Weekly LWC Update 3-10-17

ERRORS? OMISSIONS? If found, please notify *barb.huberty@lcc.leg.mn*.

Interested reader: each week, I gather general information for Legislative Water Commission members to help keep them apprised about water issues in Minnesota. This update contains a roundup of easily attainable MN water news, as well as articles from beyond MN that may inform member thinking. It also includes summaries of meetings I have monitored and reports I have read, as well as information about upcoming events. During the Legislative Session, updates on waterrelated legislation and committee activities are added. Any errors or omissions are inadvertent.

Barb Huberty, Director, MN Legislative Water Commission 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Rm 65 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155 Phone: 651/284-6431 Subscribe to the weekly update & follow LWC meetings at: www.lcc.leg.mn/lwc/

Next 2 LWC meeting dates set:

- Monday, March 27th, 6 to 8 pm, State Office Building basement hearing room; draft agenda is posted on the LWC website
- Monday, April 24th, 6-8 pm, State Office Building basement hearing room; the focus will be on N&E metro water issues, including White Bear Lake

LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEES ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

With Friday being the first deadline of the Session, there was a lot of committee action this week, with decisions made about over 2 dozen water-related bills, as follows:

In the Senate:

- The Agriculture, Rural Development and Housing Policy Committee passed SF1674 to general orders
- The Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee laid over SF348 & SF1646, rereferred SF550 to Finance, and passed SF1395 to general orders
- The Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance Committee laid over SFs 1458, 1417, 1482, 1731 and passed SF1693 to general orders
- The Finance Committee moved SF210 to general orders
- The Job Growth Committee re-referred HF635 to Capital Investment
- The State Government Committee re-referred SF 695 to the Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee and laid over SFs 822 and 769

In the House:

- The Ag Finance Committee laid over HF1076
- The Ag Policy Committee moved HF1717 to the general register (read more in House Public Information Service: <u>Agriculture omnibus policy bill goes to full House</u>) and re-referred HF 1994 to the Environment committee
- The Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Finance Committee laid over HFs 1368, 1863, & 2028; HF 1731 was re-referred to Legacy (read House Public Information Service: Legacy funding bill begins its House journey); this committee also heard an overview of MPCA's budget

- The Government Operations Committee re-referred HF1291 to Ways and Means
- The Transportation and Regional Governance Committee re-referred HF1747 to the Government Operations Committee
- The Ways and Means Committee passed HF 706 to the general register

The House passed HF434 (companion to SF326); the Governor signed the bill into law; read the Governor's press release: <u>Governor Dayton Signs Bill to Provide Disaster Aid to Madelia, Replace</u> <u>Wetlands as Local Roads are Built</u>.

The green Committee Assignment cells in the following table show which bills have had action in committees:

House File	Chief/ <i>LWC</i> Authors	Committee Assignment	Senate File	Chief/ <i>LWC</i> Authors	Committee Assignment	Description (as introduced, not as amended)
<u>198</u>	Hanson	Legacy -> laid over	<u>18</u>	Klein	ENRP&LF	\$5M CWF to Met Council for grants/loans for local inflow/infiltration reduction programs in metro area
<u>151</u>	Murphy, M	Legacy -> laid over	<u>179</u>	Simonson	ENRP&LF -> laid over	\$350K from CWF to Admin for grant to Lake Superior Center Authority for new river systems exhibit (dba the Great Lakes Aquarium)
200	Lien, C Johnson, Bly	Ag Policy -> Prop Tax -> laid over	<u>111</u>	Eken	Ag & Rural Dev -> taxes	Ag and Revenue Departments to study the impact of taxing ag lands based on production value (including identifying types of ag properties not directly used in ag production and approaches for valuing them)
None	None	None	<u>210</u>	Senjem, <i>Eken</i>	Cap Invest - > Finance -> gen ord	omnibus bonding bill; \$213.225M in bond proceeds DNR, MPCA, BWSR, MDA, Met Council, MDH, DEED and PFA to fund various capital investment programs and projects, including those related to water infrastructure and water resources
<u>457</u>	Howe	ENRPF -> laid over	<u>233</u>	Fischbach	ENRF -> laid over	Extends availability of grant money to remove and prevent aquatic invasive species
<u>710</u>	Uglem	ENRPF -> Legacy-> laid over	<u>262</u>	Ingebrigsten, Ruud	ENRP&LF	\$103,978,000 in 2018 and \$585,000 in 2019 from the outdoor heritage fund to various recipients
<u>284</u>	Hamilton	Ag Finance	<u>315</u>	Westrom	Ag, RDP -> Ag, RDF -> Finance	\$2.218M general fund to MDA to equip ag laboratory
None	None	None	<u>316</u>	Dziedzic	Energy & Utilities -> laid over	\$ general fund to DOC to establish a green roof advisory task force

<u>398</u>	Torkelson	ENRPF	<u>348</u>	Dahms, <i>Weber</i>	ENRF -> laid over	\$378K from gen fund to BWSR for grant to Area II Mn River Basin
<u>431</u>	Norness, Johnson, Torkelson	ENRPF	<u>371</u>	Ingebrigsten, Ruud	ENRP&LF -> ENRF	floodplain management projects \$5M gen fund to BWSR to acquire wetland banking projects for road projects and \$10M bond proceeds to purchase land or easements for the wetland banks
<u>434</u>	Fabian, Torkelson	ENRPF -> W&M (1st Engr) -> gen reg - passed, signed by Gov	<u>326</u>	Ingebrigsten, <i>Lang</i>	ENRP&LF -> Transp F&P -> ENRF -> Finance -> gen orders - passed, signed by Gov	where road replacement wetland bank credits are not available, BWSR must use credits from other service areas as permitted by state/fed law and wetland disturbances up to 10K sq ft for roads previously authorized by ACE Sec 404 are exempt from WCA [note: SF 326 amended to include \$1.4M fire remediation for Madelia and \$296K fire remediation for Watonwan Co; see HF468/SF627]
<u>468</u>	Cornish	Job Growth - > W & M	<u>627</u>	Rosen	Jobs -> laid over	\$101K gen fund to DEED for grant to reimburse Madelia for infrastructure repair costs from 1/16 fire
<u>495</u>	Sundin	Job Growth - laid over	<u>361</u>	Lourey	Cap Invest	\$2.2M bond proceeds to PFA for grant to Big Lake Area Sanitary District for wastewater connection to WLSSD connector in Cloquet
<u>552</u>	Green, Poston	Gov Ops -> laid over	None	None	None	Grant of authority in law required for adoption of rules, and threshold for conducting a public hearing on expedited rules reduced
<u>560</u>	Kiel	Legacy -> laid over	<u>399</u>	Johnson, Eken	ENRF -> ENR&LF-> laid over	\$300K over 2 yrs from CWF to MPCA for grant to Red River Mgmt Bd for River Watch monitoring and education program
<u>575</u>	Urdahl	Cap Invest -> W & M -> gen register	<u>396</u>	Senjem	Cap Invest	Lanesboro dam project exempted from a nonstate contribution
<u>653</u>	Gunther, C. Johnson, Poston	Job Growth - > laid over	<u>391</u>	Jasinski, Lang	Cap Invest	\$15M bond proceeds to DEED for grants under the Greater MN business development public infrastructure program
<u>649</u>	Backer	Job Growth - > laid over	<u>472</u>	Westrom	Cap Invest	\$11.495M bond proceeds to PFA for Morris to demolish and replace its water treatment plant to reduce chloride discharges to

						Pomme de Terre River from its WWTF
<u>635</u>	Hamilton	Job Growth - > Cap Invest	<u>543</u>	Weber	Cap Invest	existing bond authorization purposes modified for the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System & \$5M bond proceeds authorized for Phase 3
<u>702</u>	O' Driscoll, Poston, Gruenhagen	ENRPF	<u>695</u>	Newman, Eken	ENRP&LF -> state gov't - > ENRF	provides for expert review of agency actions and prohibits use of unadopted rules
<u>706</u>	Gunther	Legacy -> W&M -> gen reg	<u>565</u>	Ruud	ENRP&LF	no more than 95% of the projected balance for each of the Legacy funds may be appropriated in a fiscal year
<u>707</u>	Gunther	Legacy -> laid over	<u>566</u>	Ruud	ENRP&LF	\$50K from the Legacy and Environmental Trust Funds to LCC in FY18 to maintain the dedicated funding website
<u>717</u>	Green	Legacy -> laid over	<u>643</u>	Johnson, Ruud	ENRP & LF	\$ CWF and \$ gen fund to DNR for grants to road authorities or WDs for replacing culverts as part of water quality or environmental improvement projects, respectively
<u>1265</u>	Heintzeman	ENRPF	<u>550</u>	Westrom	ENRF -> Finance	\$8.428M in FY2017 and \$50.728M in FY2018 from the ENRTF to various recipients (LCCMR bill)
<u>766</u>	Swedzinski	ENRPF -> laid over	<u>672</u>	Ruud, Weber, Eken	ENRP&LF -> State Gov't	Modifies public comment period requirements for draft impaired waters list notices, provides process to challenge impaired waters lists, and requires notice to publicly owned wastewater treatment facility applicants
<u>821</u>	Loonan	ENRPF	<u>701</u>	Hall	ENRF -> laid over	\$960K gen fund to BWSR for grant to Lower MN River WD to defray dredge site O & M cost
<u>829</u>	Hornstine	Transp & Reg Gov -> laid over	<u>641</u>	Dibble	Local Govt	Established sewer availability charges stakeholder group
None	None	None	<u>717</u>	B Anderson, <i>Weber</i>	ENRPF - no action	MPCA must review wastewater treatment projects receiving financial assistance to ID wastewater discharge impact on geographic aquifer; definitions added

<u>1003</u>	Lueck	ENRPF -> Gov Ops -> Gen Reg	<u>737</u>	Weber, <i>Ruud, Eken</i>	ENRP&LF -> state gov't	MPCA shall amend MnR 7001.0150 using the MnStat 14.388 good cause exemption to allow a municipality that builds a WWTF to comply with new/modified effluent limits compliance with any new/modified limits adopted after construction onset if it would require additional capital investment until the new/modified WWTF is 80% depreciated
<u>1285</u>	Pugh	Gov Ops-> laid over	<u>769</u>	Kiffmeyer	State Govt - > laid over	Agencies can't adopt rules without legislative approval
<u>790</u>	Gruenhagen	Gov Ops	<u>822</u>	Newman	State Govt - > laid over	Agencies must submit all contested case hearings to the Office of Administrative Hearings for disposition
<u>1858</u>	Miller	ENRPF	<u>835</u>	Draheim, <i>Weber</i>	Ag & Rural Dev -> ENRP&LF	buffer law compliance practices must use only seed mixes grown & processed in MN
<u>1076</u>	Bly, C Johnson	Ag Finance - > laid over	None	None	None	\$10M gen fund to MDA for grant to U of MN for Forever Green program to protect natural resources while supporting ag economy via development of perennial and winter annual crops
<u>761</u>	Hamilton, C Johnson	Ag Policy -> Gov ops -> gen register, incorporated in HF1717	<u>960</u>	Westrom	Ag, Rural Dev -> general orders	extends the ag fertilizer research and education program and council
<u>1456</u>	Swedzinski	Ag Policy	<u>1016</u>	Weber	Ag, Rural Dev -> ENRP&LF	modifies public comment and environmental review provisions for CAFOs; mandatory EAW not required for CAFOs <2K animal units; public notice concurrent with CUPs notice by LGU
<u>1291</u>	Fabian	ENRPF -> Civil Law -> Gov Ops -> W&M	<u>1087</u>	Ingebrigsten, Ruud	ENRP&LF -> Judiciary	modifies permitting, rules, and environmental review processes for DNR & MPCA; eliminates the EQB & transfers duties to the MPCA and gives some duties to the CWC
<u>1387</u>	Newberger, Torkelson	ENRPF -> laid over	<u>1290</u>	Mathews	ENRP&LF	modifies groundwater appropriation permit requirements and well interference claim requirements

<u>1433</u>	Kresha, Torkelson	Gov Ops -> laid over	None	None	None	regulates rulemaking, reviews/repeals EAW/EIS, restricts implementation and enforcement of policies/guidelines/statements; increases rule oversight; modifies notice requirements; requires impact analysis; modifies SONAR requirements
<u>1466</u>	Torkelson	ENRPF -> Taxes	<u>1395</u>	Westrom, Eken	ENRF -> gen ord	\$10M gen fund to Dept of Revenue to make payments to LGUs that assume jurisdiction for implementation and enforcement of the buffer law
<u>1498</u>	Loonan	ENRPF	<u>1131</u>	Hall	ENRF -> ENRP&LF	\$4.5M from CWF to BWSR to coordinate the development & implementation of goals and strategies for sediment, flow & nutrient reduction in the MN River Basin; with \$2M to local grants, \$2M to research, & 500K to BWSR for oversight
<u>1557</u>	Drazkowski	ENRPF -> laid over	<u>1351</u>	Goggin	ENRP&LF	When a court has ruled that there has been no violation of a wetland restoration or replacement, recording of the order on a deed is prohibited
<u>1673</u>	Fabian	ENRPF -> gen reg	<u>1695</u>	Ruud	ENRP &LF	DNR game and fish bill; includes a change to 103G.411 re: stipulation of low water mark no longer requires approval of attorney general
<u>893</u>	Davids	Taxes -> laid over	<u>726</u>	Chamberlain	Taxes	Tax bill; includes provision for farmers to receive \$40/tillable acre converted to a public waters buffer
<u>916</u>	Hilstrom	Public Safety - Security P&F -> laid over	<u>743</u>	Eaton	Judiciary - Public Safety F&P	requires county sheriffs to maintain collection boxes for drugs
<u>1796</u>	C Johnson, Bly	ENRPF	<u>1417</u>	Ruud	ENRP&LF -> laid over	establishes 25% water pollution reduction goal by 2025
<u>1863</u>	Dettmer, Fischer	ENRPF -> laid over	<u>1458</u>	Chamberlain	ENRP&LF -> laid over	modifies wetland replacement requirements by defining 80% wetland bank replacement areas
<u>1807</u>	Lueck	ENRPF	<u>1482</u>	Tomassoni	ENRP&LF -> laid over	surplus wetland replacement credits obtained in association with a mining permit issued on/after 7/1/91 to may be used to off-set future mining-related wetland impacts under any

						permits to mine held by the permittee or their associates
<u>1717</u>	P Anderson	Ag Policy -> gen reg	<u>1674</u>	Weber	Ag, RD & HP -> gen ord	Omnibus Ag bill; includes modification of MnStat Ch 18B provisions related to experimental pesticide use and treated seeds
<u>1731</u>	Torkelson	ENRPF -> Legacy	<u>1734</u>	Ruud	ENRP&LF	\$220.514M CWF to MDA, PFA, MPCA, DNR, BWSR, MDH, Met Council, U of MN, LCC
<u>1747</u>	Wagenius	Transp & Reg Gov -> Gov Ops	<u>1877</u>	Torres-Ray	Local Govt	Met Council must not impose a sewer availability charge on a LGU for existing eating/drinking establishment due to expansion of outdoor seating unless the # of fixtures discharging to the sanitary sewer increase or the capacity of the pipes are increased; the charge must be proportionate to increase on demand
None	None	None	<u>1646</u>	Weber, Ruud	ENRF -> laid over	\$300K gen fund to MPCA for a grant to Shell Rock River WD for a pilot project for a water quality credit trading program for stormwater
<u>1994</u>	Torkelson, Gruenhagen	ENRPF -> Ag Pol -> ENRPF	<u>1693</u>	Weber	ENRP&LF -> gen ord	modifies buffer law, limiting APO authority to BWSR, 50' buffer applies to public waters with shoreland classification; 16.5' to those without and to public ditches; extends compliance date for both to 11/1/18; enforcement can only occur if 100% of cost to establish buffers is provided
<u>2028</u>	Fischer, Torkelson, C Johnson	ENRPF -> laid over	<u>1731</u>	Ruud, Wiger	ENRP&LF -> laid over	exempts stormwater reuse projects from water-use permit requirements

WATER BILLS

The pace of water-related bill introductions has slowed this 10th week of Session. On the table below, the gold shaded cells are bills introduced this week that are companions to bills introduced previously. Click on the File # hyperlinks for more details. As of 3/10/17, 298 of 4,422 introduced bills (7%) are water-related.

HouseChief/LWCSenateChief/LWCDescriptiFileAuthorsFileAuthors	on (as introduced, not as amended)
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<u>1095</u>	Fischer	<u>1968</u>	Wiger	establishes Right to Water Policy where every human has right to safe, clean, affordable and accessible water adequate for human consumption and sanitation
<u>2098</u>	Bennett	<u>1062</u>	Sparks	\$3M bond proceeds to PFA for grant to Blooming Prairie for wastewater improvements
<u>1317</u>	Newberger	<u>1933</u>	Mathews	\$1.2M bond proceeds to PFA for Clear Lake-Clearwater Sewer Authority to remove/replace WWTF to control P discharges to the Mississippi River
<u>2200</u>	Schultz	<u>1381</u>	Simonson, Ruud	modifies mining policy to make DEED responsible for mineral research, exploration, development, production, and commercialization and DNR responsible for mineral evaluation, resource conservation & environmental protection
<u>1747</u>	Wagenius	<u>1877</u>	Torres-Ray	Met Council must not impose a sewer availability charge on a LGU for existing eating/drinking establishment due to expansion of outdoor seating unless the # of fixtures discharging to the sanitary sewer increase or the capacity of the pipes are increased; the charge must be proportionate to increase on demand
<u>1813</u>	Thissen	<u>1923</u>	Hayden	when a recipient receives >\$25K in Legacy funding, they must prepare a disparities impact report to identify actions taken to decrease or not increase relevant disparities
<u>1977</u>	Ecklund	<u>1740</u>	Bakk	\$1.3M bond proceeds to DEED for grant to Ely for sewer, water, et al infrastructure for business & industrial parks and Vermillion Community College
<u>1986</u>	Bernardy	<u>1992</u>	Laine, Wiger	\$15K CWF to DNR for grant to New Brighton for aquatic invasive species control & education
<u>1987</u>	Bernardy	<u>1993</u>	Laine	\$900K gen fund to DNR for grants to LGUs & lake associations to control invasive plants under an invasive aquatic plant management permit
2015	Gunther	<u>1952</u>	Rosen	DNR must waive the limits for appropriations from water basins serving as the primary municipal water supply source if the basin volume has been increased >20% or the basin watershed is >10 sq mi
2228	Becker-Finn	None	None	no portion of a pipeline may be constructed or rerouted within 1 mi of a wild rice water
<u>2283</u>	Hausman	None	None	DNR can't issue permit to mine a sulfide ore body until it verifies an example mine has operated or been closed for 10 yrs without water pollution

<u>2292</u>	Gruenhagen	<u>2040</u>	Newman	nonwoven disposable products for sale in MN can't be advertised, packaged or labels as septic or sewer safe unless it meets the associated definition; several exceptions apply
2301	Lueck	None	None	\$1M in 2018, \$3M in 2019 and each yr thereafter from bond proceeds to the DNR to transfer to the U of MN Bd of Regents for the Natural Resources Research Institute for ops, maintenance, research and staff for applied research in water and other key areas
None	None	<u>2031</u>	Ruud	\$3M gen fund to DNR for U's MN Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center for solutions to reduce aquatic invasive species impacts

MN NEWS

WATER ACTIONS

- Duluth News Tribune: Jewell will head Minnesota Clean Water Council
- Strib: Coalition defies 'no new public lands' cry with 7,000-acre plan in St. Louis County
- International Falls Journal: Minnesota scientist recipient of Kallemeyn award
- Minnehaha Creek Watershed District: 1967-2017: <u>Celebrating 50 years of protecting clean water</u>
- Brainerd Dispatch: <u>Value of clean water topic of forum at CLC</u>
- BWSR: <u>Student Interns Advance Conservation Efforts</u>

SURFACE WATER/STORMWATER

- MPR: Leech Lake watershed gets healthy marks from state
- LMC: Bill Introduced to Relieve City Problems with Stormwater Reuse Permits
- Strib: <u>Was state to blame in White Bear Lake's decline</u>?; ABC5: <u>White Bear Lake Association</u> <u>Takes DNR to Court Over Low Water Levels</u>
- Strib: A land of 10,000 lakes for sure. But how about springs?
- Met Council: <u>Council Offers Stormwater Grants</u>
- USDA: USDA Seeks Project Proposals to Protect and Restore Critical Wetlands
- BWSR: <u>Public Meeting Notice Minnesota Wetland Bank Program 2017</u>; 3/21-Grand Rapids, 3/29-St Paul, 3/30-Mankato
- BWSR: Partnering for AIS Prevention: Vermilion Lake Association and North St. Louis SWCD

GREAT LAKES

- InfoSuperior: <u>Ice cover on Lake Superior near-record lows</u>
- MinnPost: <u>Trump's EPA cuts would undo local efforts to restore iconic places</u> like the Great <u>Lakes</u>
- Strib: Great Lakes mayors warn against cut to ecological initiative
- Circle of Blue: <u>Report: Why Asian Carp eDNA Still Matters in the Fight for the Great Lakes</u>
- MPCA: <u>Minnesota Slip cleanup one step closer to completion</u>

WATER SUPPLY

- MDH: <u>Study finds new evidence that viruses and bacteria may be found in some public water</u> <u>supply wells</u>; Pioneer Press: <u>Viruses</u>, <u>bacteria in MN drinking water wells</u>? <u>Maybe</u>, <u>but what does</u> <u>it mean</u>?
- St James Plaindealer: Geologic atlas effort to help with decision making
- CBS Sunday Morning: <u>Paying the price for better infrastructure</u>; Breckenridge's water supply woes are highlighted at 5:55 minutes
- MPR: Great Lakes mayors warn against cut to ecological initiative
- Strib: North/east metro news briefs: Blaine hiring engineers to investigate water system
- Met Council: <u>New Report Outlines Challenges to Sustaining Long-Range Water Supply</u>; read the report

WASTEWATER

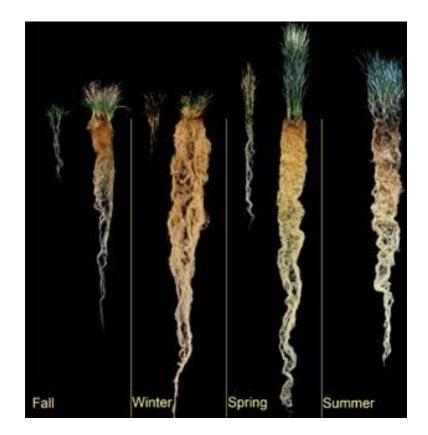
- Minnesota Daily: <u>UMN scientists developing new method to break down drugs in wastewater</u>; WCCO: <u>U Researchers Creating Method To Break Down Drugs In Wastewater</u>; Strib: <u>Scientists creating method to break down drugs in wastewater</u>; Austin Daily Herald: <u>Scientists creating method to break down drugs in wastewater</u>
- Strib: Met Council to examine sewer expansion rules
- LMC: Infrastructure Investment Protection Bill Passes to House Floor
- MPCA: <u>March MPCA SSTS Bulletin</u>

ENERGY & WATER

• US Energy Information Administration: U.S. wind generating capacity surpasses hydro capacity at the end of 2016

AG & WATER

- Bluff Country Reader: Farm Bureau hosting Houston, Fillmore County Water Summit and KTTC: Experts talk to growers about keeping water clean and safe
- Mankato Free Press: Factory farming: Debate heats up in southern Minnesota
- Brownfield: <u>March Deadlines Loom for Minnesota Legislature</u> and <u>Buffer Law Leaves Farmers</u> <u>Looking for Answers</u>
- BWSR: Innovation in Clean Water Practices and Technology
- Fergus Falls Daily Journal: <u>What to know about the Minnesota buffer law</u>
- Marshall Independent: Lyon County says it will take on buffer enforcement
- Pioneer Press: <u>General Mills teams with UMN to boost eco-friendly grain Kernza</u>; Strib: <u>General Mills, Cascadian Farm back development of Kernza wheatgrass</u>; MPR: <u>General Mills boosts eco-friendly grain Kernza</u>; "General Mills is making a huge contribution...by creating a market for the new grain so farmers will grow it, and by supporting the development of crops that provide ecological benefits while feeding people on a large scale"; GM is donating \$500K to the U of MN's Forever Green Initiative' photo below shows Kernza plants on right compared to traditional wheat on left:



EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES

- Gephardt Daily: Advocates turn focus to Minnesota oil pipeline
- Duluth News Tribune: Critics' poll shows growing opposition to copper mining

OPINIONS

- Grand Forks Herald: Letter: Buffer-strip law protects clean-water rights
- Stillwater Gazette: <u>New approaches to help farmers make a living and protect our water</u>
 <u>resources</u>

BEYOND MINNESOTA

REGIONAL

- NPR: Mississippi River Mayors Propose \$8 Bil. Infrastructure Plan
- NPR: Farmers Fight Environmental Regulations
- Strib: No flush, no shower: Mississippi capital city in water pinch
- Circle of Blue: <u>Sinking Land Crushes California Groundwater Storage Capacity</u>
- Strib: lowa agency that challenged farm runoff faces elimination
- Strib: 50 Wisconsin lawmakers sign onto bill to remove lead lines
- USGS: The Challenge of Tracking Nutrient Pollution 2,300 Miles



NATIONAL

- White House: <u>Presidential Executive Order on Restoring the Rule of Law, Federalism, and</u> <u>Economic Growth by Reviewing the "Waters of the United States" Rule</u>; Circle of Blue: <u>Clean</u> <u>Water Rule Repeal Cannot Come at a Pen Stroke</u>; ABC: <u>Teed off: Critics say Trump water rule</u> <u>helps his golf links</u>
- Federal Register: <u>Fluoride Chemicals in Drinking Water; TSCA Section 21 Petition; Reasons for</u> <u>Agency Response</u>; EPA rejected a request to ban the addition of fluoride to drinking water because the petitioners did not produce a scientifically defensible case
- The Hill: <u>Lawmakers urge support for infrastructure financing tool</u>; Bloomberg: <u>States Aren't</u> <u>Waiting for Trump to Seek Funds for Infrastructure</u>
- Reuters: <u>Treating droughts like hurricanes would aid vulnerable areas researchers</u>
- USA Today: <u>Bottled water, not soda, is U.S.'s fave drink</u>
- Homeland Security News Wire: <u>Water articles</u>
- CNBC: <u>Engineers give America's infrastructure a near failing grade</u>; American Society of Civil Engineers: <u>2017 Infrastructure Report Card</u>; see the full <u>2017 Infrastructure Report Card</u>

Category	2001	2005	2009	2013	2017	
Overall GPA	D+	D	D	D+	D+	NC
Dams	D	D+	D	D	C+	1
Drinking Water	D	D-	D	D	D	NC
Inland Waterways	D+	D	D-	D	D-	ŧ
Levees	NA	NA	D-	D	D	NC
Ports	NA	NA	NA	С	C+	1
Wastewater	D	D-	D	D	D+	4

GLOBAL

• ABC: Canada city's water turns bright pink after disinfecting agent seeps into water supply

REPORTS

STATE OF MN WATER

- DNR: Stream Flow Report discontinued until spring
- National Drought Mitigation Center: 3/7/17 Drought Monitor

REPORTS JUST OUT

- MDH: <u>Polonium-210 Occurrence in Minnesota's Aquifers: A Pilot Study</u>; the pilot study found that levels of Po-210 were, overall, below levels associated with a 1 in 10,000 cancer risk, a few source water samples in the Mt. Simon aquifer exceeded the acceptable health risk range for Po-210
- Freshwater Society: <u>The Water Underground Stretching Supplies</u> (to be presented at the 3/27/17 LWC meeting)
- MPCA: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System / State Disposal System Permits, Water Quality Standards, and Municipalities
- Nelson, Davenport and Kupahl: <u>Inspiring Action for Nonpoint Source Pollution Control</u> download a free copy from the Freshwater Society website

UPCOMING EVENTS

• Feb 25-Apr 9: **Smithsonian Water/Ways and MN We Are Water exhibits** on display in Detroit Lakes; the grand opening is from 10-11 on 2/25 at the Becker County Historical Society; additional activities will be posted <u>here</u>

- Mar 11: Izaak Walton League of America MN Division's 2017 Watershed Summit; 8:30 am to 4:30 pm; Normandale Community College (9700 France Ave. S, Bloomington); \$30; registration and program info <u>here</u>
- Mar 15: Annual International Water Institute **River Watch Forum** for the Red River Basin; U of MN Crookston; more info to come <u>here</u>
- Mar 20: MnDRIVE 2017 Research Symposium Advancing Industry, Conserving the Environment; 1-5 pm, U of MN – Walter Library Digital Technology Center; register here
- Mar 22-23: **19th Joint Annual Conference of the Red River Watershed Management Board and Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group**; Courtyard by Marriott in Moorhead; details to come
- Mar 23: Shared Water, Shared Responsibility: Engaging Minnesota's Communities, Students, and Policy-Makers; co-sponsored by the U of MN's Humphrey School of Public Affairs' Center for Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy and the U of MN's Water Resources Center; 5:15 p.m.—reception & poster session in Humphrey Atrium; 6:30 p.m.—panel discussion in Cowles Auditorium (301 19th Ave S); event, livestreaming and registration details <u>here</u>; free, but register is required by March 15th
- Mar 27: Agricultural Drainage Workshop; Best Western Hotel, Willmar; \$30; register here
- Mar 27: Industry/Academia Roundtable on Water; 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.; Thomas H. Swain Room-U of MN McNamara Alumni Center (200 Oak St, Minneapolis), more info to come
- Mar 29-31: **Design-Build for Water/Wastewater Conference**; Minneapolis Convention Center; registration costs vary; agenda and registration info <u>here</u>
- Mar 30: Rain Bird's MN Efficient Irrigation Summit re: water-efficiency information and costeffective retrofit and upgrade solutions for municipalities, with product fair; U of M, McNamara Alumni Center (200 SE Oak St., Minneapolis); 9am-4 pm; \$10 (includes lunch); register <u>here</u> by March 10th
- Apr 18: DEED **MN Water Technology Export Roundtable: The Water Energy Nexus**, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. @ Aeration Industries (4100 Peavey Road, Chaska) \$30 (includes lunch)
- Apr 19: Water Action Day; 8-4 pm meet with legislators, rotunda rally @ 1 pm; more info here
- Apr 25: Freshwater Society Moos Family Lecture: **The Death and Life of the Great Lakes** by Dan Eagan; St Paul Student Center; reception at 5:30 pm & lecture at 7:00 pm; free but registration is required <u>here</u>
- May 9: Minnesota Day at the National Climate Adaptation Forum; registration can be found here
- May 18: MN River Congress; Redwood Falls Community Center; details to come
- Aug 7-9: WaterWorks! Drinking Water Institute for Educators; Lakeville; details here