected local units of government. All plan controls and programs to be implemented by the organization must be in effect within one year of plan adoption. All local plan controls and programs must be developed and in effect within two years of adoption of the last organization plan in the local unit of government.

Since this SWMP is an update to a previously accepted plan, most of the required programs have already been developed and coordinated with Anoka County and the LRRWMO.

### D. Capital Improvement Program

This SWMP must include a capital improvement program that identifies specific capital improvements necessary to implement the water resource management goals and policies of the organization. The 5-year Capital Improvement Program is discussed in Section VII of this report.

A Capital Improvement Program, or CIP, already exists and is updated on annually for a projected 5-year period. The CIP includes projects to implement the recommendations in this SWMP.

**E. Enforcement**

This SWMP must identify the procedure to be followed to enforce violations of the controls of the organization as well as those of the local unit of government.

The City uses a permitting process with a surety requirement for new developments. If the developer fails to follow the conditions of the permit, the City can call on the surety to ensure immediate rectification. The surety must be in the form of a Letter of Credit or Cash Escrow.

The City has adopted the following ordinances:

1. Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance
2. Illicit Discharge Ordinance
3. Post Construction Storm Water Management Ordinance.

Each of these ordinances will be enforceable locally and will carry fines for failure to adhere to them. In addition, the MPCA can impose significant fines for pollution discharges associated with these ordinance controls as well as any unauthorized pollution discharge.

The City will amend its ordinance to include the enforcement of storm water ordinances as part of City Code Chapter 2, Article VII entitled Administrative Enforcement of Ordinance Violations. The City will have to adopt an ordinance to establish the rates and charges associated with administrative fines for storm water ordinance violations.

**F. Administration Process**

This SWMP must specify the administrative process and timelines for the submittal, review, and approval of local plans and variances by the organization.

Requirement 1: All communities need to include information on the types of best management practices to be used to improve storm water quality and quantity and the maintenance schedule for the best management practices (BMPs).

*Solution 1: The City's SWPPP, available on the City website, includes the mandatory list of BMPs together with an implementation timeline. All of the BMPs in the SWPPP are designed to improve storm water quality. The City's current development ordinances are designed to regulate storm water quantity in accordance with the LRRWMO requirements. Within a year after the acceptance of this plan, the City will review its ordinances controlling development to include the recommendations of this SWMP, chiefly the recommended runoff volume controls.*

Requirement 2: All communities need to include a Wetland Management Plan or a process and timeline to prepare a plan. The Wetland Management Plan should incorporate a function and value assessment for wetlands.

Pretreatment of storm water prior to discharge is required for discharge into all wetland types.

*Solution 2: The City has completed a MNRAM evaluation of all of wetlands within city limits and greater than ¼ acre in size. The report is available at the Municipal Center. The implementation of the plan was postponed by the*

Requirement 3: The City needs to include funding sources for the various required activities.

*Solution 3: The required funding sources are described in detail in Section VII of this SWMP.*

Requirement 4: The City needs to include activities to be undertaken along with numerical goals, strategies and timelines.

*Solution 4: The City's SWPPP, available on the City website and attached in Appendix B, includes BMPs describing the necessary activities, numerical goals, strategies and timelines.*

Table 18 is an implementation process list of the recommended actions, timing, responsible party, and the cost or funding sources which are presented for the City Council's consideration based upon the data compiled in this report. Actions are listed in order of priority, from highest to lowest.

**Table 18**  
Implementation Process List

Action	Timing	Responsible Party	Cost/Funding Source
Maintain and implement Capital Improvement Program.	On-going, updated on a 5-year period.	City of Ramsey	Storm water area charge and monthly storm water utility fee
A storm water maintenance program enforced to ensure the successful operation of the drainage system.	On-going.	City of Ramsey	Storm water area charge and monthly storm water utility fee
Corrective actions for storm water problem areas.	On-going, as problems come up.	City of Ramsey	Storm water area charge and monthly storm water utility fee
The erosion and sedimentation control criteria for new developments enforced.	On-going, as developments are submitted to the City for approval.	City of Ramsey	Funding by developer's fees and building permits
Low impact development/better site design for new developments encouraged.	On-going, as developments are submitted to the City for approval.	Developer's Engineers, City of Ramsey	City staff funding by developer's fees and building permits. Developers pay for design and construction of developments.
Conceptual regional Ponding areas established as described herein and made a part of the storm water management system.	On-going, as Developments are submitted to the City for approval. Right of first refusal purchasing at time of sale of property.	City of Ramsey	Cost sharing with Anoka County
Standard review procedures established to ensure all development within the City is in compliance with proper erosion control practices.	Currently in place. Update as necessary.	City of Ramsey	Funding by developer's fees and building permits
Detailed hydrologic analysis required during final design of all ponding areas.	Currently in place. Update as necessary.	Developer's Engineers, City of Ramsey	Developers pay for design and construction of developments. City staff funding by developer's fees and building permits.
Final high water levels governing building floor elevations adjacent to	On-going.	Developer's Engineers, City of Ramsey	Developers pay for design and construction of

ponding areas and floodplains established as development occurs or when drainage facilities are constructed.			developments. City staff funding by developer's fees and building permits.
Overflow routes established and maintained to provide relief during extreme storm conditions, which exceed design conditions.	On-going, as developments are submitted to the City for approval.	City of Ramsey	Developers pay for design and construction of overflow routes. City-conducted maintenance funded by developer's fees and building permits.
An education program for City residents, staff, and development community implemented.	On-going.	City of Ramsey	City of Ramsey, with help from LRRWMO, DNR, University of Minnesota Extension Service, SWCD, NRCS
Amendments to the SWMP adopted and implemented and the SWMP updated.	As warranted by future standards or regulations – by 2015 or earlier if needed.	City of Ramsey	Storm water area charge and monthly storm water utility fee
Regulate construction and land uses along the bluff, to prevent erosion.	On-going, as developments are submitted to the City for approval.	City of Ramsey	Funding by developer's fees and building permits
Encourage landowners to retain any areas of native vegetation, and to plant species native to the area, to protect and improve wildlife habitat and maintain the historic ecological role and appearance of the steeper riverbanks. The existing housing developments along steeper riverbanks have addressed retention of native vegetation in one of two ways: platting of the property in an outlot and deeding that to the City or through a conservation easement.	On-going, as developments are submitted to the City for approval.	Land Owners, Developers, City of Ramsey	Landowner, City of Ramsey, Future grant opportunities if they arise
Develop an implementation strategy for TMDLs.	Once TMDLs are formulated.	City of Ramsey, working with LRRWMO	LRRWMO, BWSR, DNR, etc.



## **IX. AMENDMENT PROCEDURES**

This Updated SWMP extends to 2022. Amendments to the plan may be adopted and implemented as warranted by future standards or regulations. The City is aware that the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization will be updating its watershed management plan during the effective period of this plan which will trigger the mandatory re-evaluation and potential need for an update of this SWMP within two years from the date the watershed plan is approved by BWSR. The City will initiate any amendments by resolution of the City Council. The citizens of Ramsey, City Staff, the City Council, or any of the review authorities having jurisdiction may submit amendment requests.

The amendment request will be evaluated by City staff and a recommendation will be made to the City Council. If the Council deems the amendment necessary, it will order City staff and/or the City attorney to draft an amendment.

The draft amendment will be brought to the Council for review. If approved, the Council will pass a resolution calling for a hearing on the amendment. The amendment must be forwarded to each organization affected by the amendment. The proposed amendment will be published in the official city newspaper not less than 10 days before the hearing.

The hearing will be held in a public place, typically in the Council chambers at City hall. At the hearing, all interested citizens will be given the opportunity to submit a written statement or voice their opinion on the acceptability of the proposed amendment.

When all have been heard, the City Council will close the hearing and vote their decision on whether to pass a resolution accepting the amendment as written.

According to State Statute 103B.235, Subd. 5, Amendments, to the extent and in the manner required by the LRRWMO, all major amendments to the SWMP shall be submitted to the LRRWMO for review and approval in accordance with the provisions of State Statute 103B.235, subdivisions 3 and 3a for the review of plans. All major plan updates and amendments will be submitted to the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization and the Metropolitan Council simultaneously. All minor amendments will have a Public Hearing before the Planning Commission which will then recommend approval by the City Council. The City Council will review the amendments and approve or deny the changes.

## **X. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **A. Summary**

The 2008 plan was prepared by Bolton & Menk, Inc. The technical analysis found within this 2015 update was prepared by Bolton & Menk, Inc. in 2008 and refreshed by City Staff in 2015.

The Ramsey SWMP has a dual purpose: it will serve as a guide for the construction of storm drainage facilities and provide a basis for a consistent approach to the preservation of lakes, wetlands, streams, and the Mississippi and Rum Rivers. The following issues have been incorporated into this plan:

1. Division of the City into major watersheds based on contour maps, grading plans and natural topography
2. Determination of storm water runoff under ultimate land use conditions
3. General layout and sizing of trunk storm sewers and open channels
4. Tributary areas, storage volumes, and high water levels of all existing ponding areas
5. Recommendations for the revision of the current development ordinances
6. Recommendations for standard Operations and Maintenance procedures
7. Recommendations for specific construction site erosion control practices
8. Estimated construction and implementation costs of the SWMP
9. Recommendations for education of City residents, staff, and development community.

The primary function of an urban storm drainage system is to minimize economic loss and inconvenience due to periodic flooding of streets and other low-lying areas. Adequately designed storm drainage facilities provide flood control, minimize hazards and inconvenience associated with flooding, and protect or enhance water quality. The SWMP takes the entire drainage basin with future saturation development into consideration.

Wet water quality ponds upstream or dry regional infiltration basins (where possible) will help control the rate and the volume of storm water runoff. To provide flood protection for adjacent property, the design storm interval for ponding areas with a known outfall is a 100-year storm as compared to a 10-year storm for design of storm sewer piping. For land locked ponds or wetlands, the design storm interval is a back-to-back 100-year storm or the 100-year, 10-day snow melt event, whichever is larger. Any new residential, commercial, industrial and other habitable structures shall be constructed with the following low floor elevation: Elevation of the lowest floor of a structure shall be a minimum of 1 foot above the Emergency Overflow, or 2 feet above the HWL of the nearby pond or waterbody, whichever is higher.

In areas adjacent to designated flood plains as mapped on a Flood Insurance Rate Map, the Regulatory Flood Protection Elevation (RFE) applies. The RFE is defined as the mapped 100-year flood elevation plus 1 foot. However, the LRRWMO requires that the lowest floor elevation be 2 feet above the calculated flood elevation. Therefore, all structures, including accessory structures, must be elevated on fill so that the lowest floor including basement floor is at or above the Regulatory Flood Protection Elevation or 2

foot above the mapped 100-year flood elevation. The finished fill elevation for structures shall be no lower than the Regulatory Flood Protection Elevation and the fill shall extend at such elevation at least fifteen (15) feet beyond the outside limits of the structure erected thereon.

The area of a pond's HWL plus 1 foot of freeboard shall be contained entirely within an outlet that is owned and maintained by the City.

The numerous natural depressions found throughout Ramsey have been incorporated into the SWMP as ponding areas. Wetlands may be, and are currently being used for stormwater storage for larger rainfall events. They may continue to be used for this purpose – even after upstream development, provided that:

1. There is acceptable Best Management Practice pretreatment of the runoff in accordance with the MPCA NPDES/SDS Construction Permit, Section III.D., Permanent Stormwater Management System.
2. The bounce from the normal water level to the high water level does not exceed two feet.

The effective use of ponding areas enables the installation of outflow sewers with reduced capacities since the design storm duration is effectively increased over the total time required to fill and empty the ponding reservoirs. Storm sewers represent a sizable investment for the community and this investment can be more efficiently utilized by ponding storm water in designated ponding areas and allowing smaller diameter pipes to be used as outfall lines.

Equally as important as flood control and cost considerations, is the use of ponding areas to:

1. Improve water quality;
2. Return storm water to the groundwater table;

For water quality ponds, the storage below the outlet is the most important consideration. The area and depth of the ponds may differ from the values presented here, storage below the outlet must be provided so that the prescribed pollutant loading of the system is not exceeded.

The City will allow Developers to construct storm water ponds to serve a secondary purpose as a development amenity. However, the Developer shall be required to enter into a Development Agreement or Maintenance Agreement that outlines that the City will not take on maintenance obligations beyond basic storm water functions. If constructed as a water feature, the City will not guarantee water levels or water quality above basic storm water requirements.

The wildlife aspects of the ponding areas shall be maximized in design and the proper location of the trail system will allow good access to these areas for wildlife observation.

## **B. Model Results**

Even numbered figures from Figure 10 through Figure 22 are maps of critical SSA pond data superimposed on the most recent aerial photo of Ramsey. They are color coded to highlight the 100-year storm conditions as follows:

- Green – The pond functions properly and the peak elevation is fully contained within the pond

- Yellow – The peak pond elevation is above the emergency overflow spillway
- Red – The peak pond elevation may threaten structures

All red and yellow areas will be “ground truthed” to verify the condition depicted. These maps can be used to evaluate regional pond opportunities. In reviewing these maps, one can easily see where the current ponds or depressions are overtaxed for the 100-year event.

Odd numbered figures from Figure 11 through Figure 23 are maps of critical SSA pipe data superimposed on the most recent aerial photo of Ramsey. They are color coded to highlight the 10-year storm conditions as follows:

- Orange – The pipe is flowing normally
- Red – The pipe is flowing full

The following is a brief discussion of the opportunities and recommendations associated with each watershed:

#### Figures 10 & 11 – D43 Watershed

This is the Ditch 43 watershed. From Figure 10, it can be seen that this area is fully developed around a significant amount of existing wetlands. This leaves little opportunity to construct regional ponds.

The red areas on Figure 10 indicate ponds that are subject to flooding during the 100-year event. The yellow areas indicate that the emergency overflow is reached during a 100-year event. These ponds should be reviewed relative to the following:

- Should the outfall pipe be replaced with a larger one?
- Can the pond be enlarged?
- Can the overflow spillway be lowered?
- Can rain gardens be incorporated into the upstream watershed?
- Is the upstream watershed larger than allowed by the original design?
- Can some of the upstream watershed be diverted?

The two ponds in the southwestern part of the watershed that are highlighted in red, P26308 and P26310, appear to be infiltration ponds with no outlet pipe. Because our model conservatively assumes no infiltration, the threat of flooding from these ponds may be exaggerated. In comparing this area with the historic flooding map of Figure 8, there have been no reports of flooding in this area.

Pond P25454 appears to need a raised emergency overflow to the west in order to relieve potential flooding. Our model suggests that a 12-inch outfall culvert under Sunwood Drive with an inlet elevation of 866 will eliminate this threat from a 100-yr rainfall event.

Since the D43 watershed is comprised of a significant amount of wetland which acts as satisfactory runoff storage, no other significant designs are necessary with the exception of the localized flooding associated with the red highlighted ponds. Otherwise, upstream watershed review for infiltration/rain garden opportunities is recommended.

#### Figures 12 & 13 – D66 Watershed

This is the Ditch 66 watershed. It is nearly identical in nature to the D43 Watershed in build out and wetland storage. Hence, the recommendation is the same: review the highlighted ponds and determine if they need upgrading through either upstream infiltration practices, pond enlargement or increasing the outfall.

From Figure 12, only one pond, P22110 is a potential threat to structures. In reviewing Figure 8, no residential complaints have been made for this area and City Staff has not highlighted this area as a nuisance flooding area. It currently exists as a small natural depression that may have infiltration capacity. Our modeling conservatively assumes that no infiltration occurs and that relief is only provided by storage and the capacity of the outfall pipe. Hence, the potential threat to structures may be exaggerated. If this pond proves to be a problem, the pond storage could be increased or the existing 15" outfall could be increased to a 21" pipe with a lower pipe inlet elevation of 883 to adequately relieve the potential flooding.

The yellow coded ponds in Figure 12 highlight ponds that are immediately adjacent to large wetlands. With the exception of pond P09308, in the northwest part of the watershed, these ponds have emergency overflows directly to these wetlands and there is no concern for public welfare or property damage associated with these ponds. Pond P09308 is another infiltration basin with no historic complaints in the vicinity. Because our model conservatively assumes no infiltration, any threat of flooding from this pond may be exaggerated.

#### Figures 14 & 15 – EMISS Watershed

This is the Eastern Mississippi watershed. The majority of the northern part of this watershed is adequate in storage and functioning properly. Where there is undeveloped land, the SSA model can be used to recommend appropriate pipe sizing and ponding to ensure that it remains free of flooding.

The southern part is more commercialized and also more prone to flooding. However, there are no historic complaints of flooding in the area (see Figure 9).

If additional flood protection is needed in the southern EMISS watershed, there are some opportunities to correct the ponds that are modeled to be surcharged. From the aerial photograph, it appears that there are a few opportunities for expanding troubled ponds and the creation of additional ponding that may be constructed as backflow basins to relieve the flood prone ponds in the area. Those best opportunities are immediately adjacent to the railroad. These would be best incorporated into future development of this area. Otherwise, retrofitting rain gardens, infiltration basins, and as a last resort, increasing outfall pipes may be considered for nuisance ponds.

#### Figures 16 & 17 – GOLF Watershed

This watershed is currently functioning well. There is only one pond, P11320, in the watershed that is a potential threat to structures. It appears to be a roadside ditch infiltration basin pond. Again, conservatively ignoring infiltration may exaggerate the flooding potential of this pond. There is no history of complaints of flooding in this area. If flooding becomes a problem, it may only need minor grading to correct its emergency overflow spillway. Also, upstream watershed review for infiltration/rain garden opportunities may also suffice in correcting the problem.

The remaining yellow ponds appear to be in undeveloped areas and are probably natural depressions that fill and overflow.

For the few upstream areas that are not developed, careful retention, infiltration and outfall design review using the SSA model is the best way to accommodate continued development.

#### Figures 18 & 19 – MMISS Watershed

This watershed is only partially developed. The existing development is on the downstream end. The ponding areas within the developed part of the watershed are working well. As recommended earlier, infiltration and rain gardens should be incorporated into the upstream development where possible. The recommended ordinance changes should help ensure that this occurs.

#### Figures 20 & 21 – TROTT Watershed

This watershed is unique in that the majority of the area is currently designed as low impact development. The general nature of the Trott Brook watershed is that it is a linear wetland. The majority of the ponds are functioning well. City staff has noted that one area, near 179<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Azurite Street is a problem area (Figure 9). This area is also highlighted as a potential threat to structures in Figure 21. Regrading the roadside ditches or constructing a new outfall to relieve this area is recommended to alleviate the problem flooding in this area.

The remaining red highlighted pond and the only yellow highlighted pond in TROTT Watershed are infiltration areas with no historic complaints of flooding in the vicinity. Because our model conservatively assumes no infiltration, any threat of flooding from this pond may be exaggerated. If infiltration is not resolving the problem, the emergency overflow from this area should be regraded to protect the structures in the area.

#### Figures 22 & 23 – WMISS Watershed

This watershed includes the COR (former Ramsey Town Center) area. However, some ponds are indicated as being a threat. To ensure that this does not become a problem, we recommend using the SSA model to correct these potential problems as future expansion of the COR area occurs. The residential area to the northwest has several ponds that should be reviewed with the same considerations as the Trott and Ditch 43 watersheds.

Pond number P17306, located immediately west of 156<sup>th</sup> and Nutria, shows as a potential threat to structures and is in an area of property owner complaints. This appears to be a land locked infiltration pond that has very little infiltration capacity. The best solution to this pond is to provide an outfall to the west.

Pond P21210-E, immediately south of 151<sup>st</sup> Avenue and east of Rhinestone Street, is also shown as flooded. This is also an isolated infiltration with no outlet. The property owners in the vicinity of this pond have filed complaints of nuisance flooding in this area. Solutions for this pond include:

- Expanding the storage and working the pond invert to encourage infiltration
- Regrading to lower the existing emergency overflow channel
- Constructing a new piped outfall to serve the area.

There are two infiltration basins in the mid-eastern part of the watershed (Section 21 near 162<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Zirconium Street that have been modeled to be either using the emergency spillway or a potential threat to structures. Although the peak elevation of these ponds may be exaggerated by neglecting infiltration in our model, nuisance flooding has been reported in the vicinity by area residents as shown in Figure 8. To

alleviate this problem in Pond P21208, we recommend constructing an outlet culvert outlet under 161<sup>st</sup> Avenue may adequately address the problem flooding experienced there. The problem in Pond P21210, which is upstream from the residential nuisance flooding area, may be corrected by either expanding the infiltration basin storage or by re-grading the emergency overflow spillway at a lower elevation to alleviate the potential flooding threat.

We recommend that the undeveloped part of the WMISS watershed, lying immediately west of the COR, treated in a similar fashion as the COR. If a separate outfall can be created for this area, it could work in an almost identical fashion. If a separate outfall cannot be obtained, a large regional pond network is recommended. If the ponding alternative is taken, the regional pond network would need to store 100 percent of the runoff at a safe level prior to out letting into the COR system. This would ensure that the COR is not threatened by continued development upstream.

Finally, the Highway 10 corridor is appears to have some pond overflow problems that are only associated with using the ditches as storage. We believe that the best financial and hydrological solution to alleviate these problem areas is to coordinate with MNDOT on any future TH 10 improvements. Any improvements to TH 10 are likely to involve new corridor stormwater management and funding.

#### General

Figures 28 through 30 are typical SSA output files for a single pipe/pond corridor. These are intended to illustrate the output potential of the model and software. If similar output files were created for every aspect of the entire system, this report would be too cumbersome. The 2008 Plan provided Geographic Information System (GIS) data that allows the City to model virtually any pipe, pond or ditch within Ramsey.

It is extremely important that each area be re-evaluated at the time of final design to confirm the criteria used in this study and to make any changes that a proposed development may dictate. Special consideration must be given to areas that develop differently than shown in the Comprehensive SWMP, especially when a higher runoff coefficient is likely to result from development.

All storm sewer facilities, especially those conveying large quantities of water at high velocities, should be designed with efficient hydraulic characteristics. Special attention should be given during final design to those lines that have extreme slopes and create high hydraulic heads.

The Best Management Practices (BMPs) recommended by the MPCA and adopted by the City shall be followed as development or redevelopment occurs.

#### C. **Recommendations**

The following recommendations are presented for the City Council's consideration based upon the data compiled in this report:

1. The SWMP as presented herein will be adopted by the City of Ramsey.
2. The recommended corrections for flood prone areas will be made as described herein and made a part of the storm water management system, where feasible.
3. Standard review procedures will be established, where feasible, to ensure all development within the City is in compliance with proper erosion control practices.

4. Detailed hydrologic analysis will be required, where feasible, during final design of all new developments and ponding areas.
5. Final high water levels governing building elevations adjacent to ponding areas and floodplains will be established as development occurs or when drainage facilities are constructed.
6. Overflow routes will be established and maintained, where feasible, to provide relief during extreme storm conditions, which exceed design conditions.
7. An emergency overflow should be constructed for Lake Itasca to relieve the extreme fluctuation in lake levels of this isolated lake.
8. A storm water maintenance program will be enforced, where feasible, to ensure the successful operation of the drainage system.
9. The erosion and sedimentation control criteria for new developments will be enforced, where feasible.
10. An education program for City residents, staff, and development community will be implemented, where feasible.
11. Amendments to the plan will be adopted and implemented as warranted by future standards or regulations, where feasible.
12. That the plan should be updated in the year 2022 or earlier if needed and feasible.

The existing storm sewer system of the City of Ramsey is not adequate to handle the continued development around the presently developed area. If development continues, the existing system will need major improvement and enlargements to effectively serve the community without excessive flooding. The proposed infiltration and oversized ponding development scenario together with strategically located regional ponds presents one method of accommodating the present growth of Ramsey. However, this report and the proposed scenario is not necessarily the only method of accomplishing the goal of comprehensive storm water management.

Given this, it is imperative that this plan and the SSA model of the City is continually updated on a regular basis and compared to the baseline runoff of the existing conditions model to ensure that any adjustments in area developments continue to be coordinated. In addition, the proposed storm water development charges should be updated annually to ensure that the associated City costs are fully financed. In this manner, the plan can maintain its usefulness as a current document.

Finally, the EPA has initiated the NPDES Phase II requirements whereby cities with populations in excess of 10,000 people are required to apply for a Phase II permit. Some additional cities that are actually under 10,000 in population are also included. The City of Ramsey is a mandatory small MS4 community. One of the requirements of the NPDES permitting process is the existence of a storm water management plan.

As stated earlier, this report is predominantly based on information obtained from available topographic data, field verification of the watershed areas, “ground truthing” of modeled flood prone areas, and discussions with City staff relative to the historical flooding areas. Since the modeled existing system closely matches that described by observation, we feel that this plan has significant benefit as a planning and design tool. However, the quality and accuracy of this report could be further validated with more detailed survey data in the growth areas around the City.

## **XI. ACRONYMS AND GLOSSARY**

### **A. Acronyms**

<b>BMP</b>	- Best Management Practices
<b>BWSR</b>	- Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
<b>DNR</b>	- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
<b>EOF</b>	- Emergency Overflow
<b>EPA</b>	- United States Environmental Protection Agency
<b>EPB</b>	- Environmental Policy Board
<b>EQB</b>	- Minnesota Environmental Quality Board
<b>FEMA</b>	- Federal Emergency Management Agency
<b>FIRM</b>	- Flood Insurance Rate Map
<b>GIS</b>	- Geographic Information System
<b>GPS</b>	- Geographic Positioning System
<b>HWL</b>	- High Water Level, typically associated with the 100 year rainfall event
<b>IDF</b>	- Intensity-Duration-Frequency (for precipitation)
<b>LID</b>	- Low Impact Development
<b>LRRWMO</b>	- Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization
<b>LUST</b>	- Leaking Underground Storage Tank
<b>MNDOT</b>	- Minnesota Department of Transportation
<b>MNRAM</b>	- Minnesota Routine Assessment Method
<b>MPCA</b>	- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
<b>MS4</b>	- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
<b>MSWMP</b>	- Metropolitan Surface Water Management Program
<b>MUSA</b>	- Metropolitan Urban Services Area
<b>NOI</b>	- Notice of Intent (for coverage under the NPDES Permit Program)
<b>NPDES</b>	- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
<b>NPDES/SDS</b>	- The General Permit Authorization to Discharge Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System Permit Program. Administered by the MPCA
<b>NURP</b>	- Nationwide Urban Runoff Program
<b>NWL</b>	- Normal Water Level or Low Outlet Elevation
<b>SWCD</b>	- Soil and Water Conservation District
<b>SWMP</b>	- Surface Water Management Plan
<b>SWPPP</b>	- Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program
<b>TP</b>	- Total Phosphorus
<b>TEP</b>	- Technical Evaluation Panel, typically needed for WCA approval of wetland impacts
<b>TSS</b>	- Total Suspended Solids
<b>USEPA</b>	- United States Environmental Protection Agency
<b>UST</b>	- Underground Storage Tank
<b>WCA</b>	- The Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act and its subsequent Minnesota Rules 6115 and 8420.
<b>WD</b>	- Watershed District
<b>WMO</b>	- Watershed Management Organization

## B. Glossary

**100-Year Flood:** The flood reaching water levels or flow rates with a one-percent (1%) chance of occurring in any given year. On the average, a 100-year flood is statistically probable to occur only once in a 100-year period. A 100-year flood is synonymous with Base Flood, Regional or 1% Chance Flood.

**100-Year Storm Event:** The rainfall event having a total precipitation over a 24-hour period with a one-percent (1%) chance of occurring in any given year. On the average, a 100-year storm event is statistically probable to occur only once in a 100-year period. NOAA Atlas 14: Sanja Perica, Deborah Martin, Sandra Pavlovic, Ishani Roy, Michael St. Laurent, Carl Trypaluk, Dale Unruh, Michael Yekta, Geoffrey Bonnin (2013). NOAA Atlas 14, Volume 8, Version 2, *Precipitation-Frequency Atlas of the United States, Midwestern States*. NOAA, National Weather Service, Silver Spring, MD.**100-Year, 10-Day Snowmelt Event:** The storm event having a total precipitation over a 10-day period with a one-percent (1%) chance of occurring in any given year. On the average, a 100-year snowmelt event is statistically probable to occur only once in a 100-year period. The value for the Ramsey area is taken from the SCS National Engineering Handbook, which shows the 100-year, 10-day snowmelt event is 7.3 inches over 10 days.

**Agricultural Land:** Any land designated specifically for agricultural production. This may include row crops, pasture, hay land, orchards, or land used for horticultural purposes.

**Anaerobic:** Conditions either in water or soil where there is a lack of oxygen.

**Army Corps of Engineers (COE or USCOE):** The United States Army Corps of Engineers is a regulatory agency involved in design, permitting and construction projects related to or impacting navigable waters of the United States including lakes, waterways and wetlands.

**Aquatic Bench:** A 10- to 15-foot bench around the inside perimeter of a permanent pool that ranges from zero depth at the shore to 1-foot depth no less than 10-feet from the shore. Normally vegetated with emergent plants, the bench augments pollutant removal, provides habitat, conceals trash and water level drops, and enhances safety.

**Best Management Practice (BMP):** An action, procedure, or structural improvement designed to improve water quality. BMPs include schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to waters of the State. BMPs also include treatment practices such as ponds, rain gardens, vegetated buffers and vegetated swales, treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control runoff, spillage or leaks, or drainage from raw material storage.

**Buffer:** A vegetated area immediately adjacent to a wetland that is not mowed and/or managed. Buffers are ideally dominated by native vegetation and add to the ecological health of the wetland by adding habitat and assisting and filtering pollutants from surface water runoff.

**Buffer Strip:** An area of vegetated ground cover abutting a water body that is intended to remove sediment and other pollutants from runoff.

**BWSR:** Board of Water and Soil Resources. This is the lead regulatory agency that oversees Minnesota Statute 103B.205 to 103B.255, Minnesota Rule 8410 and the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act.

**Circular 39:** A wetland classification system developed by United States Fish and Wildlife Service in 1956 that categorizes wetlands into eight types. This is the same classification system generally accepted by the State of Minnesota for wetland classification.

**Comprehensive Plan:** As defined in Minnesota Statutes 394.21, a Comprehensive Plan defines a City's the policies, statements, goals and interrelated plans for private and public land and water use, transportation and community facilities to assist in guiding future development and growth.

**Cowardin Classification:** A wetland classification system developed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in 1979. This system defines wetlands by a tiered system and is more detailed than the Circular 39 method. The Cowardin System is the classification System used in the National Wetlands Inventory.

**Design Storm:** A rainfall event of specified size and return frequency that is used to calculate the runoff volume and peak discharge rate to a BMP. In Ramsey, a 10-year design storm is 4.1-inches in 24-hours and a 100-year storm is 5.9-inches in 24-hours. If designing piped storm sewer, a 10-year design storm may also refer to an IDF curve used in the Rational Method of storm sewer design.

**Detention:** The temporary storage of runoff from rainfall and snowmelt events to control peak discharge rates and provide an opportunity for treatment to occur. Detention storage is typically designed in basins.

**Development:** The construction, installation or alteration of any structure, the extraction, clearing or other alteration of terrestrial or aquatic vegetation, land or the course, current or cross section of any water body or water course or division of land into two (2) or more parcels. See also re-development, new development and existing development.

**Drawdown:** The gradual reduction in water level typically due to the combined effect of infiltration and evaporation, but may be the result of human interference.

**Draining:** The removal of surface water or ground water.

**Drop Structure:** Placement of logs with a weir notch across a stream channel. Water flowing through the weir creates a plunge pool downstream of the structure and creates fish habitat.

**Easement:** A grant of one or more property rights by a property owner for use by the public, a corporation, or another person or entity.

**Emergency Overflow (EOF):** A hydraulic channel, swale, weir, etc. that provides an outlet from a pond or flooded area at an elevation below the point where property damage can occur.

**End of Pipe Control:** Water quality control technologies suited for the control of existing urban storm water at the point of storm sewer discharge to a receiving water. Due to typical space constraints, these technologies are usually designed to provide water **quality control rather than quantity control.**

**Erosion:** The wearing away of land surface and soil by the action of natural elements (wind and/or water).

**Eutrophication:** Process by which overabundance of nutrients in a waterbody lead to accelerated productivity and general decrease in water clarity and quality.

**Exfiltration:** The downward movement of runoff through the surface and into the subsoil.

**Existing Development:** A property or parcel of land that has previously been subject to development and no major changes are anticipated to the property in the near future.

**Exotic Species or Invasive Species:** Non-native plants or wild animals that can naturalize, have high propagation potential, are highly competitive for limiting factors, and cause displacement of, or otherwise threaten, native plants or native animals in their natural communities.

**Extended Detention:** A storm water design feature that provides for the gradual release of a volume of water (typically 0.25 to 1.0 inches per impervious acre) over a 12 to 48 hour time period. With proper design, the extended detention period allows for an increased settling of pollutants, and can protect channels from frequent flooding or scour.

**Extended Detention (ED) Ponds:** A conventional ED pond temporarily detains a portion of storm water runoff for a period of 12 to 48 hours after a storm using a fixed orifice. Such extended detention allows urban pollutants to settle out. ED ponds can be designed to be "dry" between storm events and thus do not have any permanent standing water or "wet" with a permanent pool of water. An enhanced ED pond is designed to prevent clogging and resuspension and provides greater flexibility in achieving target detention times. It may be equipped with plunge pools near the inlet, a micropool at the outlet, and utilize an adjustable reverse-sloped pipe at the ED control device. See also "wet pond" definition for diagram.

**Extended Detention Wetland:** A storm water wetland design alternative in which the total treatment volume is equally split between a shallow marsh and temporary detention of runoff above the marsh. After a storm, the normal pool of the shallow marsh may rise by up to two feet. The extra runoff is stored for up to 24 hours to allow pollutants to settle before being released downstream.

**Finished Floor Elevation:** The lowest elevation of the first floor or basement in a residential building or other structure that will or may be inhabited by a person or persons.

**Filtration Basin:** A treatment area designed to treat storm water by a process that physically removes particles from the water.

**Flood:** A temporary rise in stream flow or stage that results in inundation of the areas adjacent to the channel or water body.

**Flood Frequency:** The statistically determined average time period between events where a specific flood stage or discharge may be equaled or exceeded.

**Flood Fringe:** That portion of the 100-year floodplain outside of the floodway.

**Flood Obstruction:** Any dam, wharf, embankment, levee, dike, pile, abutment, projection, excavation, channel rectification, culvert, building, wire, fence, stockpile, refuse, fill, structure or matter in, along, across or projecting into any channel, watercourse or regulatory flood hazard area that may impede, retard or change the direction of the flow of water, either in itself or by catching or collecting debris carried by such water that may cause the flood level to rise and damage property or threaten life.

**Floodplain:** Floodplains are lowland areas adjoining lakes, wetlands, and rivers that are susceptible to inundation of water during a flood. For regulatory purposes, the floodplain is the area covered by the 100-year flood and it is usually divided into districts called the floodway and flood fringe. Areas where floodway and flood fringe have not been determined are called approximate study areas or general floodplain.

**Floodplain (General) Area:** The general floodplain area is determined using the best available data, in lieu of performing a detailed engineering study. These data may be from soils mapping, experienced high water profiles, aerial photographs of previous floods, or other appropriate sources. There are no associated published 100-year flood elevations with general floodplain delineations, unlike detailed study areas. General floodplain area is synonymous with approximate study area and unnumbered A-Zone.

**Flood Proofing:** A combination of structural provisions, changes or adjustments to properties and structures subject to flooding primarily for the reduction or elimination of flood damages to properties, water and sanitary facilities, structures and contents of buildings in a flood hazard area in accordance with the Minnesota State Building Code.

**Floodway:** The floodway is the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas which must remain open in order to discharge the 100-year flood.

**Forebay:** An extra storage area provided near an inlet of a pond or BMP to trap incoming sediments, reducing the amount that accumulates in a pond or BMP.

**Freeboard:** A factor of safety usually expressed in feet above a certain flood level. Freeboard compensates for the many unknown factors (e.g., waves, ice, debris, etc.) that may increase flood levels beyond the calculated level.

**Forbs:** Vegetation that does not consist of trees, grass or shrubs. Forbs are typically associated with flowering plants

**Geographic Information System (GIS):** Computer databases of georeferenced information on the cities various resources.

**Global Positioning System (GPS):** Network of satellites used to map and identify locations on the earth.

**Hydric Soil:** Soils that are saturated, flooded, or ponded long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part. Hydric soil is one of the three criteria that define wetlands

**Hydrophytic Vegetation:** Macrophytic plant life growing in water, soil, or a substrate that is at least periodically deficient in oxygen as a result of excessive water content.

**Hypereutropic:** A very nutrient-rich lake characterized by frequent and severe nuisance algae blooms and low transparency.

**Intensity-Duration-Frequency (IDF) Curve:** A graphical representation of the rainfall intensity versus time of concentration for an area. The IDF curve is typically used in the Rational Method of storm sewer design to determine design rainfall intensity in inches per hour. The following IDF curve is taken from the Minnesota Department of Transportation Drainage Manual and applies is used in the rational method of storm sewer design for the Ramsey Area.

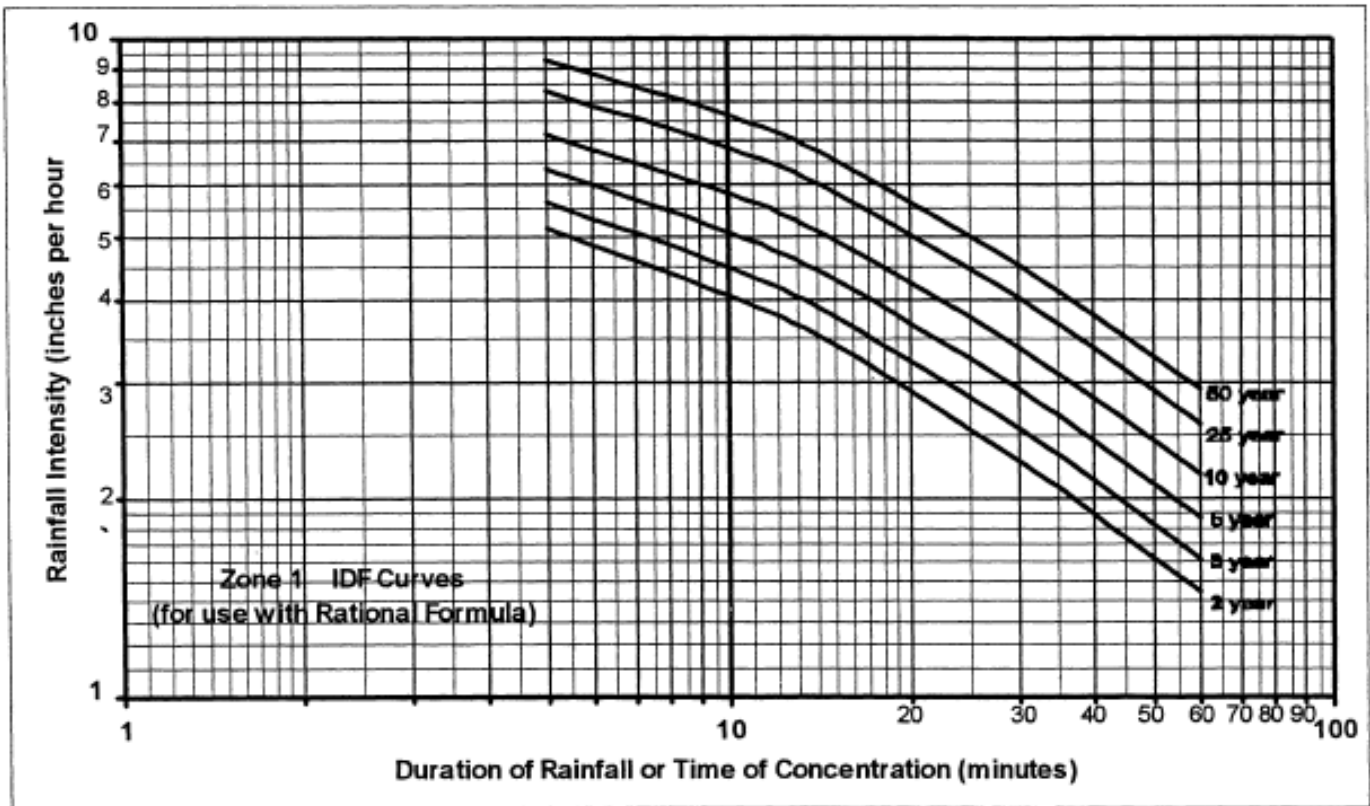


Figure 3.4 Zone 1 Southern Minnesota Rainfall Intensity - Duration - Frequency (IDF) Curves

**Impervious Surface:** The portion of the buildable parcel which has a covering which does not permit water to percolate into the natural soil. Impervious surface shall include, but not be limited to, buildings, all driveways and parking areas (whether paved or not), sidewalks, patios, swimming pools, tennis and basketball courts, covered decks, porches, and other structures. Open, uncovered decks are not considered impervious for the purposes of this ordinance. The use of patio blocks, paver bricks or class 5 gravel material are considered impervious surfaces as a majority of water runs-off the surface rather than being absorbed into natural soils underneath. Some exceptions to these conditions may include paver blocks or pavement systems engineered to be permeable with the underlying soils suitable for infiltration.

**Infiltration Basin:** An impoundment where incoming storm water runoff is stored until it gradually infiltrates into and through the soil of the basin floor.

**Infiltration Trench:** A conventional infiltration trench is a shallow, excavated trench that has been backfilled with stone to create an underground reservoir. Storm water runoff diverted into the trench gradually exfiltrates from the bottom of the trench into the subsoil and eventually into the water table. An enhanced infiltration trench has an extensive pretreatment system to remove sediment and oil. It requires an on-site geotechnical investigation to determine appropriate design and location.

**Infrastructure:** Public facilities and services, including transportation, storm water pipes, structures and ponds, water and sewer pipes and structures, telecommunications, recycling and solid waste disposal, parks and other public spaces, schools, police and fire protection, and health and welfare services.

**Integrated Management Practice (IMP):** A range of small-scale storm water controls or practices distributed throughout a site and intended to maintain flow patterns, filter pollutants and/or re-create or maintain existing site hydrology.

**Invasive Species or Exotic Species:** Non-native plants or wild animals that can naturalize, have high propagation potential, are highly competitive for limiting factors, and cause displacement of, or otherwise threaten, native plants or native animals in their natural communities.

**Landlocked High Water Level or Landlocked HWL:** The peak water level or high water level in a land locked basin. The HWL is the highest peak ponding elevation generated by the back-to-back 100-year SCS 24-hour rainfall events, the 10-inch SCS 24-hour rainfall event or the 100-year, 10-day snowmelt snow melt event.

**Local Government Unit (LGU):** Agency that has the primary responsibility of administering the Wetland Conservation Act. The City of Ramsey acts as LGU for all wetlands within the City limits and shares responsibility for basins that border adjacent municipalities.

**Lowest Floor:** The lowest floor of a structure, including basement.

**Low Impact Development (LID):** An approach to storm water management intended to protect water resources, reduce storm sewer infrastructure costs and provide a more attractive storm water management system. LID practices include infiltration systems, bioretention areas, rain barrels, green roofs, porous pavements and a long list of additional innovative storm water treatment practices.

**Mesotrophic:** Describes a lake of moderate photosynthetic productivity.

**MNRAM:** The Minnesota Routine Assessment Methodology as referenced by Minnesota Rules 8420. MNRAM is the primary tool used to assess wetland functions and values on a qualitative basis. MNRAM evaluates wetlands based on vegetation, wildlife habitat, water quality, flood and storm water attenuation, recreational opportunities, aesthetics, fishery habitat, groundwater interactions, and commercial use. The result of a MNRAM evaluation is a ranking of the wetland quality that can be used to monitor the wetland changes over time and to set appropriate protection needs and techniques. The version referenced in this plan is Version 3.0.

**Monotypic:** Used to describe vegetation communities in which only one dominant species is present. Most often used to describe areas that are entirely dominated by reed canary grass or cattails.

**Navigable Waters:** Waters defined by the United States, 33 Code of Federal Regulations Section 329.4 as those waters that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide and/or are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use to

transport interstate or foreign commerce. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has Federal Jurisdiction over Navigable Waters.

**New Development:** Development of a property or portion thereof that is currently undeveloped property.

**NURP:** Nationwide Urban Runoff Program, a study by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. A key component of this program was to assess the effectiveness of urban runoff detention/retention basins (e.g., ponds) in removing pollutants from storm water runoff.

**Off-Line BMP:** A water quality facility designed to treat a portion of storm water (usually 0.5 to 1.0 inches per impervious acre) which has been diverted from a stream or storm drain.

**Off-Line Treatment:** A BMP system that is located outside of the stream channel or drainage path. A flow diverter is used to divert runoff from the channel and into the BMP for subsequent treatment.

**Ordinary High Water Level (OHWL or OHW):** The Minnesota DNR jurisdictional boundary of public waters and wetlands that is depicted by an elevation delineating the highest water level which has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave evidence upon the landscape, commonly that point where the natural vegetation changes from predominantly aquatic to predominantly terrestrial. For watercourses, the ordinary high water level is the elevation of the top of the bank of the channel. For reservoirs and flowage, the ordinary high water level is the operating elevation of the normal summer pool. In Ramsey all of the lakes have an OHW established. For streams and waterways, the OHW is considered the top of bank. Areas below the OHW are under the jurisdiction of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and are not regulated by the Wetland Conservation Act.

**Permanent Pool:** A 3- to 10-foot deep pool in a storm water pond system that provides removal of urban pollutants through settling and biological uptake (also referred to as a wet pond).

**Porous Pavement:** An alternative to conventional pavement whereby runoff is diverted through a porous asphalt or concrete layer and into an underground stone reservoir. The stored runoff then gradually infiltrates into the subsoil.

**Protected Water:** Any water or wetland designated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and identified by statute on the Protected Waters Inventory.

**Public Waters:** Those waters of the state identified as public waters or wetlands under Minnesota Statutes, Section 103G.005.

**Rational Method:** A method of estimating the peak runoff from a watershed that is based on the formula  $Q = CIA$ . Where:

$Q$  = peak flow rate in cubic feet per second

- C = a runoff coefficient based on the percentage of impervious surface, type of vegetative cover, and soil type
- I = rainfall intensity in inches per hour as determined from an area IDF curve
- A = watershed area in acres

**Reach:** A hydraulic engineering term to describe a longitudinal segment of a stream or river influenced by the natural or man-made obstruction. In an urban area, the segment of a stream or river between two consecutive bridge crossings or between two reservoirs would most typically constitute a reach.

**Redevelopment:** Any development including but not limited to rebuilding, renovation, revision, remodeling, reconstruction or redesign of or at an existing development.

**Regional Flood:** A flood which is representative of large floods known to have occurred generally in Minnesota and reasonably characteristics of what can be expected to occur on an average frequency in the magnitude of the 100-year recurrence interval. A regional flood is synonymous with the term "base flood" used in the Flood Insurance Study.

**Regulatory Flood Protection Elevation:** A point not less than one-foot above the water surface profile associated with the 100-year flood as determined by the use of the 100-year flood profile and surrounding technical data in the Flood Insurance Study plus any increase in flood heights attributable to encroachments on the floodplain. It is the minimum elevation the DNR requires Cities to regulate by ordinance.

**Retention:** The permanent storage of runoff from rainfall and snowmelt events with volume reduction coming from infiltration, evaporation or emergency release.

**Riprap:** A combination of large stone, cobbles and boulders used as an erosion control BMP. Riprap is typically used to line channels, stabilize banks, reduce runoff velocities, or filter out sediment.

**Runoff (Storm Water):** The overland and near surface flow from rainfall and snowmelt.

**Runoff Coefficient:** A measure of the rate of runoff that is statistically generated from a parcel of land that is based on the land use, percent of impervious surfacing, soil type and vegetative cover. The higher the coefficient, the higher the amount of runoff anticipated from the parcel. Rational method runoff coefficients range from 0.2 for meadow lands to 0.95 for paved surfaces.

**Runoff Conveyance:** Methods for safely conveying runoff to a BMP to minimize disruption of the stream network, and promote infiltration or filtering of the runoff.

**Runoff Pretreatment:** Techniques to capture or trap coarse sediments before they enter a BMP to preserve storage volumes or prevent clogging within the BMP. Examples include forebays and micropools for pond BMPs, and plunge pools, grass filter strips and filter fabric for infiltration BMPs.

**Sand Filter:** A technique for treating storm water, whereby the first flush of runoff is diverted into a self-contained bed of sand. The runoff is then strained through the sand, collected in underground pipes and returned back to the stream or channel.

**Sediment Forebay:** A storm water design feature that employs the use of a small settling basin to settle out incoming sediments before they are delivered to a storm water BMP. Often used full in tandem with infiltration devices, wet ponds or marshes.

**Sequencing:** The process used by the Local Government Unit to evaluate the necessity of an activity relative to its impact on a wetland. The party proposing the impact must demonstrate that the activity proposed complies with the following principles in descending order of priority.

1. Avoids direct or indirect impacts to the wetlands that may diminish or destroy them;
2. Minimizes the impact to the wetland by limiting the degree or magnitude of the wetland activity and its implementation;
3. Rectifies the impacts by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected wetland;
4. Reduces or eliminates the impact to the wetland over time by preservation and maintenance operations; and,
5. Replaces unavoidable wetland impacts to the wetland by restoring or, if wetland restoration opportunities are not reasonably available, creating substitute wetland areas having equal or greater public value as provided for under the Wetland Conservation Act.

**Shoreland:** Land located within the following distances from public waters:

1. One thousand feet from the ordinary high water level of a lake, pond, or flowage
2. Three hundred feet from a river or stream, or the landward extent of a floodplain designated by ordinance on a river or stream, whichever is greater.

The limits of shoreland may be reduced whenever the waters involved are bounded by topographic divides which extend landward from the waters for lesser distances and when approved by the Commissioner of the DNR.

**Short Circuiting:** The passage of runoff through a BMP in less than the theoretical or design treatment time. For example, a properly designed treatment pond will have the inlet and outlet pipes located as far apart (along the water flow path) as possible. A short circuiting pond would have the inlet very close to the outlet and the water coming into the pond would leave the pond much sooner than if it were able to travel through the entire pond.

**Storm Water Treatment:** The use of accepted BMPs to treat runoff including detention, retention, filtering or infiltration of a given volume of storm water to remove pollutants.

**Stream Buffer:** A variable width strip of vegetated land adjacent to a stream that is preserved from a disturbance and/or mowing to protect water quality and aquatic and terrestrial habitats. See also buffer strip.

**Structure:** Anything manufactured, built, constructed, erected, or a portion thereof which is normally attached to or positioned on land, whether temporary or permanent in character, including but not limited to buildings, fences, sheds, advertising signs, dog kennels, hard surface parking areas, boardwalks, playground equipment, concrete slabs.

**Shoreland Wetland Protection Zone:** The land located within 1,000 feet from the Ordinary High Water Elevation of a Protected Water, 500 feet from the Mississippi or Rum Rivers or the landward extent of the designated floodplain, and 300 feet from any stream designated in the shoreline management ordinance.

**Storm Water:** (See Runoff)

**Storm Water Treatment Pond:** Any waterbody that has been specifically created to remove sediment and nutrients and "treat" surface water runoff. Storm water ponds that were created from existing wetland are still regulated as jurisdictional wetlands. Storm water ponds created from upland areas are not wetland and are exempt from regulatory jurisdiction.

**Subwatershed:** A subdivision based on hydrology corresponding to a smaller drainage area within a larger watershed.

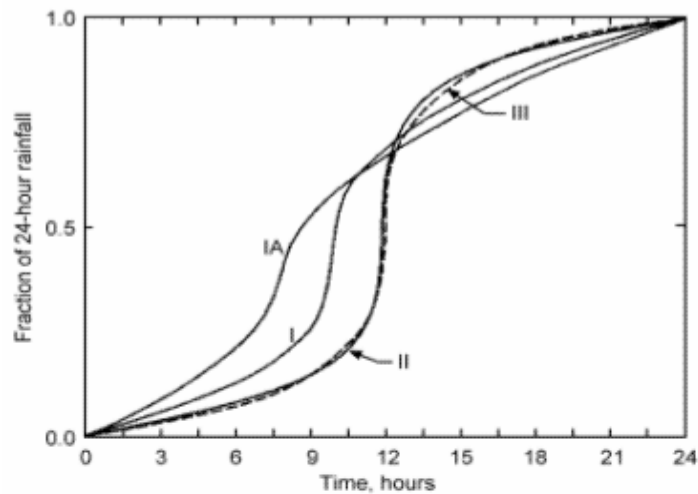
**Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP):** A panel of technical professionals from the Board of Water and Soil resources, the Anoka County SWCD, the LRRWMO and the LGU (City of Ramsey) at a minimum. This panel may also be expanded to include a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources representative, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and interested citizens requesting to participate in the wetland decision making process. Invitations to a TEP meeting are typically sent to all parties listed. The DNR, COE and interested citizens (if any) may elect not to attend. The TEP provides decision making support for the LGU for many wetland and regulatory issues.

**Ten-Day Snow Melt Runoff with Type "C" Distribution (100-Year/10-day snow melt runoff):** A modeled runoff event that represents snowmelt conditions over a 10-day period for a return period snow depth of 100 years. The runoff event is simulated for a curve number (CN) of 100 which represents frozen soil conditions or where all surfaces are considered impervious. For some Ramsey the ten-day runoff event is critical event for identifying the high water level of the basin or water body because the Anoka Sand Plain typically reduces runoff under unfrozen conditions. The Type C distribution is similar in concept to the Type I and II distributions, and for this event, establishes the time distribution of runoff volume over the ten-day period.

**Treatment Volume (Vt):** The volume of storm water runoff that is treated within a BMP or IMP storm water treatment facility. Typically the volume is expressed in terms of inches of runoff per impervious acre.

**Type I, IA, II and III Storm Distributions - NRCS:** These storm types represent the time distribution of a 24-hour rainfall event for areas throughout the United States. The total storm depth is distributed according to the diagram in subpart A. Type II storms are more "flashy" (i.e., convective/thunderstorms) than a Type I or IA storm. Subpart B illustrates that all of Minnesota is within the Type II rainfall distribution area.

A. SCS 24-hour rainfall distributions (SCS, 1986):



B. Approximate geographic boundaries for SCS rainfall distributions (SCS, 1986):



**Underdrain:** Typically perforated plastic pipes installed on the bottom of a filtration of infiltration BMP, or sand filter. The under drain is used to collect and remove treated storm water that exceeds the water holding and/or infiltration capacity of the soil.

**Upland:** General term to describe any area that is not a wetland.

**Vegetated Filter Strip:** A vegetated section of land designed to accept runoff as overland sheet flow from upstream development. It may adopt any natural vegetated form, from grassy meadow to small forest. The dense vegetative cover facilitates pollutant removal. Vegetated filter strips cannot treat high velocity flows; therefore, they have generally been recommended for use in agriculture and low-density development. A filter strip can also be an enhanced natural buffer, whereby the removal capability of the natural buffer is improved through engineering and maintenance activities such as land grading or the installation of a level spreader. A filter strip differs from a grassed

swale in that a swale is a concave vegetated conveyance system, whereas a filter strip has a fairly level surface.

**Watershed:** A topographically defined area within which all runoff water drains to a point.

**Water Quality Volume:** A design volume of water as defined by the MPCA that is required to be treated from a new development site. The MPCA defines the water quality volume as 0.5-inches of runoff from all new impervious surfaces associated with the development in the watershed.

**Watershed-to-Lake Ratio:** The relative surface area of the contributing watershed to the surface area of the lake or water body. In terms of water quality, generally the smaller the watershed-to-lake ratio, the better the quality of the lake. For example a lake with a ratio of 4 to 1 means that the watershed is four times the size of the lake (i.e., 200 acres contributing to a 50 acre lake).

**Wetland:** Transitional land between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water. The jurisdictionally accepted definition of a wetland includes the following three characteristics:

1. Have a predominance of hydric soil
2. Be inundated or saturated within 1-foot of the surface for at least 5 percent of the growing season. The inundation refers to a single continuous episode.
3. Support a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soils.

**Wetland Conservation Act (WCA):** In 1991 Minnesota adopted the initial Wetland Conservation Act (Minnesota Laws Chapter 354) to protect the states wetland resources. This act has been amended and updated periodically, typically under Minnesota Rule 8420, and is used by reference to the current program, as well as any future amendments.

**Wetland Delineation:** The process and procedure by which an area is determined a wetland or non-wetland including a determination of the wetland boundary based on the point where the non-wetland areas shift to wetlands or aquatic habitats.

**Wetland Mitigation:** Wetlands created to replace wetland areas destroyed or impacted by land disturbances.

**Wet Pond:** A conventional wet pond has a permanent pool of water for treating incoming storm water runoff and a live storage component for flood storage and additional water quality treatment detention.

# Tables

# Figures

# Appendix A

Ramsey City-wide  
Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

# **Appendix B**

Comment Letters



June 22, 2015

Mr. Bruce Westby  
City Engineer  
City of Ramsey  
7550 Sunwood Drive NW  
Ramsey, MN 55305

RE: City of Ramsey Surface Water Management Plan (plan)  
Metropolitan Council Review File No. 21414-

Dear Mr. Westby:

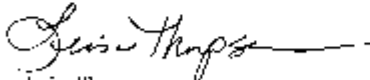
The Metropolitan Council (Council) has completed its review of the above plan, dated May 12, 2015. The plan is consistent with Council policies and the Council's *Water Resources Policy Plan*. The Council finds the plan fulfills the requirements for a local water management plan, and provides an excellent framework for managing storm water in the city.

We do have several minor comments on the plan:

- Page 1 of the plan refers to the Council's 2030 Water Resources Management Policy Plan; the Metropolitan Council adopted its *2040 Water Resources Policy Plan* on May 20, 2015.
- In *Section X, C. Recommendations* and in some of the policies, actions are referred to as things that "should" be done. The plan needs to have specific language as to what will be done and by whom.
- In *Section X, B. Model Results*, the text refers to figures in the plan, however the figure numbers given appear to be incorrect. For example, the text heading says, "*Figures 15 & 16 EATSS Watershed*," however Figure 16 is actually the Gull watershed 100 year pond summary.

Thank you for considering our comments on the city's plan. Again, the Council believes Ramsey's Surface Water Management Plan provides an excellent framework for managing storm water in the city and protecting water quality and quantity. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Joe Mulcahy, at 651-602-1104.

Sincerely,



Laisa Thompson  
General Manager, Environmental Services Division

cc: Todd Hass, Chair, Lower Rata River Watershed Management Organization  
Edward Reynolds, Metropolitan Council District 9  
Sam Puske, Assistant General Manager, Environmental Quality Assurance Department  
Annalee Gartz, Metropolitan Council Sector Representative  
Reya Brinacelli, Metropolitan Council Referrals Coordinator  
Joe Mulcahy, Water Resources Assessment Section





**Anoka Conservation District**  
1318 McKay Drive NE, Suite 300  
Ham Lake, Minnesota 55304  
Ph: 763-434-2030 Fx: 763-434-2094  
[www.AnokaSWCD.org](http://www.AnokaSWCD.org)

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July 2, 2015

Bruce Westby, City Engineer  
City of Ramsey  
7550 Sunwood Drive NW  
Ramsey, MN 55303

Mr. Westby,

The Anoka Conservation District is reviewing the City of Ramsey's draft Local Surface Water Management Plan (received 5-12-2015) on behalf of the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization. City local water plans (LWP) must be consistent with the WMO plan. Please consider the comments on the following pages.

Barr Engineering is also conducting a review of regulatory elements of the plan on behalf of the WMO which you will receive under separate cover. I have reviewed those comments and agree with them, however they are generally not re-stated in this letter.

After revision of this plan, please resubmit it to the LRRWMO. A letter summarizing actions taken to address our concerns would be appreciated to expedite our review.

The City is reminded that local controls and ordinances must be amended to be in conformance with state and WMO standards within 180 days after LWP approval. (MN Statutes 103B.235 subd. 4).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jamie Sill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Water Resource Specialist

LRRWMO Plan Requirement	WMO Page	Comments/Suggested Actions
<b>Education</b>		
Local plans must include education. An education program must be part of local plan development.	53	Reference the SWPPP where a more detailed education plan is already in place for the City.
<b>Wetlands</b>		
"Wetland excavation for the enhancement of wildlife habitat will only be allowed if the project proposer applies for a LRRWMO approval and the excavation is in conformance with the WCA as well as guidance from the BWSR, DNR, and USACOE"	57	The city must develop wetland buffer standards consistent with LRRWMO standards. Please see Barr Engineering's review.
City must have wetland standards consistent with the LRRWMO standards.	Appendix G	DOES IT APPLY TO CONST. OF IND. HOME
<b>Stormwater</b>		
"New or expanded stormwater discharges to the Rum River are not allowed" because it is classified as an Outstanding Resource Value Water by the DNR.	46	Add corresponding language.
City must have stormwater standards consistent with the LRRWMO standards.	Appendix E	Add a summary of LRRWMO standards.
WMO encourages stormwater pond design to include habitat enhancement and aesthetic features.	54	Add a similar policy, perhaps under goal 3.
<b>Anoka Dam</b>		
An ownership /responsibility plan for the Anoka Dam will be developed with the member cities.	61	Add discussion of Anoka Dam management planning, including any collaborative work with Anoka and Andover.
<b>Water Quality</b>		
The LRRWMO will "work cooperatively with other agencies and communities on TMDLs..." Cities should recognize impaired waters in their local plan and provide plan for addressing.	43, 55	The MPCA is in the process of announcing new impaired waters designations. Trott Brook is being listed as impaired for macroinvertebrates, fish, dissolved oxygen and E. coli. Update the plan with this information.
<b>Other</b>		
"Municipalities will apply for grants through the LRRWMO with the municipalities providing match funds required"	49	The city is strongly encouraged to use their stormwater utility fund in partnership with LRRWMO. State grants can be pursued if local matching dollars are provided; this will make local dollars go much farther. Consider mentioning new state buffer laws.

resourceful. naturally.  
engineering and environmental consultants



June 19, 2015

Mr. Bruce Westby  
City Engineer  
City of Ramsey  
7550 Sunwood Drive NW  
Ramsey, MN 55303

**Re: Local Surface Water Management Plan: City of Ramsey**

Dear Mr. Westby:

The Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization's (LRRWMO) *Third Generation Watershed Management Plan* (LRRWMO WMP) was approved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on December 11, 2011. MN Rules 8410.016 requires that local municipal storm water plans shall be adopted within 2 years of the BWSR board's approval of the last organization plan (Watershed District or Water Management Organization) that affects local units of government. The city of Ramsey, lying totally within the LRRWMO, has submitted their *Local Surface Water Management Plan* (Ramsey Plan) to the LRRWMO on May 12, 2015. The Plan must, at a minimum, meet the requirements for local plans as outlined in Minnesota Statutes 103B.235, except as provided by the LRRWMO WMP under Minnesota Rule 8410.0110, subpart 3.

Barr Engineering Co. (Barr) and the Anoka Conservation District (ACD) are reviewing the Ramsey Plan and are submitting comments to the LRRWMO on compliance and conformance with the LRRWMO WMP. Barr's review and comments are primarily on the storm water management component of the Ramsey Plan. The ACD's comments, submitted under separate cover, are on the goals and policies component of the Ramsey Plan. State Statute requires the LRRWMO complete its review and provide comments by July 11, 2015, 60 days of the submittal of the Ramsey Plan. E-mail correspondence from the City has stated that the review period can be extended to July 16, 2015, the next regularly scheduled meeting of the LRRWMO.

#### **Review Comments of the Storm Water Management Plan**

1. The storm water requirements (Appendix E of the LRRWMO WMP) of the LRRWMO need to be stated in the Ramsey Plan and at a minimum adopted by the City. This includes rate control, volume retention, water quality management, and flood control/management. The LRRWMO criteria are stated frequently throughout the text of the Ramsey Plan. However in addition, if in one statement in one location within the Ramsey Plan it is stated that the City adopts/references the requirements of Appendix E, this would provide greater clarity to the Ramsey Plan user of the applicable storm water requirements.

Barr Engineering Co. 4700 West 77th Street, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55435 952.832.2600 [www.barr.com](http://www.barr.com)

2. Page 6, Item 7 of the Ramsey Plan states; *The wetland buffers recommended in the Wetland Function assessment were approved by City Council when the 2008 SWMP was approved. Further review of the buffers by the City Council resulted in a policy to delay the implementation of the wetland buffer recommendations.*
  - This statement is also mentioned in several places throughout the Ramsey Plan. Wetland Protection Standards for the LRRWMO are outlined in Appendix G of the LRRWMO WMP. The Ramsey Plan must specifically identify these standards, how the City will be implementing these standards and any wetland requirements, such as buffers, that the City will be implementing through ordinance.

3. Page 14, Item B of the Ramsey Plan states; *Figure 4 shows the 10-year capture zone (Well Head protection Area, WHPA) as well as the Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) for the seven municipal drinking water wells in Ramsey. Storm water infiltration will not be allowed inside these zones.*

Page 34, Item D of the Ramsey Plan states (last sentence); *City Policy adopted in conjunction with infiltration requirements of the LRRWMO Third Generation Plan permits infiltration in areas within the Drinking Water Supply Area (DWSMA), so long as it is not also within the 10-year capture zone.*

- These two statement appear to somewhat be in conflict with each other.
  - The Ramsey Plan needs to address how volume retention requirement is to be complied with in areas such as the DWSMA or in areas that are non-conductive for infiltration.
4. Page 16, Item #2 of the Ramsey Plan states; *The bounce from the normal water level to the high water level does not exceed two feet.*
    - It is recommended that this comment be replaced with, The impacts of storm water from new development discharging into a wetland will be determined through a Minnesota Routine Assessment Methodology (MnRAM) assessment of the wetland.

A MnRAM provides a quantitative and qualitative assessment of the impacts that storm water has and will have on a wetland.

5. Page 18, Table 16; of the Ramsey Plan. It is recommended that the Design Infiltration Rates in the Minnesota Storm Water Manual, as amended, be used and referenced rather than the information from Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds, (SCS, 1986).
6. Page 19, Item #11 of the Ramsey Plan - Unique Features and Scenic Areas; The City Codes referenced, Chapter/Section 177, must comply with the revised MDNR's Wild and Scenic River Management requirements.

7. Page 20 of the Ramsey Plan: The highlighted text states NEED TO ADD WEB PAGE, the web page needs to be provided.
8. Page 31 of the Ramsey Plan, last paragraph states; *Elevation of the lowest opening of a structure shall be a minimum of 1 foot above the Emergency Overflow, or 2 feet above the HWL of the nearby pond or waterbody, whichever is higher.*
  - The LRRWMO WMP criteria states; The **low floor** elevation of all development, including basements, must be at least 3 feet above the highest anticipated groundwater table, 2 feet above the designated or designed 100-year flood elevation, or 1 foot above the emergency overflow, whichever is higher. The statement in the Ramsey Plan must be corrected.
9. Page 35, Item 4 of the Ramsey Plan – Pond and Pipe Design Criteria: The Peak Flow Rate Control criteria described on page E-5 of the LRRWMO WMP should be included in the discussion.
10. Page 37 of the Ramsey Plan, Group C states; *Includes soils that are low in organic content and made-up of clay loams and soils high in clay.*
  - The Minnesota Storm Water Manual identifies a Hydrologic Soil Group C as a sandy-loam, ML, silts, very fine sand, silty or clayey fine sands. Please verify the description in the SWMP or consider using the description in the Minnesota Storm Water Manual.
11. Page 41, Policy 2.1 of the Ramsey Plan: The policy should be modified to read, *The City will adopt best management practices for development that will result in an annual removal efficiency of 60% total phosphorus and 90% total suspended solids.*
12. Page 41, Policy 3 of the Ramsey Plan should be Policy 3.4. See previous comments regarding wetland protection standards, item 2. Also, it appears that the last sentence of this policy statement beginning with Policy 3.5 should either be modified or be a standalone Policy.
13. Page 42, Goal 4 of the Ramsey Plan; A policy needs to be added that the City's newsletter or web site will provide information regarding water resource management and a summary of the on-going activities of the LRRWMO ( page 53, Policy 1, Education of the LRRWMO WMP).
14. Page 42, Policy 6.3 of the Ramsey Plan; Hydraulic Soil Types A and B are most conducive to infiltration but infiltration is/should not be limited to these two soil types.
15. Page 43, Policy 6.5 of the Ramsey Plan states; *The use of grassed waterways shall be encouraged to maximize infiltration. Proper grades shall be maintained or underdrain systems installed as part of an overall site plan to insure positive drainage.*
  - The use of an underdrain system does not provide for infiltration but rather filtration of storm water.

16. Page 43, Goal 7 – Wetlands of the Ramsey Plan; A policy should be provided that the LRRWMO is the Local Governmental Unit (LGU) administering the requirements of the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) in Ramsey.
17. Page 43, Policy 7.1 of the Ramsey Plan states; *Use and Function of all wetlands greater than ¼ acre in size has been determined as part of the 2008 SWMP preparation.*
  - In other Sections of the Ramsey Plan it has been stated that the Use and Function of the wetland has been prepared but will not be used at this time. This needs to be clarified and describe how the requirements of Appendix G – Wetland Protection Standards in the LRRWMO WMP are to be complied with.
18. Page 46, Policy 12.7 of the Ramsey Plan states; *The City will perform regular wet storage volume surveys of its storm water quality ponds on a 10-year rotating basis.*
  - Is this consistent with the requirements of the City MS4 permit requirements?

### General Comments

1. The figures for the various Study Areas show "Potential Threat to Structures" designation. A table or some form of reference to the structure location (address), low floor elevation and flood elevation would be useful information in the Ramsey Plan.
2. The flood elevations and discharges shown in the tables are listed to the hundredth (0.01) of a foot and hundredth (0.01) of a cubic foot per second (c.f.s.), respectively. Because of the numerous assumptions and variables used in these calculations, it is recommended that flood elevations be shown to the whole foot (no less than a tenth of a foot – 0.1) and discharges be shown to the whole c.f.s (no less than a tenth of a c.f.s. – 0.1).

Thank-you for the opportunity of providing our review comments regarding the *Local Surface Water Management Plan* for the city of Ramsey submitted to the LRRWMO in accordance with MN Rule 8410.016.

If you have any questions or request further clarification of our comments, please contact Todd Haas, LRRWMO Board Chairman or me at 952-832-2857, [bobermeyer@barr.com](mailto:bobermeyer@barr.com).

Sincerely,

Robert C. Obermeyer P.E.  
Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization Engineer

C: Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization Members  
Jamie Schurbon; ACD  
Leonard Linton; city of Ramsey

BCO/ymh