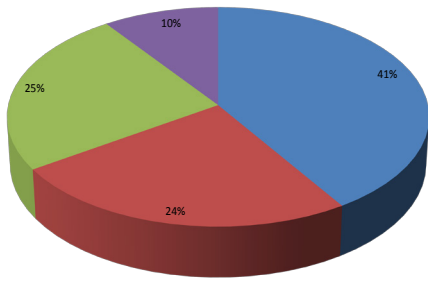


Why Water Matters

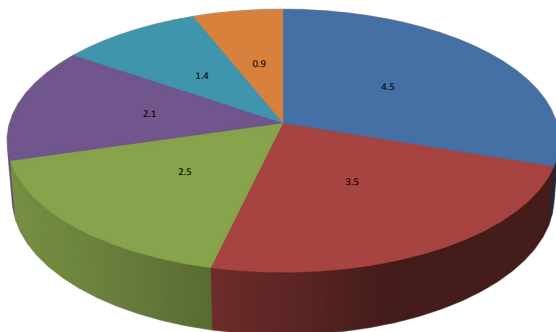
AGENCY/TAC SURVEY RESPONSES

Groundwater Concerns - Agencies



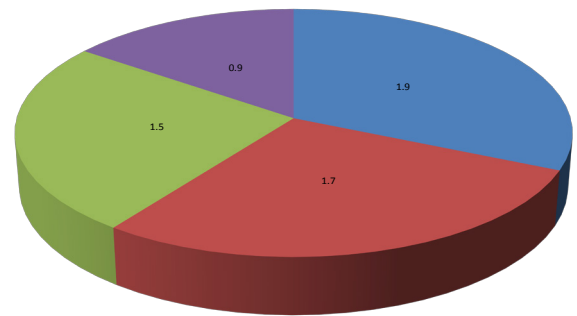
- Impact on drinking water supply
- How groundwater levels may impact other local waters (e.g. Charley-Vadnais chain river pumping, wetlands, shallow drinking water wells)
- opportunities to recharge aquifers
- Impact on lake levels

Priority Concerns Priorities - Agencies



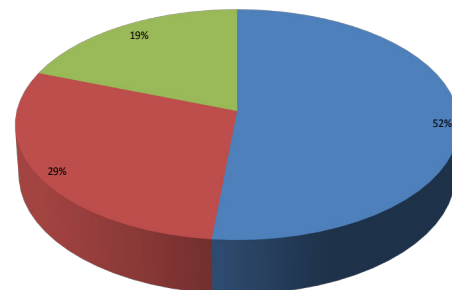
- Surface water
- Groundwater
- Capacity to achieve goals
- AIS
- Flooding
- Education & Outreach

Local Surface Water Issues - Agencies



- Non-degradation from current
- Improve impaired
- cost-effective
- visible project

Aquatic Invasive Species - Agencies



- Zebra mussels
- Invasive carp
- Purple Loosestrife

TOTAL NUMBER OF SURVEYS SUBMITTED = 8

INCLUDES: SPRWS, CITY STAFF, RAMSEY COUNTY, BWSR, MPCA, DNR, RAMSEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT, MCES

Why Water Matters

AGENCY/TAC SURVEY RESPONSES

Notes from Agency/TAC meeting:

1. Regarding groundwater: the quantity of water from private wells is only estimated. There is no measurement against which to gauge improvement. There is an internal DNR action plan being developed. The WMO should focus on education & infiltration practices-so far.
2. Regarding surface water projects - id when permit will be needed & start process early. Also consider AIS, rare & endangered species and greenway development when prioritizing projects.
3. Urge collaboration with partners in data sharing (GIS), projects, grants, education, etc.
4. Ditch: There was discussion of whether or not VLAWMO should be an MS4 for Lambert creek. BWSR questioned whether or not there should be an annual ditch report submission.
5. Projects should be cost-effective (PCA); visible (city - VH) and should include signage (BWSR)
6. Need a clear 5-year plan for implementing projects & programs including: timetable, costs, resp. parties, budget inclusion
7. BWSR suggested that we consider adjusting plan schedule to meet 2017 Clean Water Fund applications (due Oct 2016)
8. Stephanie asked the question about targeting 1 high visibility resource for repair and spreading resources around. Mark from City seemed to favor that, Rachel from MPCA talked about prioritizing highest benefit for cost projects. I clarified for Rachel the strategy and ensured her that prioritizing was critical to VLAWMO and is required by BWSR. Added that starting with 1 resource enhances VLAWMO credibility/ support/ engagement which creates positive feedback loop to power future endeavors. Judy from Met Council advocated that we select waters that are close to the goal (where the goal is achievable), this is in line with recommendation from your engineer.
9. Mary from BWSR advocated to strongly consider protection of resources, not just restoration.
10. Ann Whiteagle advocated for signage for Lambert Creek (increase visibility)
11. SPRWS summarized their monitoring efforts in the chain
12. Groundwater: Stephanie indicated to the group that VLAWMO was considering increasing education around groundwater issues and support re-use and infiltration. DNR cited Action Plan to pull communities together for unified communication. Would be good for VLAWMO and local MS4s (example is Washington County)
13. Ramsey Conservation District is updating well inventory and starting in VLAWMO area.
14. Most drinking water wells are non metered so tracking conservation can be difficult. Consider using sanitary water meters as surrogate + survey to assess other uses for groundwater like irrigation/ etc.
15. Ramsey County GW plan" next step will be to look at "State of Water" in Oct 2015 - VLAWMO staff should attend
16. Governors Buffer Inative- Applicability to VLAWMO fuzzy. We are a public ditch. But also covered by MS4. VLAWMO either needs to assess their statutory requirements as a drainage authority and evaluate need for coverage under MS4 permit. Other watersheds that have ditch authority are MS4s (ex: MCWD)
17. Steph talked about schedule for sustainable lake management plans
18. DNR asked about stream restorations, how do they track/ prioritize. The erosion areas are very well known to District staff who prioritize projects and work with partners. DNR asked us to consider a GIS coverage (may be overkill for our system). There are Drainage Record Modernization Grants that you can apply for.
19. Talked about AIS: Talked about the ways in which watershed districts can be involved. Not a lot of feedback on how we "should" be involved. Driven by local needs which we seem to be addressing.