



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 26th, 2022

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Mississippi River Brainerd One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) Presents Public Kick-Off Event

The Mississippi River Brainerd has been selected by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for the One Watershed, One Plan program. This program allows counties to transition from county-based water management planning to watershed-based planning.

Local professionals developing the plan are seeking input from the public and a Public Kick-Off Event has been scheduled. *“Because you live in the region and utilize the land’s resources, local citizens are critical to the input process. With a resident knowledge base, we will be able to better develop a sensible long-term plan that reflects the needs and concerns of our citizens. Public input matters. Which natural resources are most important to you? What do you, as a resident, care about, and which natural resource(s) should be addressed first?”* Said Shannon Wettstein, Morrison Soil & Water Conservation District Manager.

The Public Kick-Off Event will be held on Monday, June 6, 2022, from 4:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. at the Environmental Classroom, Building 11-1 (TACC) Camp Ripley, 15000 State Highway 115, Little Falls, MN. Attendees will be able to visit and enjoy the Camp Ripley Environmental Classroom with hundreds of wildlife species on display, learn about the 1W1P process, take a virtual tour of the watershed, learn about the current state of the watershed, and provide valuable input that will help in the planning process and assist in prioritizing and targeting. A free light meal will be made available to all attendees.

Registration for the event is required. To register, please contact Lance at (320) 631-3556 or via email at lance.chisholm@morrisonswcd.org and let us know your name and how many other guests will be attending the event. Please remember to bring your official ID or driver’s license to gain access to Camp Ripley.

If you are unable to attend the public kick-off event, we still would like to hear your concerns, opinions, and ideas regarding the watershed by completing the short survey located at <https://arcg.is/0HW4zv>.

The planning area for the Mississippi River Brainerd One Watershed, One Plan boundary begins in Aitkin County where the river flows through the cities of Aitkin, Brainerd/Baxter, and Little Falls. The watershed encompasses all or parts of Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, and Todd counties.

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Our Values: Be responsible. Treat people right. Build a better future.