

The State of the Watershed

# Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

December 2004

## The 2005 Commission

- **Greenfield**  
—Larry Plack
- **Independence**  
—Jeff Sandberg
- **Loretto**  
—Kent Torve
- **Maple Plain**  
—John Sweeney
- **Medina**  
—Don Johnston
- **Minnetrista**  
—Lisa Whalen
- **Administrator**  
—Judie Anderson
- **Legal Advisor**  
—Joel Jamnik
- **Technical Advisor** —  
James Kujawa

The Commission meets monthly on the last Thursday at 4:00 p.m., at Independence City Hall.

### Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission

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## Second Generation Management Plan Adopted by Commission

In late summer, the City of Greenfield became the final signatory to the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission's Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement.

With this process completed, the Commission submitted its second generation watershed management plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). After final review and approval by BWSR, the Commission adopted the Plan at its December 2004 meeting.

The purpose of the Water-

shed Management Plan is to protect, preserve and manage surface water and groundwater resources; minimize property damages and

economic losses through water resource management; manage public expenditures needed to study, control and/or correct flooding and water quality problems; educate and inform the public on pertinent water resource management issues and increase public participation in water management activities; identify and plan for means to effectively protect and improve surface and groundwater quality; establish more uniform local policies and

official controls for surface and groundwater management; reduce erosion of soil into surface water systems; identify opportunities to promote groundwater recharge where feasible; protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and water recreational facilities; and prevent stream degradation through land protection measures, runoff restrictions and pollutant restrictions.

It now becomes the responsibility of member communities to develop their local water management plans, or amend their existing plans to be in conformance with the Commission's Plan. Local plans must be ap-

## TMDL for Lake Independence

The Pioneer-Sarah Creek Commission is working with Three Rivers Park District and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to develop a TMDL (total maximum daily load) process for Lake Independence.

A TMDL is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from contributing point and nonpoint sources that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards.

Once a work plan is developed, the Commission will enter into a contract with MPCA for funding. When the project is

completed, a final report will be sent to MPCA. The report will include an assessment of the lake, a description of project activities and results, a plan for the allocation of pollution loads, a public outreach plan and an implementation plan to achieve and maintain water quality standards.

Citizens representing various interests in the community serve on the Lake Independence

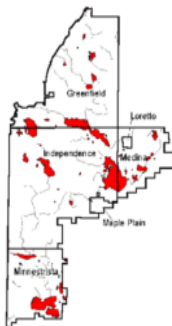
### Outgoing Commissioners Recognized

Roger Mattila, Greenfield, and Jack Vigoren, Maple Plain, were recognized for their service to the PSC watershed organization at the Commission's December 2004 meeting. Vigoren served as a Commissioner

## Newsletter

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Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed  
Management Commission  
3235 Fernbrook Lane  
Plymouth, MN 55447



Resident

123 Water Street

**Coming spring 2005 —**

Visit the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission  
at [pioneersarahcreek.org](http://pioneersarahcreek.org)

## Project Reviews Led Commission Activities in 2004

Thirty projects were reviewed by the Commission in 2004 for conformance with the Commission's Management Plan. Projects were reviewed for erosion and sediment control, wetland, floodplain and stormwater management issues. The Commission also reviewed DNR permit applications within the watershed.

James Kujawa is the Commission's Technical Advisor. He may be reached at [James.Kujawa@co.hennepin.mn.us](mailto:James.Kujawa@co.hennepin.mn.us) ☼

### **Wetland Conservation Act**

The Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission serves as the local government unit (LGU) for administering the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) for the cities of Greenfield, Independence, Loretto and Maple Plain.

Early in 2004 the City of Independence adopted a resolution stating its intention to serve as the LGU for the administration of WCA for wetland alterations within

their  
City.

All projects are reviewed for the presence of wetlands. As LGU, the Commission reviewed 12 projects involving wetland impacts in 2004. ☼

### **Greenfield Led with 18 Projects**

The City of Greenfield far outdistanced the remaining cities in the number of projects reviewed by the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Commission with 18.

Medina submitted four projects including three within the Three Rivers Parks system, Minnetrista and Independence submitted four and three projects, respectively, and Loretto and Medina teamed together on one project. No projects were submitted by the City of Maple Plain in 2004. ☼

### **2004/2005 Budgets**

The Commission adopted a 2004 operating budget of \$79,480, with assessments to the member cities totaling \$56,000. Of this amount \$21,680 was apportioned to develop wetland, lake and stream standards and for project expenses such as lake, stream and macroinvertebrate monitoring.

To maintain the same level of assessment to the members in 2005, water monitoring activities were excluded, resulting in total operating expenses of \$73,580.

Technical services represent \$9,500 of that amount. \$14,080 was budgeted for activities associated with implementation of the Commission's second generation Plan.

The Commission's financial records are audited annually. A copy of the 2004 audit will be available in May 2005. ☼