

## **Natural Resource Commission Agenda**

**November 21, 2019 7:00 p.m.**

**Community Meeting Room - 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 150  
North Oaks**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approval of the Agenda**
- 4. Approval of October 17, 2019 Minutes**
- 5. Coyote Management Plan**
- 6. Update on Oriental Bittersweet Removal**
- 7. Update on Septic Ordinance Committee**
- 8. Review of Stormwater Management Plan**
- 9. Tick Task Force Report**
- 10. Kate Winsor's Report**
- 11. Metropolitan Mosquito Control District Report**
- 12. City Update**
- 13. NOHOA/NEST Update**
- 14. Other Business**
- 15. Next Meeting December 19, 2019**

## **Natural Resources Commission Minutes**

**October 17, 2019**

**7 P.M.**

### **Call to Order:**

Chair Bob Larson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **Roll Call:**

**Present:** Chair Bob Larson, Vice Chair Kate Winsor, Commissioners Andrew Hawkins, Damien LePoutre, Dan McDermott, David White, NOHOA Liaison Diane Gorder, and City Council Liaison Mayor Gregg Nelson

**Staff:** Recording Secretary Gretchen Needham

**Absent:** City Administrator Mike Robertson

### **Approval of Agenda:**

**Vice Chair Winsor moved to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Commissioner White. The motion was approved unanimously.**

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Liaison Gorder and Commissioner White pointed out clerical errors from the August minutes.

**Vice Chair Winsor moved to approve the amended August 15, 2019 minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner Hawkins. The motion was approved unanimously.**

### **New Business:**

#### **Discussion of Coyote Management Plan**

City Staff proposed adopting a coyote management plan, and asked the NRC for their feedback. NRC asked that City Staff work on a draft to show the NRC for next month. The coyote experts that gave the April 2019 workshop will also be asked to review and give their feedback for the proposed policy. Chair Larson recommended that the policy mention reducing food sources for coyotes.

**Commissioner McDermott made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner LePoutre, to have City Staff draft a Coyote Management Plan and run it by the coyote experts who ran the workshop in April 2019 for review by the NRC at their next meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.**

#### **Update on Oriental Bittersweet Removal**

Woodland Restorations submitted a bid to the City to remove oriental bittersweet. Removal costs vary from \$12,400 to \$500 per property. The grant given to the City is for \$2,700. Liaison Gorder mentioned that it is convenient to treat and both oriental bittersweet and buckthorn at the same time. Now is the best time of year to treat and remove both invasive species.

#### **Discussion of Open Meeting Law**

The NRC is subject to the open meeting law. They cannot discuss business of the commission as a quorum outside of the open meetings.

### **Update on the Septic Ordinance discussion**

Mayor Nelson summarized the discussion at the last City Council meeting, which included creation of a subcommittee to investigate and research how to amend the septic ordinance to possibly include a point of sale contingency. Commissioner Hawkins offered to be a liaison on the Council's subcommittee; he will reach out to Councilmember Ries, who is chairing the subcommittee.

**A motion was made by Mayor Nelson, which was seconded by Vice Chair Winsor, for Commissioner Hawkins to contact Chair Ries about his offer to join the septic subcommittee. The motion was approved unanimously.**

### **Tick Task Force Report**

Commissioner White stated that the TTF meeting on Tuesday, October 15 focused on the TTF Survey results being down in numbers. TTF would like to get the word out through advertising and education to encourage residents to fill out the survey. Vice Chair Winsor suggested that community events would be a good place to get surveys done; there could be a laptop at the event and people can fill out a survey then and there for a small incentive.

There was also a discussion at the TTF meeting about how to capture real results if there are multiple cases within a home because the survey is one per household.

### **Kate Winsor's Report**

Vice Chair Winsor submitted an article about landscape best practices for the November issue of the North Oaks News.

### **City Update**

Mayor Nelson reported that 35 applicants applied for the open City Administrator position, which was narrowed down to four candidates to interview, and of those four candidates, all in the Council subcommittee agreed on one candidate, Kevin Kress. The contract was negotiated by Mayor Nelson and was finalized and approved by the City Council at a special meeting on Tuesday, October 15. Mr. Kress is slated to start on December 2 as the City's Administrator.

### **NOHOA/NEST Update**

- Liaison Gorder mentioned the NOHOA conditional use permit (CUP) for treatment and removal of ash trees and invasive species and noxious weeds was approved at the latest City Council meeting.
- There will be a hands-on buckthorn removal event on Friday, October 18 and Saturday, October 19 at the North Oaks Golf Club.
- On November 6, Carp Solutions will give a presentation about their carp study.
- There is a NOHOA community Survey that is open through the end of the month.
- Vice Chair Winsor complimented NEST on their recent educational events, and Liaison Gorder suggested spring and fall events that could be jointly hosted by NRC and NEST.

**Other Business**

- The Conservation Award was applied for; City Staff will follow up with the homeowner and report back to the NRC.
- Vice Chair Winsor attended the VLAWMO technical committee meeting. City Staff will forward the VLAWMO plan to the NRC when they get it.
- Deer management was brought up by Commissioner LePoutre. He suggested that there be a varying approach, so that some years there are deer removed but not automatically every year.

**Adjournment:**

Commissioner White made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner McDermott seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting ended at 8:13 p.m.

**Next Meeting: November 21, 2019**

DRAFT

# North Oaks 2019 Water Plan

## Comments from the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization

<b>Page Number</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Commenter</b>	<b>Comment</b>
General	—	Brian Corcoran	There are super fund plumes in North Oaks
2	I. A.	Tyler Thompson	<p><i><b>“Proposed plans that will require stormwater management, rate and volume control, and erosion control Best Management Practice (BMP) protection measures that will require City and Vadnais Lake Area Watershed Management Organization (VLAWMO) approval before work can commence;”</b></i></p> <p>Plans do not require VLAWMO approval, as VLAWMO JPA Local Water Planning Authorities (LWPAs, including the City of North Oaks) are responsible for review, enforcement and approval of plans to meet the directives of the 2016 VLAWMO Water Management Policy (<i>Section 1.1 Relationship with Municipalities, 2016 VLAWMO Water Management Policy</i>). However, VLAWMO may provide assistance and guidance in these processes.</p>
3	I. C.	Stephanie McNamara	2 <sup>nd</sup> paragraph: Surface water flows into East Vadnais Lake where it is piped to the St. Paul Regional Water Service treatment plant for distribution. Capital Region WD is not adjacent to VLAWMO, however Rice Creek WD is adjoining.
3	I. C.	Stephanie McNamara	2 <sup>nd</sup> paragraph: Flow through Gilfillan, Black, and into Wilkinson is south to north before turning west to Deep Lake and south into Pleasant. See pg. 13, Fig. 4 of VLAWMO Water Plan.
3	I. .C.	Stephanie McNamara	<p>Bullet point #6: VLAWMO current watershed Management Plan was adopted in 2017, not 2007. Amended in 2019.</p> <p>The Met Council Water Resources Plan goes to 2040.</p>

7	II. B.3.	Stephanie McNamara	The sandy soil on the eastern side of the City are part of the Anoka sand plain. Identifying this is consistent with the VLAWMO Plan. This carries an ecological significance for both surface and groundwaters. The NO Map 3 is a pertinent reference.
8	II.B.7.	Dawn Tanner	NHIS shows documented reports of rare species and plant communities. These are shown on Map 5. These occurrences are in North Oaks. There are also rare plant-community types that should be considered in upcoming development planning.
8	II. B.7.	Dawn Tanner	Map 6: So far, these areas have been mostly demarcated and set aside but not actively managed. NOHOA is working on plans to more actively manage for invasive species and restoration. There is an opportunity to collaborate more closely and improve ecosystem function and water-quality with these efforts.
9	II. C.2.	Dawn Tanner	Might it be worth mentioning current efforts to check and upgrade individual systems?
9, 10	II.D.1.	Tyler Thompson	<p><i>"The MDNR currently lists nine waterbodies within the City of North Oaks as <b>protected waters</b>. Those <b>protected waters</b> are listed in the table below. Minnesota Chapter 103G provides specific criteria for <b>protected status</b> and the MDNR <b>Protected Waters and Wetlands (PWI) Map</b> identifies the <b>protected water</b>. Map 9 is a compilation of public waters and public water wetlands from the MDNR maps and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife maps."</i></p> <p>Change instances of "protected" to "public". There are 24 public water basins and wetlands within the City of North Oaks' boundary: 62011300, 62006200, 62011500, 62002002, 62009302, 62010900, 62004500, 62011000, 62010800, 62001800, 62004300, 62004600, 62002001, 62002603, 62002601, 62002602, 62009301, 62011100, 62025500, 62011200, 62010300, 62002700, and 62001900.</p>
10	II. D.2	SMc	To be consistent with the VLAWMO Plan, the Public <b>watercourses</b> should be identified as well. See VLAWMO Appendix B, Fig. 7 or <a href="#">DNR Public waters for Ramsey County</a> . ( <a href="#">link</a> )
10	II. D.2	Tyler Thompson	<b>Flood Insurance Studies: "VLAWMO, in conjunction with MDNR, provides 100-year flood elevations within the city."</b>

			VLAWMO is not responsible for establishing or providing 100-year FEs, but may assist in finding this information.
11	II. D.3.	Tyler Thompson	<p><b>Surface Water Drainage Information:</b> <i>"VLAWMO, acting as the appointed LGU for North Oaks, has closely regulated the design of those systems."</i></p> <p>It should be expressed that VLAWMO only acts as the LGU for water appropriations and the Wetland Conservation Act. VLAWMO JPA municipalities adopt and enforce the rules and standards established in VLAWMO's Water Management Policy.</p>
11	II. D. 4.	Brian Corcoran	Gilfillan is not land locked and augmentation has stopped temporarily due to lake level being higher than DNR permitted elevation.
11	II. D.4.	Tyler Thompson	<b>City sub-watershed Districts:</b> The City's definition of "sub-watershed district" differs from VLAWMO's definition of "subcatchment", as do the physical area boundaries shown in map 11. This is a minor difference and doesn't necessitate change. If the City would like VLAWMO's subcatchment shapefile for their use, please contact Tyler Thompson at VLAWMO.
11-12	II.D.4.	SMc	<p>The TMDL studies for Gilfillan and Wilkinson Lakes not only identify pollutant sources and reduction strategies but <b>assign Waste Load Allocations</b> to each MS4 permit holder including North Oaks. North Oaks is obligated to address those reduction strategies under its permit with the MPCA.</p> <p>Wilkinson sub-watershed: please remove "VLAWMO has acted as the LGU for this development." Or change it to read for Wetland Conservation Act administration only.</p>
12	II.D.4.	Tyler Thompson	<p><b>Wilkinson Lake Subwatershed:</b> "This subwatershed district is part of the VLAWMO Tamarack/Wilkinson watershed <i>subwatershed.</i>"</p> <p><b>Deep Lake Subwatershed:</b> This subwatershed district is a part of the VLAWMO Pleasant/Charley/Deep <i>subwatershed.</i>"</p> <p><b>Charley Lake Subwatershed:</b> "This <i>subwatershed</i>"...</p>

			<b>Pleasant Lake Subwatershed: same phrasing from “sub-watershed district” to “subwatershed.”</b>
12	II. D.4.	Dawn Tanner	<p><b>Deep Lake Sub-watershed: Invasives include</b> Curly-leaf pondweed, Common carp, and Yellow iris.</p> <p><b>Shoreline invasives include:</b> Purple loosestrife, Reed canary grass, Common buckthorn, Bush honeysuckle, White willow, Black locust, Oriental bittersweet, and Japanese barberry.</p> <p><b>Charley Lake Subwatershed: Invasives include</b> Common carp, Curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil. Shoreline documented invasives include: Purple loosestrife, Reed canary grass, Glossy buckthorn, Common buckthorn, Smooth brome, Common burdock, Birds-foot trefoil, Timothy, Kentucky bluegrass, Common mullein, and Spotted knapweed.</p> <p><b>Pleasant Lake Subwatershed: Invasives include</b> Common carp, Curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil and hybrid watermilfoil, Yellow iris.</p> <p><b>Shoreline invasives include:</b> Reed canary grass, Oriental bittersweet, Glossy and Common buckthorn, and Leafy spurge.</p>
13	II. D.5.	Tyler Thompson	<p><b>Stormwater Modeling Information: “As part of the SWMP preparation, a review was made of the hydrologic analysis conducted by VLAWMO. The hydrologic model utilized the BATHTUB computer program and included the following lakes: Black (2013), Deep (2014), Charley (2014), Gilfillan (2009), Pleasant East and Pleasant West (2011), and Wilkinson (2010). A water budget was developed for Gilfillan as a part of VLAWMO’s Sustainable Lake Management Plan.”</b></p> <p>VLAWMO did not conduct hydrologic &amp; hydraulic modeling for all of these basins, the Ramsey Conservation District conducted WINSLAMM modeling for Gilfillan and Wilkinson Lakes in 2012 and for Pleasant, Charley, and Deep Lakes in 2015 to identify retrofit BMPs for possible implementation. VLAWMO hired Wenck</p>

			<p>Engineering in 2009 to conduct a <i>Water Balance and Water Quality Context</i> Technical Memorandum to explore existing records for possible effects of augmentation</p> <p>"A water budget was developed for Gilfillan as a part of VLAWMO's Sustainable Lake Management Plan." – This is not the case</p>
13	II. D.6.	Tyler Thompson	<p><b>Modelling Limitations:</b> "Modeling is based on assumed rain events consistent with VLAWMO <i>criteria.</i>" Change criteria to "VLAWMO's Water Management Policy."</p>
13	II. D.7.	Tyler Thompson	<p><b>Modelling Results:</b> "<i>Overflow elevations are available from VLAWMO.</i>" VLAWMO may assist in finding what information exists, but it does not have complete records of all this information.</p> <p><i>"Documentation on the BATHTUB model and complete input parameters and results are available for review at the VLAWMO offices."</i></p> <p>VLAWMO does not have this model.</p> <p><i>"If the establishment of a 100-year flood elevation is required for any specific flooding source, VLAWMO will establish the elevation..."</i></p> <p>VLAWMO may assist in finding BFEs from oversight agencies, such as the DNR or FEMA, but it does not have explicit responsibility in establishing 100-year flood elevations</p>
13	II. D.8.	Tyler Thompson	<p><b>Flood Problem Areas:</b> "<i>The City and VLAWMO will continue to apply acceptable stormwater and surface water management practices for current properties and potential development areas.</i>"</p> <p>As VLAWMO is not a permitting agency, besides the Wetland Conservation Act and water appropriations, it is not responsible for applying or enforcing practices and rules that are set in its Water Management Plan. VLAWMO's JPA municipalities are responsible for ensuring development or other occurrences or actions that are regulated by VLAWMO's agreed upon 2016 Water Management Policy.</p>
15	III. A. 1.	Brian Corcoran	<p>Policy 1: Stormwater discharge cannot exceed existing conditions as a result of development per VLAWMO standards.</p>
17	III.B. 3 & 4	SMc	<p>Is there an agreement between the City and NOHOA to perform the MS4 activities?</p>
17	III. B.10.	Dawn Tanner	<p>NOHOA has been very active in partnering with VLAWMO to offer education activities and events.</p>

			There is an opportunity to work more closely with the City on these kinds of events.
18	III. C.3.	Dawn Tanner	Consider addressing what happens when this process fails and erosion is deposited into wetlands or other natural areas.
19	III. D.8.	Dawn Tanner	Information and partnership involvement are in place to better address invasive species issues and limits on wetland and buffer function due to invasive species colonization.
20	III. F.4.	Dawn Tanner	Consider encouraging and working with residents to restore degraded habitats, especially wetlands and buffer areas.
20	III. G.1.	Nick Voss	<b>VLAWMO creates an annual Education and Outreach Plan (EOP) as a function of VLAWMO's Comprehensive Water Plan.</b> Public education topics in Goal #1 of the VLAWMO EOP includes topics such as Low Impact Development (LID), adopt-a-drain, pet waste education and disposal, and yard care best practices for watershed improvement. Yard care best practices are outlined in VLAWMO's Education and Outreach Plan and website, identifying specific yard care practices that distinguish water-friendly yard care from other yard care practices. Consider reflecting these particular strategies in its public education program and when addressing lawn care as a water protection method.
20	III. G.3.	Nick Voss	To support coordinating public information and education programs (conveyed in G.2.), VLAWMO would request copies of annual water quality-related information that goes out to residents. The City is invited to co-create these materials with VLAWMO's assistance and existing materials. To support public convenience, many Cities in the VLAWMO watershed link directly to the VLAWMO webpage on their City websites. This may be our homepage <a href="http://www.vlawmo.org">http://www.vlawmo.org</a> or a link to our residents page <a href="http://www.vlawmo.org/residents/">http://www.vlawmo.org/residents/</a> . This strategy will support VLAWMO's Priority Issue 3, goal 3-2, "eliminating gaps in water resource communication."
20	III. G.4., G.7.	Nick Voss	The VLAWMO EOP Goal #1 identifies announcements and articles inserted into city newsletters and utility bills as an option for information dispersal. This option should be listed in either G.4. or G.7. The City may request

			additional VLAWMO brochures or MS4 materials at any time to replenish supply.
20	III.G. 7	SMc	Ramsey Conservation District has a new name: Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation Division
20	III.G.6.	Nick Voss	VLAWMO promotes free smart salting and turf maintenance workshops annually in conjunction with the MPCA, which are supported by the MS4 MCM #6. The City is encouraged to inform contracted lawn care companies of these workshops and promote participation. Participating businesses may choose to obtain a certification that can be recognized or commended by the public and the City as preferred lawn care technique.
22	IV. C.1.	Dawn Tanner	Consider nutrient levels in Pleasant Lake, blue-green algae blooms, and working to reduce nutrient loading into Pleasant
23	IV. D.2.b.	Dawn Tanner	Enforcement should be described
23	IV.D2.b.	SMc	Natural buffers are not 'unmaintained' but rather maintained in a natural state. See VLAWMO Goal1-3, Strategy 1-3-4.
	IV. F.2.b.	Dawn Tanner	Communication about emerging plans could be improved
24	IV. G.2.a.	Dawn Tanner	Wetlands become degraded over time without monitoring and restoration efforts. A plan (partnering more closely with VLAWMO) for identifying and restoring would offer a clear path for improving wetland function
24	IV. H.2.a.	Dawn Tanner	What happens when large, expensive erosion events occur (not associated with development – SMc)? There should be a plan to assess/repair these areas SMc- VLAWMO Goal 1-3 (pg. 28) focuses on 'Minimize loss of major wetland function and value within the watershed boundary.' Significant wetland degradation has happened unassociated with development projects.
25	IV. I.2.B.	Brian Corcoran	Corrective action: B: VLAWMO does not maintain flood storage volumes of waterbodies.
25	IV. I.2.B.	Tyler Thompson	<b>Corrective Action:</b> "VLAWMO will maintain flood storage volumes below the 100-year elevations of all waterbodies."

			<p><b>SMc:</b> VLAWMO requires its municipalities to adopt the <a href="#">VLAWMO Water Management Policy</a>. VLAWMO Plan: page 53, Plan Implementation and Roles</p> <p>We recommend using language from VLAWMO's Water Management Policy (5. Floodplain and Drainage Alteration, 5.1, b.): <i>It is the policy of VLAWMO to: b. Preserve existing water storage capacity below the 100-year high water elevation of all waterbodies in the watershed to minimize the frequency and severity of high water.</i></p>
25	IV. J.2.	Nick Voss	Recommended phrasing: "THE VLAWMO TMDL study addressing State-listed impaired waters will help set improvement priorities such as consideration of stormwater best management practices and low-impact development."
25	IV. J.2.a.	Dawn Tanner	VLAWMO has a series of retrofit reports available that identify and prioritize BMPs for North Oaks. These could be referenced here.
26	IV. K.1.b.	Dawn Tanner	Road salt impacts could be mentioned here and strategies being used to reduce salt usage.
26	IV. K. 2.A.	Nick Voss	Recommended phrasing: "Construction activities will need to follow an orderly process of site evaluation, design, and construction inspection consistent with the requirements of MS4 Minimum Control Measure #4: Construction site runoff control."
28	V. B.	Nick Voss	<p><b>Best Management Practices:</b></p> <p>Additional best management practices are listed in the Minnesota Stormwater Manual for Minimum Control Measure (MCM) #6. Notable MS4 permit requirements for MCM #6 that are underrepresented in the City's draft plan include #3 (BMP's to protect source water protection areas, such as drinking water supply management areas and source water protection areas for surface intakes), and #7 (employee training).</p> <p>Recommended phrasing: "The City will continue its public education program to foster sound water resource protection practices within the community, to adhere to the general permit requirements for MS4 Minimum Control Measure 6, and to develop additional strategies necessary to protect the City's water-related amenities."</p>
28	V. B.	Nick Voss	<p><b>Public Education:</b></p> <p>The City should be familiar with VLAWMO's Education and Outreach Plan and the priority issues</p>

			outlined in VLAWMO's 10-year Comprehensive Water Plan. Under "Public Education" of City draft plan, recommended inclusion of: "The City will strive to reflect goals outlined in the VLAWMO Education and Outreach Plan and VLAWMO Priority issue 3, goal 3-2."
28	V.B	SMc	<p>As part of the Management Program, the City should acknowledge its role as an MS4 and identify how it will address the minimum control measures identified in the North Oaks permit with MPCA. This is required in a variety of contexts in the VLAWMO Water Plan.</p> <p>The North Oaks plan must identify strategies to address the Waste Load Allocations for the impaired waters within the city.</p>
29	V. D.	Nick Voss	<p>VLAWMO's Water Plan, Priority issue 3 strategy 3-1-1 states: "Develop and facilitate MS4 staff trainings for best practices and compliance as required." City staff and contracted engineers are encouraged to attend Smart Salting and Turf Management Best Practice trainings that VLAWMO promotes annually.</p> <p>The new proposed MS4 permit requirements from the MPCA outline new features for the Minimum Control Measures 1 and 2. As these are developed and finalized in 2020, the City is encouraged to communicate with VLAWMO concerning the adaptation of these new requirements. A summary of the proposals include:</p>
29	V. D.1.	Nick Voss	MCM 1: Selecting at least two stormwater-related issues of high priority, distribute educational materials on salt-use for deicing, distribute educational materials on pet waste, consideration to Environmental Justice (EJ) audience.
29	V. D.2.	Nick Voss	<p>MCM 2: Public involvement activity including the development of an annual theme, documentation of public involvement with name, date, location, number of participants, etc.</p> <p>Recommended phrasing: "The City will seek to comply with new measurement, evaluation, and administration requirements that result from updates to the MS4 General Permit Program."</p>
30	V. D.	Nick Voss	An expired date is conveyed after "Current permit will be in effect until."

32	VI. B.	Tyler Thompson	Add a last sentence to the paragraph: "VLAWMO offers a cost-share program in an effort to make landscape BMP's more accessible for residents."
32	VI. B.6.	Dawn Tanner	As part of VLAWMO's water plan amendment, Sustainable Lake Management Plans were adjusted to allow more rapid completion. This was accompanied by adjustment of feasibility studies and implementation especially for Wilkinson. There was also an increase in funds allocated to reflect current RCSWCD costs for vegetation surveys and bathymetry. AIS management (in addition to fish survey and carp mgmt) was added for Pleasant.
33	VI. C.	Tyler Thompson	"A watershed management tax is used by VLAWMO as its funding source." VLAWMO is not a taxing authority. It utilizes a Storm Sewer Utility Fee as its main funding source.
34		SMc	The first sentence "or disturbing over 1.0 acres of impervious surfaces will be requires to prepare and submit..." should read "or disturbing over 10,000 sf of land disturbing activity will be required to prepare and submit..."

## Mike Robertson

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**From:** Kate Winsor <katewinsor@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 19, 2019 4:10 PM  
**To:** Robert Larson  
**Cc:** Gretchen Needham; Mike Robertson  
**Subject:** Kate's Report

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

Kate's Report for November NRC (I will be at another important event)

- For the North Oaks News: Submitted a reminder on proper height for backyard bird feeders to prevent deer from feeding on the seed.
- Northeast Metro Climate Action is hosting an event at the Shoreview Library on Monday, December 9th at 7:00 PM. Don Arnosti (former director of Minnesota Audubon and Izaak Walton League) will present "Birds and Climate Change."
- VLAWMO is interested in showing a film in North Oaks. The film is called "Hometown Habitat: Stories of Bringing Nature Home." It's a 90-minute environmental documentary focused on educating about how and why native plants are critical to the survival and vitality of local ecosystems. We could host and help advertise the event (I would suggest in collaboration with NEST and Garden Club). Should we go for it?

Kate

Sent from my iPad



Metro Counties Government Center  
2099 University Avenue West  
Saint Paul, MN 55104-3431

**(651) 645-9149 ~ [www.mmcd.org](http://www.mmcd.org)**

November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019

North Oaks City Administrator  
Mike Robertson  
100 Village Center Drive, #230  
North Oaks, MN 55127

Dear Mike Robertson,

Enclosed is a summary of work done by the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District (MMCD) in the North Oaks area during the 2019 mosquito control season.

2019 was characterized by heavy snow in April, followed by a slow warm-up and relatively low rain in March, April and June, average rain in July and September, and higher rain in May and August. A late-September rain followed by warm weather meant we were doing treatments later into the Fall than usual. Throughout the season District Staff inspected almost 75,000 breeding sites for mosquito larvae and applied 213,825 acres worth of treatments which is more than the 183,000 acres treated in 2018. We also treated 265,900 catch basins in the seven-county metro, which is more than any previous year.

There were few mosquito-borne disease cases reported in 2019 in Minnesota. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) confirmed three human WNV illnesses in residents of the state. Two of the individuals reside in the District; one in Dakota County and one in Hennepin County. Jamestown Canyon virus caused four illnesses in Minnesota including two in residents of Ramsey County. No cases of La Crosse encephalitis were reported in residents of the state. In addition to monitoring and controlling vector mosquitoes, MMCD staff also monitor the distribution of ticks capable of transmitting disease, and work with MDH to provide information designed to reduce the risk of tick transmitted diseases.

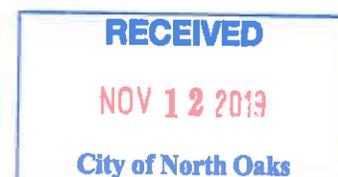
MMCD employees controlled immature black flies in small streams and large rivers throughout the metropolitan area. At the beginning of June we experienced record high populations of black fly (biting gnat) adults associated with the Minnesota River flow being so high that larval treatments could not be made safely. Black fly adult abundance decreased after treatments resumed. To date this year, 68 black fly larvicide treatments have been made to the rivers and streams in the District, similar to the 65 treatments completed in 2018.

Educating the public is a key objective of MMCD and each year we deliver presentations to schools, business organizations, and community groups, and we attend city-wide events like festivals, fairs, and parades. If there are any events in your community that you would like MMCD to attend, please contact our public affairs coordinator Alex Carlson - [acarlson@mmcd.org](mailto:acarlson@mmcd.org) or (651) 643-8342.

If you have any questions, or would like to meet to discuss our agency's activities within North Oaks, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Manweiler, Executive Director  
Phone: (651) 643-8365  
Email: [mmcd\\_sam@mmcd.org](mailto:mmcd_sam@mmcd.org)





Metro Counties Government Center  
2099 University Avenue West  
Saint Paul, MN 55104-3431

(651) 645-9149 ~ [www.mmcd.org](http://www.mmcd.org)

## 2019 Activity Summary for North Oaks

SERVICE SUMMARY	
Larval Sites Inspected	528
Larval Mosquito Treatments	1395.66 acres
Adult Mosquito Inspections	0
Adult Mosquito Treatments	0.00 acres
Catch Basin Treatments	1018
Disease Prevention Property Inspections	0
Tires Removed	0
Customer Calls	2

AREAS REGULARLY TREATED
Various parks.

**MMCD has a new website!**

[www.mmcd.org](http://www.mmcd.org)

Visit for maps, homeowner tips, educational resources, disease information, and much more!

**Want MMCD to come speak  
to your group?**

We offer customized presentations about mosquito control, biology, vector-borne disease, control materials, and more!

**Contact Alex Carlson:**

[acarlson@mmcd.org](mailto:acarlson@mmcd.org) / (651) 643-8342

## MEMO

Date November 19, 2019  
To: Natural Resources Commission  
From: City Administrator Mike Robertson  
Re: City Update

Oriental Bittersweet – Work was scheduled to begin on the three sites that agreed to participate two weeks ago. However, the chemicals don't work below 40 degrees so weather was not cooperative. City Forester Mark Rehder is working with the contractor Woodland Restoration to see if any work can be done if it warms up.

I'd hoped to have all the paperwork on the grant completed before I left but we would need a copy of the check issued to Woodland Restoration for that and they won't be paid until they do the work. I have spoken to the MN Dept of Agriculture and received permission for the grant to be extended until next summer. Hopefully we will have a few days above 40 degrees by then. I have done all of the paperwork that I can and it will have to be finished by Kevin Kress or Mark Rehder.

Coyote Management Plan – Gretchen and I have taken the California plan and modified it for North Oaks. This is a first draft so feel free to bend, fold, spindle and mutilate it. The plan is intended to be sent to people who have complaints about coyotes and want the City to do something. The plan will give them suggestions on what they can do.

Metropolitan Mosquito Control District – This is the first time I've received a summary of what they have done and I thought you'd be interested in seeing it.

Deer Management – I suggest that if you really want to make deer management an every other year event that you'd first have to convince the Tick Task Force. If they were convinced they might be able to convince the City Council.

Thank You – I'd like to thank all of you for your volunteer efforts over the years. One of the great joys of my career has been the chance to work with people from all walks of life who care deeply about their community. This shows in the extra time and effort you have put in over these six plus years that I have worked with you. A special thanks to Bob for handling all the little administrative details of being Chair and for taking care of the tree seedlings in the spring. Special thanks also to Kate for always being willing to write excellent educational articles for the North Oaks News and City social media.