



# Eagan - Inver Grove Heights Watershed Management Organization

## Our Mission is...

To oversee member city implementation programs and foster civic engagement within the watershed that promotes citizen participation and responsibility in protecting and improving our water resources.

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## 2020 Annual Report

### What is the E-IGHWMO...?

The Eagan-Inver Grove Heights Watershed Management Organization (E-IGH WMO) is a Watershed Management Organization (WMO) formed in 2014. The WMO is governed by a five-person Board of Managers: three members appointed from Eagan and two from Inver Grove Heights by their respective City Councils. The Organization's purpose is set forth in Minnesota Statutes 103B.210, Metropolitan Surface Water Planning, which codified the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act of 1982:

- (1) protect, preserve, and use natural surface and groundwater storage and retention systems;
- (2) minimize public capital expenditures needed to correct flooding and water quality problems;
- (3) identify and plan for means to effectively protect and improve surface and groundwater quality;
- (4) establish more uniform local policies and official controls for surface and groundwater management;
- (5) prevent erosion of soil into surface water systems;
- (6) promote groundwater recharge;
- (7) protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and water recreational facilities; and
- (8) secure the other benefits associated with the proper management of surface and groundwater.

## 2020 Activities

- Assessed progress on the 2019-2021 Communication and Outreach Plan and dedicated money in the annual budget for communication and outreach activities.
- Maintained water themed activity bags that are available for check out at libraries in the watershed, and promoted the activity bags in city newsletters and local newspapers.
- Minnesota Water Stewards have worked on projects in the watershed that help promote the goals of the E-IGHWMO and completed projects that improve water quality.
- Supported the Landscaping for Clean Water program, and even though fully virtual due to the pandemic, resulted in the installation of five raingardens and two native plantings.
- Worked with partners in the Lower Minnesota River Watershed to develop criteria and distribute Metro Watershed Based Implementation Funding.
- Cancelled the rain barrel distribution program due the pandemic but assessed program and future options.
- No CLIMB theater performances due to the pandemic but continue to assess options for in school and community performances.
- Started development of a new E-IGHWMO website and secured a new domain address outside of the Dakota SWCD's website.



*A newly installed raingarden within the Watershed is already capturing runoff and filtering pollutants. Soon the native plants will grow and provide a beautiful landscape amenity.*

## 2021 Work Plan

- Continue to partner for education with CLIMB Theatre, Landscaping for Clean Water (LCW), and Minnesota Water Stewards (MWS) programs, as feasible due to the pandemic.
- Continue to partner with member cities on Capital Improvement Projects that address water quality and provide neighborhood scale education related to the selected projects.
- Continue to educate managers of the E-IGHWMO as well as other city boards and staff.
- Implement projects funded by the Metro Watershed Based Funding pilot program.
- Implement multiple E-IGHWMO lead programs and activities as outlined in the 2019-2021 Communication and Outreach Plan.
- Review the Communication and Outreach Plan and modify as needed for 2022-2024.



*E-IGHWMO and partners continue to adapt and provide education even during the pandemic.*

# 2020 Revenue and Expenses

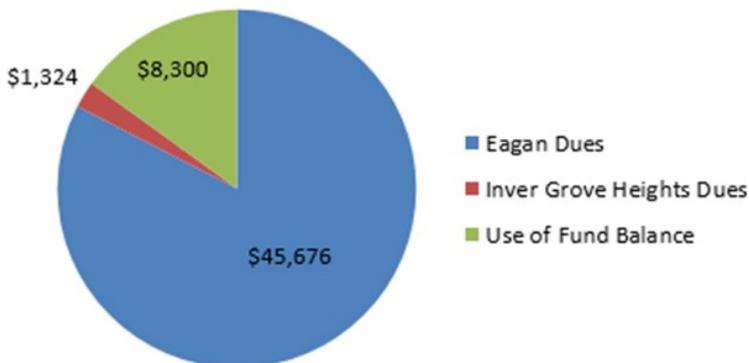
REVENUES	Budget	Year End
<b>Member City Assessments</b>		
Eagan	\$44,340.00	\$44,340.00
Inver Grove Heights	\$1,285.00	\$1,285.00
<b>Grants</b>	\$124,160.00	\$62,080.00
<b>Use of Fund Balance</b>	\$7,975.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$177,760.00</b>	<b>\$107,705.00</b>
EXPENSES		
<b>Work Program</b>		
Annual Activity, Financial and Audit Report	\$4,500.00	\$3,200.00
Annual Newsletter or Communication	\$300.00	\$0.00
Develop and Maintain Website	\$1,000.00	\$1,410.00
Board Education	\$500.00	\$0.00
Implement Watershed Plan	\$21,800.00	\$15,419.00
<b>Organizational Administration</b>		
Staff Services (general)	\$20,000.00	\$15,359.25
Engineering and Consulting Services (general)	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
Legal Consulting Services (general)	\$500.00	\$0.00
<b>Grants Administration and Projects</b>	\$124,160.00	\$45,382.38
<b>Watershed Plan Reserve</b>	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Accounts Payable</b>		\$8,463.63
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$177,760.00</b>	<b>\$90,234.26</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$150,349.88<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$17,470.74</b>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$167,820.62</b>



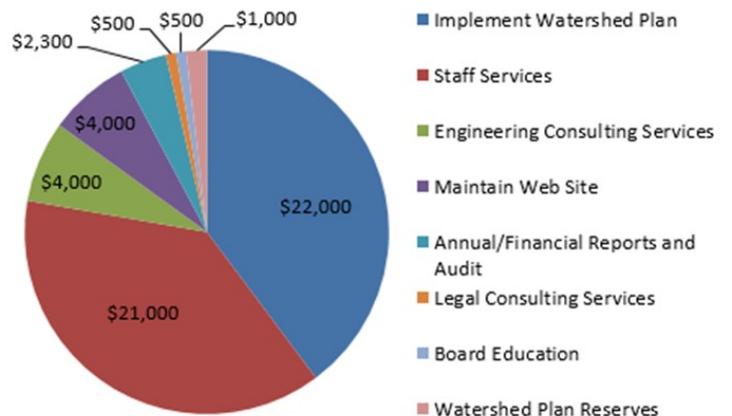
1=Carry-over from 2019

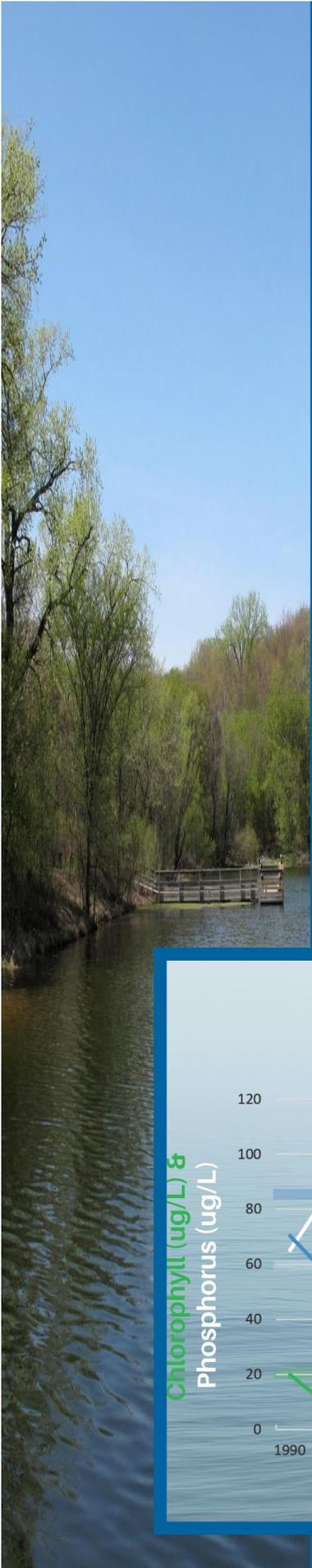
# 2021 Budget

## Revenues



## Expenses





## Watershed Plan Update

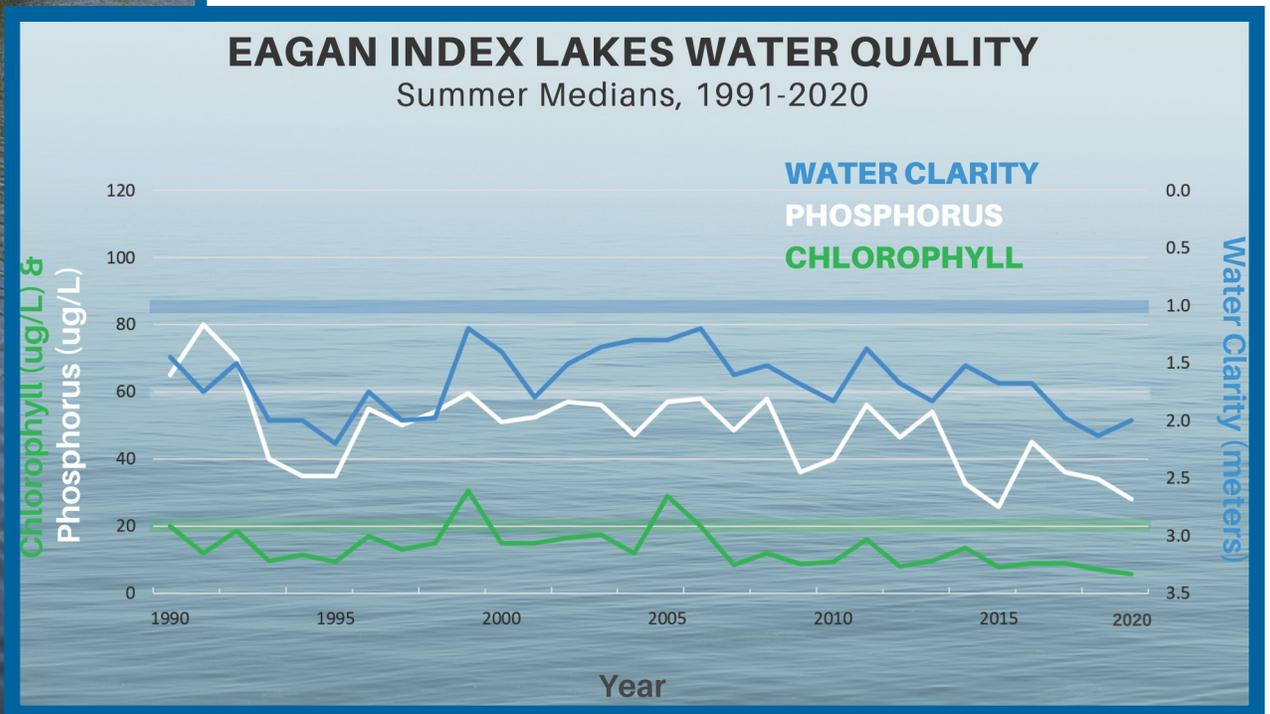
The E-IGHWMO completed a minor amendment to the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. The Implementation Section of the Plan was amended to incorporate Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects related to water quality that are within member city CIPs. This allows for better alignment of activities that accomplish the Plan goals and makes it possible to seek grant funding for projects.

## Water Monitoring

The E-IGHWMO does not conduct any water monitoring on its own. The City of Eagan conducts extensive water monitoring of its lakes and shares water quality information with the Board of Managers and the public.

The graph below represents the historical water clarity, phosphorus and chlorophyll of Eagan's index lakes. The index lakes are 15 lakes in Eagan that are monitored between June and September, and now have 30-years of monitoring data.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has an interactive map on its website that allows you to look at data of a specific lake. Some water quality data is collected by volunteers. Anyone interested in lake monitoring can do so through the MPCA Citizen Water Monitoring Program or the Metropolitan Council Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP).



# Get Involved!

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## Landscaping for Clean Water

Through a partnership with Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) workshops are offered to residents of the Eagan-Inver Grove Heights watershed as well as residents throughout the County. The program went virtual in 2020 due to the pandemic. Residents that registered for the Introduction Class had access to a video. After watching the Introduction, residents were able to sign up for a Design Course. The design course gives residents the tools and one-on-one assistance needed to design a native garden, raingarden or shoreline planting. Residents are then eligible to apply for a \$250 grant through the SWCD.



Workshops are offered annually. Courses will be 100% virtual in 2021, but typically begin in February and continue through June. For more details and registration information, visit the Dakota County SWCD website at [www.dakotaswcd.org](http://www.dakotaswcd.org).

### Design a Native Garden



### Create a Raingarden



### Stabilize Shorelines



## Minnesota Water Stewards

The Minnesota Water Stewards program certifies and supports community leaders to install pollution prevention projects that educate community members, reduce pollutants from urban runoff, and allow more water to soak into the ground before running into storm sewer systems.

Modeled after successful Master Gardner programs, volunteer community leaders will participate in a 50-hour program of courses and projects. Certified Minnesota Water Stewards will volunteer 50 hours of community service in the initial year, and at least 25 hours in each subsequent year.

There are currently multiple residents of the E-IGHWMO that are certified or are pursuing certification. If you would like to get involved, more information is available at [www.minnesotawaterstewards.org](http://www.minnesotawaterstewards.org).



## 2020 Board of Managers

<b>Monica Foss</b>	Eagan Representative	Manager
<b>Sharon Lencowski</b>	Inver Grove Heights Representative	Vice Chair
<b>Joe Reymann</b>	Eagan Representative	Chair
<b>Sarah Saito</b>	Inver Grove Heights Representative	Manager
<b>Jennifer Workman Jesness</b>	Eagan Representative	Secretary/Treasurer

### Contact Information

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[www.dakotacountyswcd.org/  
watersheds/eagan-igh-wmo/  
index.htm](http://www.dakotacountyswcd.org/watersheds/eagan-igh-wmo/index.htm)

