

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lida Lakes Receive \$57,000 Clean Water Grant

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) has selected nine organizations to receive \$1.6 million in Clean Water Funds through the Clean Water Legacy Partners Grant. The program seeks to protect and restore water quality throughout the state. Tribal Governments, nongovernmental organizations and watershed districts were eligible for grant funding. David Hilber, president of Lake Lida Property Owners Association and Lida Lakes Improvement District stated, "Lida is extremely pleased to be awarded \$57,000 to develop a comprehensive lakeshed assessment to give Lida direction to improve water quality. Both the Property Owners Association and now our Lake Improvement District continue to work to enhance, preserve and protect beautiful Lida Lakes." Hilber praised the work of the Improvement District's Lake Coordinator Moriya Rufer in submission of their grant proposal. Rufer, a Scientist with Houston Engineering, Detroit Lakes and contracted LLID Lake Coordinator said, "Lida Lakes is in a beautiful setting with Maplewood State Park on the entire eastern shore on the southern bay. Lida is an important lake regionally due to its excellent fishing and recreational opportunities in summer and winter. The Lida LID Board has been focused on water quality and maintaining a solid future. This study will assist us to target projects to improve clean water and respond to environmental changes."

"This program offers grant opportunities to achieve additional clean water results by expanding the reach of the Clean Water Fund and supporting valuable partnerships." stated BWSR Executive Director John Jaschke. "Water quality work happens in many different settings and is supported by many organizations, and these grants will help fill gaps where funding is needed."

Awarded applicants:

- City of Lakes Community Land Trust
- Clean River Partners
- Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District
- East Phillips Neighborhood Institute
- Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
- Lida Lake Property Owners Association
- Monarch Joint Venture
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (two awards)
- South Washington Watershed District

In 2008 Minnesota voters approved the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment in part to protect, enhance, and restore habitat, lakes, rivers, streams and groundwater. The Clean Water Fund receives 33% of the sales tax revenue generated by the Legacy Amendment.