



# The network of **WATER PROTECTION**

Water resource protection is made possible through a network of collaboration. Federal, state, regional, and local agencies work together for accountability, resources, and support. Each entity brings their own level of expertise and community involvement.

## FEDERAL



### ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

includes water resource development activities including flood control, navigation, recreation, infrastructure, environmental stewardship and emergency response.

### FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

**FEMA**

identifies flood hazards, accesses flood risks and partners with state to provide accurate flood hazard and risk data to guide mitigation actions. Runs the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

## REGIONAL



### METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

is a regional planning authority for the seven-county metro. Conducts waste water treatment and water quality monitoring including citizen science.



### COUNTIES

counties are involved in a variety of maintenance and improvement projects that affect water resources.



### COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

provides assistance to land managers and citizens of the county for protection of land and water resources. Provides technical support to watersheds (surveys, project design, etc.)

## LOCAL



### CITIES & TOWNSHIPS

can regulate impacts to water resources, or work in partnership with watersheds for projects, drainage issues, and ordinances. Many cities complete MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) permits through the Pollution Control Agency.



### NATURE CENTERS & COMMUNITY GROUPS

Nature centers, lake/home associations, congregations, and groups such as scouts provide on-the-ground education, leadership, and action.



### RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES

Everyday folks help improve water resources with sustainable land use practices and home water conservation. Rainbarrels, raingardens, water-friendly lawn care/irrigation, adopt-a-drain, shoreline restoration, native vegetation are some examples.

## STATE

### POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

monitors environmental quality, offers technical and financial assistance, and enforces environmental regulations. Finds and cleans up spills, develops policy, environmental education.



### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

works on many environmental issues including water quality, drinking water regulation, microbial and other sorts of contamination.

**MDH**

### DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

works with citizens, cities, and other governmental units to conserve and manage the state's natural resources (e.g., aquatic vegetation, aquifer management).



### DEPT OF AGRICULTURE

is involved in water quality programs such as the Agricultural Best Management Practices Loan Program. Regulates most matters relating to pesticides and fertilizers.



### DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION

work with design, construction, and maintenance managers to develop plans that promote cleaner project sites, thus protecting the waters of the state.



### UNIVERSITIES

conduct research to bring new knowledge and practices into the field of water resources. Partnerships with cities and watersheds for special projects and programs.



### BOARD OF WATER & SOIL RESOURCES

administers programs that prevent sediment and nutrients from entering ourwaters. Enhances fish and wildlife habitat, protects wetlands through the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA).

**BWSR**

## WATERSHED

The watershed is overseen by BWSR

### YOUR WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION/ DISTRICT

Watershed Management Organizations (WMO's) and Watershed Districts are independent local government units tasked with protecting, managing, and restoring the water resources within a particular watershed. They are often the local authority for the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). Other tasks include public education and local projects to improve lakes, wetlands, streams, and stormwater runoff. They work closest to cities, residents, and businesses through volunteer opportunities, local monitoring, cost-share programs, and more.

