

MEMBER BENEFITS

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Land and Water Shall be Preserved

What is the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts?

The Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) is a non-profit organization that represents the local governments that focus on the management of water on watershed boundaries rather than political boundaries, such as cities and counties. Members benefit from having an organization that provides a **unified voice for watershed management** and works diligently to maximize the availability of the tools and resources that allow members to most effectively and efficiently meet their water management goals. Primary areas of focus include providing education and training opportunities, lobbying and advocacy services, and regular communications.

Education and Training for Watershed Managers and Staff



Every year, MAWD provides members with opportunities to learn from other members, as well as industry experts, at a variety of workshops, a summer tour, and an annual convention and trade show. Training topics typically include the following: watershed planning, permitting, flood control, education and outreach programs, innovative technologies, effective administration, public relations, data collection and assessment, aquatic invasive species, urban and rural best management practices, governance, and leadership.

Lobbying and Advocacy for Effective and Efficient Watershed Management



MAWD lobbies for funding and programs that enhance the restoration and protection of Minnesota's water resources. Members drive the organization's policy issues through an annual resolutions process and the MAWD Board of Directors sets each year's priorities. Although legislative solutions are often needed to maximize resources, sometimes MAWD will find the best solutions by working directly with state agencies and other non-profits such as wildlife groups, lake associations, environmental groups, and farm organizations.

Organizational Support through Regular Communications



MAWD maintains regular communication with its members to ensure they are kept informed on the latest watershed news including trainings they may find useful, changes to legislation that may impact them, and information to help them stay in compliance with governmental regulations and laws. Formats used to distribute information include newsletters, social media (Facebook and Twitter), email updates and alerts, fact sheets, press releases, and the organization's website: www.mnwatershed.org. Check us out today!