



# Land and Water Legacy Program

Celebration of 15 Year Anniversary  
of Voter Referendum

Washington  
County

## Overview

**This year, Washington County is celebrating the 15-year anniversary of its Land and Water Legacy Program**

Washington County partners with landowners and organizations to purchase land or interests in land to keep them in their natural condition. County land protection efforts were strengthened in 2006 after the passage of a **\$20 million voter-approved bond referendum** for the preservation of water quality, woodlands, and other natural areas. The program became known as the Washington County Land and Water Legacy Program.



### Program Highlights



1,000 Acres



33 Projects



Total \$34M invested

## Funding

- **\$22 million in partnership funds** and **\$12 million in county taxpayer funds** have been invested in protecting the highest quality water and natural areas on **1,000 acres** to date.
- The popularity of the program with cities and residents keen on protecting what they love has resulted in a steady inflow of projects likely to expend the remainder of the \$20 million in authorized bonds soon.

### The program funds are used for the following purposes:

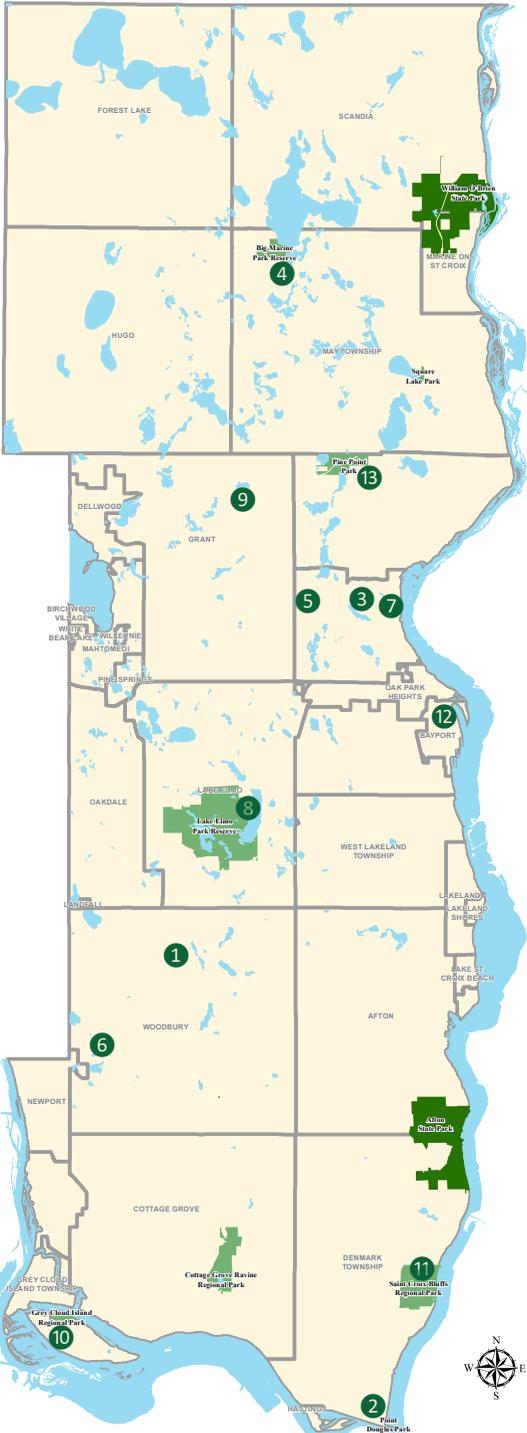
- Improve water quality of rivers, lakes and streams
- Protect drinking water sources
- Purchase parkland, including trail corridors
- Preserve wetlands and woodlands
- Protect land along water bodies from development
- Increase public access to natural areas

## Public Protected Property

- 1 City of Woodbury Prairie Ridge Park - 64 acres  
8301 Valley Creek Road, Woodbury
- 2 St. Croix Trail South Open Space - 2 acres  
13485 St. Croix Trail South, Denmark Township
- 3 Brown's Creek Trail - 2 projects totaling 72 acres  
Stillwater, Stillwater Township
- 4 Big Marine Park Reserve - 7 projects totaling 110.5 acres  
17495 Manning Trail North, Marine on St. Croix
- 5 Millbrook Field West - 16 acres  
Stillwater Township (corner of Manning Ave and 96)
- 6 City of Woodbury La Lake Park - 30 acres  
6655 Bailey Road, Woodbury
- 7 City of Stillwater St. Croix River Park - 16 acres  
1513 Main Street North, Stillwater
- 8 Lake Elmo Park Reserve - 3 projects totaling 36 acres  
1515 Keats Avenue North, Lake Elmo
- 9 Brown's Creek Watershed Open Space - 13 acres  
110th Street, Grant
- 10 Grey Cloud Island Regional Park - 4 projects totaling 109 acres  
Cottage Grove
- 11 St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park - 102 acres  
9521 St. Croix Trail South, Denmark Township
- 12 City of Bayport St. Croix River Park - 11 acres  
105 Lake Circle North, Bayport
- 13 Pine Point Park - 52 acres  
11900 Myeron Road North, Stillwater Township

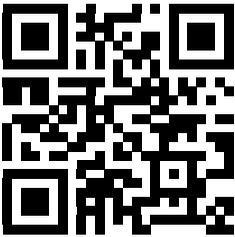
## Private Protected Property

- Lake Elmo Buffer Conservation Easement - 40 acres  
Lake Elmo
- Carpenter Nature Center Conservation Easement - 95 acres  
Denmark Township
- Keystone Woods I Conservation Easement - 19 acres  
Hugo
- Keystone Woods II Conservation Easement - 79 acres  
Hugo
- Silver Creek Conservation Easement II - 47 acres  
Stillwater Township
- Belwin Conservancy Hiking Area - 31 acres  
Afton
- Valley Creek Corridor Conservation Easement - 19 acres  
Afton
- County Conservation Area - 38 acres  
May Township



## Why is this Program Important?

The Land and Water Legacy Program remains one of Washington County's best hopes for protecting the water, soil, creatures, and climate so essential to our existence, health, and well-being. The level of community collaboration these projects invoke assures that the county protects what is irreplaceable and highest priority. The county, on behalf of its residents, expresses gratitude to landowners who have made protection a priority by bringing their property forward for consideration and/or made land donations. These donations help amplify the program and result in even more land being placed into the public trust.



For more information scan the QR Code or visit:

[co.washington.mn.us/405/Land-and-Water-Legacy-Program](https://co.washington.mn.us/405/Land-and-Water-Legacy-Program)

## Partnerships

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Washington County Cities and Townships  
Minnesota Land Trust  
Metropolitan Council  
Washington Conservation District  
Trust for Public Land  
Private Landowners

Belwin Conservancy  
Carpenter Nature Center  
Friends of the Mississippi River  
St. Croix River Association  
Watershed Districts  
Science Museum of Minnesota

The county appreciates the many state and nonprofit funding partnerships that are a critical part of every project that crosses the finish line. Every Minnesotan through state programs like the Minnesota Legacy Fund, have contributed to bringing these projects of local, regional, statewide and national significance into fruition.

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