



Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Management Group

Healthy Land, Healthy Lake

Add Your Voice to the Rum River Watershed Plan

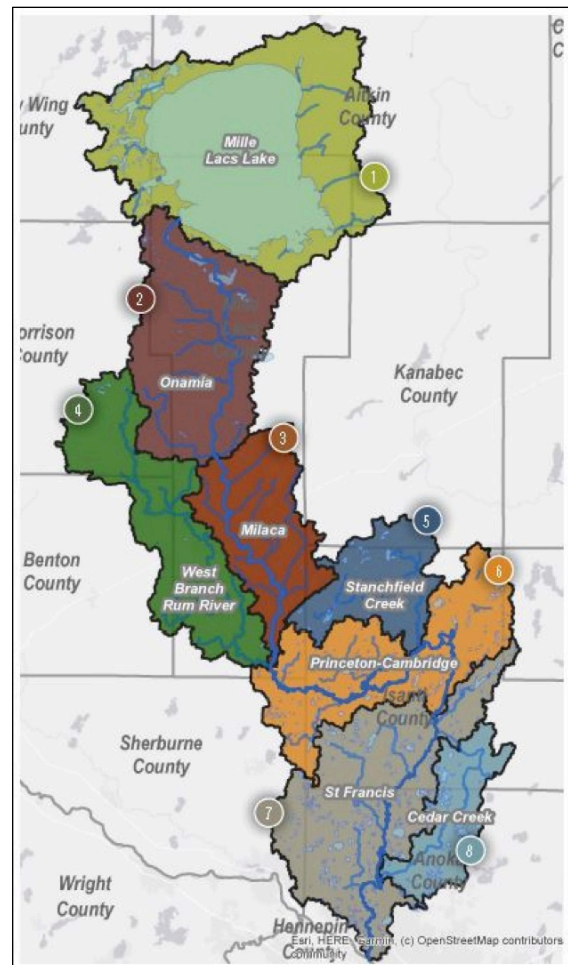
Attend the Virtual Public Meeting Monday, January 10, 6:30 p.m.
Or Respond to the Online Survey

To participate, visit: www.millelacsswcd.org/rum-river-one-watershed-one-plan

When you think about the future of our area's water resources, what comes to mind? Do you have concern about their health and that of the farms, forests, prairies, and aquatic habitats they support? Do you desire they provide clean water for drinking and recreation? Do you want protection from floods and extreme weather events? You can share your hopes and concerns by responding now to a new comprehensive plan for the Rum River Watershed.

The state of Minnesota has moved water planning from the county level to the watershed level. This change acknowledges that water flow doesn't follow county boundaries, and it results in a more effective and cohesive plan. This "One Watershed, One Plan" approach has required the cooperative engagement of numerous counties, soil and water conservation districts, and stakeholder groups all the way from Mille Lacs Lake to the river's confluence with the Mississippi. Groups and individuals have come together to blend local knowledge with established state strategies to draft a prioritized, targeted, and measurable plan for the Rum River Watershed.

Your input now will further expand community involvement in the planning process. This involvement began with kickoff events throughout the watershed that collected insight from people who live, work, and play here. Further input was gathered from three Implementation Advisory Committee meetings that included foresters, members of lake groups, agricultural producers, and representatives of other groups.



The Rum River Watershed includes all the land drained by the Rum River and its tributaries, starting with Mille Lacs Lake in the north and ending at the river's confluence with the Mississippi in Anoka.

To add your voice to the plan, visit the Rum River One Watershed One Plan website here: www.millelacsswcd.org/rum-river-one-watershed-one-plan

The site provides access to:

1. A plan overview and access to the plan document;
2. A survey for submitting your written feedback (survey deadline is January 10); and
3. A link to the Zoom virtual public meeting that will be held at the Mille Lacs County Historic Courthouse at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 10.

Your participation will help insure that the plan represents all the interests of the many individuals and communities who share the Rum River Watershed.



Above: Community members gathered in Onamia for one of the meetings that kicked off the watershed planning process.