

# Project Update 1 • August 2021

## **One Watershed One Plan Progress**



The Clearwater River Watershed includes the Clearwater River, Ruffy Brook, Lost River, Hill River, Poplar River, Lower Badger Creek and their tributaries. Major lakes in the watershed include Clearwater, Maple, and Pine lakes. The Counties, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and Watershed District in this area (see project partners below) began a state-funded planning process in 2021 to prioritize where to work and what to work on in the watershed.

The Clearwater River Watershed One Watershed One Plan effort formally began in June 2021 with Public Open House events held in Brooks and Gonvick. At these meetings, participants learned about the watershed and planning process and had a chance to offer input by discussing potential issues and opportunities for the plan to address.

Issues gathered from the public were compiled and compared to priorities from state agencies and existing county water plans, resulting in a watershed issues list. These issues were then prioritized using existing data and local knowledge to determine what the priorities of this plan will be. Priorities included bacteria, phosphorus, and sediment runoff, streambank erosion, soil health, groundwater quality and quantity, wetland protection, and protection of high-quality lakes, streams and forests. The next step is to set measurable goals for restoration and protection of water quality in the watershed.

# **Project Timeline**



## **Project Partners:**

Clearwater County & SWCD
Red Lake County & SWCD
Polk County & East Polk SWCD
Pennington County & SWCD
Red Lake Watershed District
https://www.rlwdwatersheds.org/clearwater1w1p

#### **Main Contact:**

Chester Powell
Clearwater SWCD
Chester.Powell@mn.nacdnet.net

