

# LIMBO CREEK:

## A PUBLIC WATER IN LIMBO



Agricultural drainage practices have transformed Minnesota's landscape. In Renville County, 90% of rainfall will reach the Minnesota River within 48 hours.



Limbo Creek, which meets the definition of a public water, is one of the last free-flowing streams in Renville County.



Limbo Creek has been the subject of numerous ditching attempts since the 1970's, due in part to the creek's omission from the Public Waters Inventory.

### TIMELINE OF EVENTS

- **1980** – Limbo Creek was wrongly listed as a “public ditch” in the DNR Public Waters Inventory (PWI).
- **September 2016** – Landowners in Renville County petition to extend County Ditch 77 (CD 77) through a portion of Limbo Creek.
- **April 2017** – DNR removed over 640 miles of waterways from the PWI, including Limbo Creek.
- **March 2019** – MCEA asks DNR to correct their error and add Limbo Creek back to the PWI.
- **August 2020** – DNR starts the process of adding Limbo Creek back to the PWI.
- **November 2020** – Despite DNR stating that Limbo Creek is a public water and the CD 77 project requires environmental review, Renville County denies MCEA's petition for environmental review and approves the CD 77 project.

### Where are we now?

After Renville County approved the CD 77 project, DNR announced that it will be performing mandatory environmental review and emphasized that work may not begin until the review is complete.



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