

**Minneapolis 25 by 25 Water Quality Town Hall:
Table discussion input**

Question 1: What goals could be established to improve water quality by 25 percent in the Twin Cities metro area?

farmers need to decrease use of nitrogen fertilizer
Minnesota needs a Land Ethic. We need to cultivate and nurture that Land Ethic in all our children starting in early childhood
Every Minnesotan has and knows they have a human right to water
Install Line 3
More education to home and business owners on how to minimize sidewalk salting and lawn fertilizer use.
swimmability of lakes and the Mississippi River. (Sewage, E. coli)
Require green infrastructure
Require environmental education
Outlaw high nitrogen fertilizer
A more expansive and diverse urban tree canopy
Reduce salt runoff into streams and rivers
Independent committees to review environmental impact statements and exploratory projects like mining or pipelines
Reduce pollution from salt used on pathways. There are many liability issues with falls and private contractors overusing salt to avoid litigation. There should be law that changes liability
Regulate industrial agriculture, new farm bill
Increase native plants and permeable infrastructure in the city
Meeting flushable and swimmable standards for recreational water bodies
Provide access to the river
Source water protection
Water resources education for local and elected officials and legislators
Make environmental stewardship accessible to all
No more irritating with groundwater; re use only

Everyone has a connection to water, we need to provide opportunities
Increase water reuse
Reduce run-off from farming
Building local food systems in metro
Source water protection for surface water supplies as well as groundwater
Education and marketing to get people to be aware
Increase awareness and value articulation of water. For example especially in youth/education, guidelines for private property
More enforcement of buffers around waterways
Use bio technology to rid waters of invasive carp species
Increase use of green infrastructure
Stop the copper mine
Reduce by 25% permitting for industrial water use
Make the Mississippi drinkable, swimmable fishable by reducing pollutants
Support more alternative energy development
Put in place improvements to slow down water flow
Education
Take a watershed approach to reduce nitrates in farm chemicals
We don't know enough to answer this question
Reduce chlorides, pharmaceuticals, litter, plastics and other chemicals
Increase education of microfiber cleaning process to avoid pollution
Build trust with overburdened low income communities and communities of color
Reduce chloride use on pavement; regulate agricultural land use; reduce excess pharmaceuticals; conservation

Define sustainable use of our water resources (eg., irrigation for residential, golf/recreation, agricultural)
Invest in water reuse
Increase low tillage ag
Avoid potential pollution accidents from infrastructure (trains, oil pipelines) that could contaminate drinking & surface water
Increase water reuse: use stormwater and rainfall to irrigate, increase water catchment, etc., instead of pumping groundwater
Decrease greenhouse gas emissions to reduce climate impacts like intense storms (which increase runoff), algae blooms, flooding, etc.

Use Urban areas to serve as clean water treatment areas.
Target higher ratio polluters (Commercial, Industry, etc)
Increase buffer between ag land and waterways
Source water protection for the Mississippi for the Minneapolis water supply.
Less impervious services Use more water, pay more - also homeowners Capture rain in barrels All water bodies in metro become publicly owned and shorelines maintained to create city water buffers
View water as a resource not waste
Focus on soil health -meet the farmers where they are at

Question 2: What actions are needed to get to these goals for the Twin Cities metro Area?

Approve rules for reuse
Research
Develop alternatives to salt on sidewalks and roads
More rain gardens
Increase the voice of native populations in the decision making process
Regulating irrigation
Incentivize reuse and regulate irrigation for all land uses
Require people who spread salt to melt snow attend training courses relating to proper usage and introduce law that limits liability for those groups that have attended to reduce oversalting.
Dedicating a staff or department in cities to monitor and clear storm drains
Teach children to love the land and water before we ask them to save it
Abandoned lots - require them to be urban farms or parks
Changing ordinances to limit the amount of impervious surfaces allowed in new planning. Also could require green roofs on new buildings
Salt application education, reduce salt applicator liability, change expectations of winter maintenance
Strive to integrate water quality and zero runoff into the Ford plan
Marketing water as a resource
Require prescriptions to advise how to dispose of unused medication.
Ban plastic bottles and bags
Meet people where they are-education (water bar at DNR building, meet people at breweries-beer needs clean water too)
STOP USING LEAD SINKERS FOR FISHING IN THE CITY
Plan and prepare for climate change - flood protection, increasing temps and algal blooms. Need good infrastructure and source water protection.

PROMOTE AND EXPAND THE ADOPT-A-STORM DRAIN PROJECT. GET NEIGHBORS TALKING ABOUT THE ISSUES WITH STORMWATER CONTAMINATION
Incentivize planting of perennial crops.
Change the price of water to reflect the true value of clean water
MORE OUTREACH AND AWARENESS-RAISING REGARDING NEED TO PICK UP PET WASTE
Create markers for alternative crops. Implement incentives for transitioning farmers from corn and soybeans.
Invest in infrastructure to improve resiliency and reduce leaks (conservation).
Incentives and disincentives related to pollution contribution
Encourage residential and industrial conservation.
Pay for the true cost of water (especially as we conserve more and buy less water).
Educating people, tax incentives, increase public demands, lasses
Use how 2 plant responsible shorelines on private & homeowners Buffers could be planted with pollinator friendly plants & place solar panels in buffer zones; pay farmers Try poultry grit for traction
Revenue bonds to help finance replacement of lead pipes in older homes Education about homeowner options for Brita type filter use - wright County does this Greenstep solutionsin 117 cities
Make sure permits for irrigation are in compliance Microfiber monitoring - use natural fibers instead of polyesters in clothing Ensure adequate sampling forester quality Need good data esp baseline

Question 3: What specific next steps are needed to move the actions forward now?

Get clean water education into school curriculum
Set aside state bonding money to replace lead pipes for drinking water. Regulate at State level
EXPAND FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS ON ISSUES WATER CONTAMINATION, AVAILABLE BOTH IN PUBLIC SPACE AND ON PUBLIC ACCESS TV.
Force the line 3 company to clean up old pipeline and not allow them to build new one
Select areas that do not need salt application, specify different areas of salt standards, manage salt storage differently.
EXPANDED K-12 CURRICULUM RELATED TO WATER-QUALITY AND HEALTH-RELATED IMPACTS OF POLLUTION
MEET WITH THE PLANNERS OF THE AQUATENNIAL TO INCREASE THE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH RELATED TO 25 BY 25; PARTNER WITH ARBORETUM, ZOO, AQUARIUM, AND TO COMBINE "FUN WITH EDUCATION"
Mandated hands-on environmental education programs
Promoting surface water as drinking water supply
Ending extractive industries like sulfide mining and oil pipelines
Require pharmacies to include drug disposal information (ex take it to the box programs, etc) with prescriptions
Advocating for green jobs, green infrastructure, and clean energy, and maintaining our greenhouse gas goals to prevent climate catastrophes.

LOBBY CITY COUNCILS TO SHIFT LAND USE REGULATIONS TO ALLOW MORE NATIVE AND PERENNIAL PLANTS, SUCH AS BUFFALO GRASS OR OTHER PRAIRIE PLANTS
Plant more trees
Regional water softening plants instead of individual home treatment.
Clean out storm sewers regularly, and increase capacity to adapt to more intense storms from climate change
Educate the public and public officials - billboards, PSAs, door knocking - where the people are not make them go elsewhere.
Prioritizing green infrastructure and clean energy, and denying investments in polluting and fossil fuel infrastructure
Increase water fees for residents
Invest in research
Development, redevelopment and public owned land Requirements for low mow native and turf alternatives over Kentucky Blue Grass
Comprehensive, unified approach to education, across organizations.
Address stormwater outfall pollutants
Maintain and clean the stormwater system (ponds, pipes, etc) and use the maintenance activity as an opportunity to educate.
Reduce pollution from street runoff, especially salt & chlorine from winter ice management, more street sweeping at critical times
Invest more in research (living cover in farming, pharmaceuticals in wastewater, microfibers)

