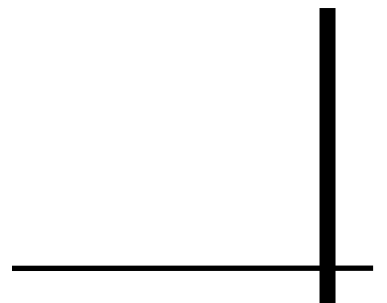




West Mississippi  
Watershed Management  
Commission

2005 Annual Report



This report was prepared for the  
West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission  
by Judie Anderson, JASS.

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of  
Randy Anhorn, Metropolitan Council  
Joe Bischoff, Wenck Associates  
Ed Matthiesen, Wenck Associates  
Jenny Schaust, Hennepin County Dept. of Environmental Services  
Diane Spector, Wenck Associates



---

## Table of Contents

	page
Annual Activity Report .....	I
The Commission .....	I
Consultants .....	I
Meetings .....	I
Joint Powers Organization .....	I
Watershed Management Plan .....	2
2005 Activities .....	3
Project Reviews .....	3
Wetland Conservation Acts .....	4
Water Quality Monitoring .....	4
Water Quality Plan .....	5
Capital Improvement Program .....	6
TMDLs .....	7
Shingle Creek Corridor Study .....	8
Brooklyn Center Streambank Stabilization Project .....	8
River Watch .....	9
NPDES-II Education and Public Outreach Minimum Measure Program .....	9
Water Quality Education Grants .....	10
Public Outreach .....	11
Grant Opportunitites .....	11
Interest Proposals .....	11
Communications .....	12
Financial Reporting .....	12
Operating Budget .....	12
Treasurer's Reports .....	12
Financial Statement .....	12
Work Plan for 2006 .....	13

### Appendices

- 1 Commission and Staff
- 2 Local Planning/WCA Designations
- 3 Adopted Resolutions
- 4 Project Reviews
- 6 River Watch
- 7 Financial Reports



**Annual Activity Report** ~ This annual report has been prepared by the West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission in accordance with the Annual Reporting Requirements of Minnesota Rules chapter 8410.0150, Subparts 2 and 3.

**The Commission** ~ The West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission is governed by a five-member board comprised of representatives from each member city who are appointed for terms of three years: The five member cities are Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Champlin, Maple Grove and Osseo. Commissioners who served in 2005 are shown in *Appendix 1*.

**Consultants** ~ The Commission has no employees. The names of the consultants currently retained by the Commission are also listed in *Appendix 1*.

**Meetings** ~ The Commission meets monthly at 12:45 p.m. on the second Thursday at Lancer's, 8700 Edinbrook Crossing, Brooklyn Park. The meetings are open to the public. Current meeting notices and agendas and prior meeting minutes are posted on the Commission's website, [www.shinglecreek.org](http://www.shinglecreek.org).

**Joint Powers Organization** ~ The 1982 Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act (chapter 509) mandates that all watersheds within the seven county metropolitan area be governed by a watershed management organization. The West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission was formed in 1984 under a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between the five cities having land within the West Mississippi watershed. The cities decided to form a joint powers commission because they believed it provided the best balance for the establishment of watershed-wide policies and strategies for meeting watershed management requirements while retaining the most flexibility and local input at the lowest cost. The JPA may be found at [www.shinglecreek.org](http://www.shinglecreek.org).

Early in 2004 the Commission forwarded an amendment to the JPA to the member cities for consideration for adoption. It proposes the following changes:

- ~ Assessments for general fund purposes for the year 2004 will be set as an "assessment cap."
- ~ The cap will be increased or decreased each year thereafter based on changes in the Consumer Price Index. The assessment cap cannot be exceeded by the Commission without the consent of a majority of the member cities.
- ~ The Commission cannot increase the assessment by more than 20% in any one

- year without the consent of a majority of the members, even if such an increase would be within the assessment cap.
- ~ A supplementary assessment, allowed under the existing agreement, together with the regular annual assessment for any one year cannot exceed the limits noted above without the consent of a majority of the member cities.

The amendment will not be in effect until approved by all the members. At December 31, 2005, the Commission was awaiting a signed amendment from the fifth member city.

**Watershed Management Plan** ~ In accordance with the Metropolitan Water Management Act, the Commission prepared a watershed management plan that describes the watershed's physical and hydrologic policies, identified management issues and strategies, and proposed an implementation program for managing the water resources of the watershed. This "first generation" watershed management plan was adopted by the Commission in 1990.

Since four of the five member cities in the West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission (Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Maple Grove, and Osseo) are also members of the Shingle Creek Commission, the two Commissions elected to jointly develop their "Second Generation" plan. They adopted the plan on May 13, 2004.

The Second Generation plan represents a major shift in the focus of the Commissions – from an emphasis on *controlling the amount* of stormwater runoff to an emphasis on *protecting and improving the quality* of water in the lakes and streams in the watersheds.

Another new priority is water quality education for property owners, students, and elected and appointed officials. The Commissions also adopted new standards that require developing properties to infiltrate some runoff on site as well as to require buffer areas between new development and lakes, streams and wetlands.

Eight water management goals identified in the Second Generation Watershed Management Plan are:

- ~ Protect and improve water quality based on practical use.
- ~ Reduce erosion and sedimentation.
- ~ Maintain the existing 100-year flood profile throughout the watersheds.
- ~ Protect and improve wetlands.
- ~ Establish an education and public outreach program.
- ~ Protect and improve groundwater quality and promote groundwater recharge.
- ~ Strive to provide water quality that supports recreation, fish and wildlife based on practical use.
- ~ Develop an appropriate management strategy for Hennepin County Ditch #13.

Following adoption of the Second Generation management plan, member cities were advised that they will be required to adopt or amend their local water management plans to be in conformance with the Commissions' plan. This must occur by May 2006. The status of local plan development is outlined in Appendix 2.

**2005 Activities** ~ Below is a summary of the work effort undertaken by the West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission to meet the goals and objectives and projected work plan. More information regarding these activities may be found in this *Annual Report* and on the Commission's website, [www.shinglecreek.org](http://www.shinglecreek.org).

- ~ Reviewed six projects for conformance with Commission's Rules and Standards.
- ~ The joint (Shingle Creek and West Mississippi) Commissions' Education and Public Outreach Committee (EPOC) continued to identify educational and public relations opportunities.
- ~ As part of its NPDES Phase II Education and Outreach activities, published a guide booklet for commercial and common ownership communities entitled *Maintain Your Property the Watershed Friendly Way*, and forwarded 1000 copies to member cities for distribution.
- ~ Awarded Water Quality Education Grants to an elementary school, an Eagle Scout candidate, and a non-profit organization.
- ~ Adopted the Shingle Creek Corridor Study and the management standards recommended within.
- ~ Adopted a \$132,700 operating budget, with member assessments totaling \$92,950.
- ~ Conducted an annual review of the Commission's NPDES-II Education and Public Outreach Minimum Measure Program and submitted a report to the participating MS4s.
- ~ Actively sought grant opportunities to fund Commission projects.
- ~ Revised its project review and wetland review fee schedule.
- ~ Participated in the Brooklyn Center Streambank Stabilization Project.
- ~ Adopted two resolutions. Copies of these resolutions are included as Appendix 3.
- ~ Continued operation of the Commission's web site, [www.shinglecreek.org](http://www.shinglecreek.org).
- ~ Worked with governmental agencies and other watershed management organizations towards a common goal of protecting water resources and improving water quality within the watershed.
- ~ Prepared newsletters and other communications in accordance with MN Rules 8410.0100, Subp. 4.
- ~ Published an Annual Report summarizing the Commission's yearly activities and financial *reporting of revenues and expenditures*.

**Project Reviews** ~ The Commission currently reviews proposed land development and redevelopment projects and various other projects affecting water resources within the West Mississippi watershed. Projects are reviewed in accordance with the management standards and

policies of the Commission and recommendations are made to the member city in which the project is located. It is the city's responsibility to enforce the Commission's recommendations to ensure that natural resources are protected and water quality improvements are implemented. In 2005 the Commission reviewed the projects shown in Appendix 4. Copies of the engineer's reports and recommendations approved by the Commission for these projects can be found on the Commission's web site, [www.shinglecreek.org](http://www.shinglecreek.org). A map showing their locations is also found in *Appendix 4*. No variances were granted by the Commission as part of the review process.

The Commission has developed a pond inspection procedure in order to determine if projects are being completed as proposed. At the end of 2004 Commission Staff had inspected more than half of the approximately 50 eligible sites. The remaining inspections were completed in 2005. The Commission will also develop a protocol for cities to use if they choose to take on this responsibility as part of their NPDES-II programs.

**Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)** ~ The West Mississippi Commission currently serves as the local governmental unit (LGU) for administering the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) of 1991 unless member cities have elected to serve in that capacity. The City of Maple Grove has previously notified BWSR and the Commission of its intent to serve as LGU. Projects reviewed in 2005 by the Commission in its capacity as LGU are included in Appendix 4.

A Wetland Management Policy adopted by the Commission in 1994 provides that the Commission will consider participation in the state wetland bank once such a bank has been established and LGUs are notified. During 2005, the Commission did not approve any banking of wetlands.

**Water Quality Monitoring** ~ The Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed Management Commissions annually monitor water quality in the lakes and streams of the watersheds to assess the current status of water resources in their respective watersheds as well as to monitor progress toward accomplishing goals set forth in their Water Quality Plan.

Currently, the majority of the Commissions' Water Quality Monitoring Program is conducted in the Shingle Creek watershed, where stream monitoring for water quantity and quality, lake monitoring, and macroinvertebrate monitoring take place. In the West Mississippi watershed, only macroinvertebrate monitoring is conducted. The Commissions' technical staff obtains most stream water quality data while volunteers collect most lake water quality and stream macroinvertebrate data. The 2005 Water Quality Monitoring Report is available on the Commission's website.

**Water Quality Plan** ~ In 2005 the Commissions continued working on the Water Quality Plan (WQP) which details strategies for achieving the Commissions' Second Generation Management Plan goal of protecting and improving water quality and providing guidance for water quality management in the combined watersheds over a ten-year period. The major components of the Water Quality Plan are:

- ~ Classification, prioritization and numerical water quality goals for lakes (Shingle Creek);
- ~ Water quality goals for streams;
- ~ Identification of wetlands that are of highest priority for conducting functions and values assessments;
- ~ An implementation plan including monitoring, education, management planning, and a CIP; and
- ~ Standard protocols for monitoring.

Activities proposed in the Management Plan include developing individual management plans for major water resources. In addition, the Commissions are required by law to:

- ~ Complete and implement chloride and low dissolved oxygen TMDLs (Shingle Creek);
- ~ Establish numerical water quality goals for lakes (Shingle Creek);
- ~ Complete and implement thirteen lake nutrient TMDLs (Shingle Creek);
- ~ Complete and implement an impaired biota TMDL for Bass Creek (Shingle Creek); and
- ~ Identify priority wetlands for preservation or restoration.

The Water Quality Plan sets forth the Commissions' water quality goals, standards, and methodologies in more detail than those established in the Second Generation Management Plan; provides philosophical guidance for completing water resource management plans and TMDLs; and provides direction for the ongoing water quality monitoring programs that will be essential to determining if the TMDLs and implementation program are effectively improving water quality.

The Commissions have reviewed and approved the WQP except for the Implementation Section. The Implementation Section is divided into four sections – Monitoring and Data Gathering, Management Plans, Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and Education and Public Outreach – and is described in more detail below. A final component summarizes issues, responsibilities and future actions. This section is currently under review while the Commissions' CIP is being completed. Following completion and approval of the CIP, the entire WQP will be incorporated into the Management Plan through a Major Plan Amendment process that includes extensive city and agency review and a public hearing. This is expected to occur in 2006.

As TMDLs are completed in the Shingle Creek watershed, implementation plans will be developed for each of the listed water bodies. These implementation plans will then be incorporated into the WQP and CIP. The TMDLs will provide targets and identify the level of effort needed to bring the specific water bodies back into compliance with State water quality standards.

A copy of the draft Water Quality Plan is found at [www.shinglecreek.org](http://www.shinglecreek.org)

**Capital Improvement Program** ~ The Implementation Plan and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) sections of the Water Quality Plan are the last items to be developed before the Commissions adopt the Water Quality Plan through the Major Plan Amendment process. The Second Generation Watershed Management Plan included a general CIP that identified a few projects, but noted that more detail would be provided as part of the Water Quality Plan and from the series of TMDLs and Management Plans to be developed over the next several years.

The draft Water Quality Plan includes an Implementation Plan of management activities and potential capital projects that have been identified in either lake management plans or the Shingle Creek Corridor Study. This initial Implementation Plan is expected to be updated on an ongoing basis as TMDLs and Management Plans are completed and approved. The Implementation Plan includes a variety of activities to be undertaken to achieve the water quality and other goals. These activities may be:

- ~ Non-structural activities that may be new or extensions of existing activities the cities and Commission already undertakes, such as increased street sweeping or targeted education.
- ~ Small projects or activities that don't meet the thresholds usually considered for capital projects, such as aquatic plant management, shoreline restoration, or small erosion control projects.
- ~ Capital projects such as detention pond construction, installation of in-line treatment devices, or lake treatments.

In recent years the Commissions, their Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and member cities have debated how to finance the projects and activities that will be identified in the Implementation Plans. The Joint Powers Agreement authorizes three methods for financing capital improvements: 1) A negotiated apportionment of cost, 2) an apportionment of cost to the cities in the same proportion as the operating budget, or 3) certification of the cost to the county for an ad valorem tax levied on all taxable property in the watershed.

The TAC met to discuss various cost-sharing strategies and how they might be applied to three projects identified for inclusion in the Implementation Plan. An important consideration was

linking capital projects funding and specific goals or benefits. Another important consideration was controlling the process so that the CIP did not become a “laundry list” of projects. Finally, it was important to provide some flexibility in the process to minimize the times a minor or major plan amendment would be required to amend the CIP.

After reviewing various cost-sharing strategies, the TAC recommended, and the Commissions agreed, that an option based on the following principles seemed to be a reasonable compromise.

- ~ There is a benefit to the entire watershed from meeting water quality and management plan goals.
- ~ For most projects there is a direct benefit to some area – for example, lakeshore or streamside properties.
- ~ For most projects there is an upstream area *causing* the need for improvements.
- ~ For many projects there is a downstream area *benefiting* from improvements.

Early in 2005 a letter was sent to the member communities outlining the proposed cost-sharing policy and requesting their review and comment.

The Technical Advisory Committee continued to meet to discuss the components of the CIP. Their discussion centered around the types of projects that should be considered for potential Commission funding and how they should be prioritized for potential Commission funding. They also considered what policies the Commission should enact when establishing and amending the CIP. Finalization of the Capital Improvement Program and Cost-sharing Policy and the resultant Major Plan Amendment process are expected in 2006.

**TMDLs** ~ Every two years, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) releases the 303 (d) list of impaired waters in Minnesota. This list, named after the section of the Clean Water Act in which the impaired waters law is found, includes all state lakes, rivers and streams known to exceed water quality standards.

Shingle Creek was first listed for excessive chloride in 1998. In 2002, twelve of the sixteen lakes in the Shingle Creek watershed were included on the list for excessive nutrients. Bass Creek was also included on the list for “impaired biota” (failure to maintain its biotic integrity). In 2004 an additional lake, Cedar Island Lake, was added to the list and Shingle Creek was listed impaired by low dissolved oxygen levels. A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study is being prepared for each Impaired Water, identifying the contributors to the excessive loads of pollutants and outlining a plan for returning the water to an unimpaired state. Funding to

undertake the TMDL studies is provided by grants from the MPCA. More details relating to the TMDLs being undertaken by the Shingle Creek Commission are included in their *2005 Annual Report*. It may be found on their website.

**Shingle Creek Corridor Study** ~ In 2003 the Shingle Creek Commission was awarded a Conservation Partners grant by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to conduct a Shingle Creek Corridor Study. This study incorporated and built upon data compiled by the Minneapolis Park Board in its evaluation of that part of the creek corridor in the City of Minneapolis and will be followed in future years by similar studies for Eagle, Bass and Pike Creeks as well as Oxbow Creek in the West Mississippi watershed. The end product of the Corridor Study is a coordinated vision for the future of Shingle Creek and its tributaries, a capital improvement plan that outlines projects for the restoration of Shingle Creek, and a program of management activities.

In May 2005 the City of Brooklyn Park formally requested the Shingle Creek Commission to draft a minor amendment to its Watershed Management Plan for the creek restoration project under design in that city. Since the Management Plan is a shared document, the minor plan amendment process necessitated a hearing in both the Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Commissions. The Corridor Study was approved by both Commissions at their September meetings.

**Brooklyn Center Streambank Stabilization Project** ~ The Brooklyn Center Restoration project was a successful collaborative effort between the Commission, the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (MNRRA), the Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Brooklyn Center, Great River Greening, Fortin Consulting and local residents.

The project focused on stabilizing and revegetating a disturbed stretch of shoreline in Brooklyn Center along the property of eight homeowners. The project was very unique in that it utilized stabilization efforts with native plant establishment. It will serve as a model for the Commission and other agencies for future projects that utilize rip-rap for stabilization. The collaboration between project partners began in 2002 and led to stabilization work in 2004 and revegetation efforts in 2005.

As part of the revegetation work, two volunteer events were held at the site to involve local residents and other neighborhood volunteers. Ultimately, 580 trees, shrubs and vines were planted along with 5200 containerized flowers and grasses. At year-end the project site was doing well with a dense stand of native species and few weeds in the planting. Local residents have been trained to conduct maintenance on the sites and have demonstrated their commitment to ensure project success into the future. Pictures of this project in progress can be viewed on the Commission's website.

**River Watch** ~ The River Watch program was initiated in 1995 to provide hands-on environmental education for high school and college students, promote river stewardship and obtain water quality information on streams in Hennepin County. The program connects teachers and students with professionals to monitor the health of local streams. The monitoring program, which started with six sites, has expanded to 30 sites. In 2005 approximately 900 students monitored nine sites.

The West Mississippi Watershed Management Commission has been a sponsor of the River Watch Program since 1998. In past years, monitoring has occurred at one site in the watershed – where Edinbrook Channel turns into Mattson Brook in Brooklyn Park. However, in 2005 the teacher was unable to get his students out to perform the monitoring. He and his class will monitor the site in 2006.

The River Watch program is under the auspices of the Hennepin County Department of Environmental Services. A detailed report of 2005 monitoring results is found on the Hennepin County web site, [http://www.co.hennepin.mn.us/River Watch](http://www.co.hennepin.mn.us/River%20Watch). For more information, contact Jenny Schaust, [jenny.schaust@co.hennepin.mn.us](mailto:jenny.schaust@co.hennepin.mn.us).

**NPDES-II Education and Public Outreach Minimum Measure Program** ~ The nine cities with land in the Shingle Creek and West Mississippi watersheds that are also MS4s (having municipal separate storm sewer systems) have designated the Commissions to prepare and provide the education and public outreach minimum measures of the NPDES-II (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II) stormwater pollution prevention programs. (Minneapolis is an NPDES-I city and has different requirements.) The Commissions prepared a joint Public Outreach program that incorporated many of the Commissions' current activities and identified new activities to be undertaken in 2005 and subsequent years. These activities include:

- ~ Volunteer lake and stream water quality monitoring
- ~ Informational articles, brochures, and web site
- ~ Water Quality Education Grants
- ~ Water quality demonstration projects
- ~ Handbooks for developers, contractors, and maintenance staff
- ~ Hands-on activities such as storm drain stenciling, watershed cleanups and shoreline restoration.
- ~ Special community events.
- ~ Collaboration with WaterShed Partners

The program includes six elements -- education and public outreach, public participation and involvement, illicit discharge and elimination, construction site stormwater runoff control, post construction stormwater management in new and re-development projects, and pollution

prevention/good housekeeping for municipal operations. It serves as a base program that cities may supplement with additional programming and includes appropriate BMPs (best management practices) and measurable goals.

In 2005 the Education and Public Outreach Committee (EPOC), which coordinates NPDES activities, developed a handbook, *Maintain Your Property the Watershed Friendly Way: A Guidebook for Commercial and Common Ownership Communities*. This booklet provides information aimed at commercial and multi-family property managers and townhome associations on maintaining detention ponds, proper turf maintenance, parking lot plowing and de-icing options and maintaining other stormwater facilities such as in-line devices, infiltration basins, and rain gardens. It may be found on the Commission's website.

A majority of the education and public outreach goals were attained in 2005. Some programs did not reach their goals because there was insufficient participation such as low attendance at the Open House. Others did not reach their goals because they required participation and collaboration by the member cities.

A category of goals that was not met in 2005 was development of educational materials on various subjects such as construction activity, municipal maintenance good housekeeping and the like. In the interest of nonduplication of effort and expense, the EPOC has recommended that the Commissions wait to finish these tasks until those materials are completed by other entities such as WaterShed Partners and MPCA and then incorporate them into the Commissions' education and public outreach program.

The Commissions provided an annual report of the NPDES-II program to the MS4s for their use in developing their own annual reports. A copy of the report is included on the website.

**Water Quality Education Grants** ~ The Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Commissions co-sponsor a program to provide grant funding to promote water quality education. Grants of up to \$1,000 each are available to fund activities that raise awareness of water quality and improve water quality education. Faculty and staff of public and private K-12 schools, youth groups, service clubs, churches and neighborhood associations located in the Shingle Creek and West Mississippi watersheds are eligible to receive these grants. Costs of the grants are shared equally between the two commissions.

Funded activities must directly provide educational activities for participants, improve educators' knowledge, skills and ability to provide educational activities, or provide a "demonstration model" to further water quality education and awareness. Projects approved in 2005 were:

Monroe Elementary School	Brooklyn Park	Pond Life
Minneapolis Blooms, Friends of CUE	Minneapolis	Rain garden workshops
Adam Hockert, Scout Troop 542	Brooklyn Center	Storm drain stenciling

**Public Outreach** ~ The Commission continues to provide information and support to its member cities and the citizens living in those communities. Public involvement and participation is encouraged through a number of projects and events.

In addition, many of the cities within the watersheds have active outreach programs. These range from assisting neighborhood associations in promoting use of phosphorus-free fertilizer to providing educational materials to schools. All of the cities have some type of citizen commission that reviews and provides recommendations to their city councils. Below is a brief list of Commission outreach activities that occurred in 2005.

- ~ Sponsored the fourth annual Great Shingle Creek Watershed Cleanup.
- ~ Held its Annual Meeting on May 12, 2005.
- ~ Continued the “free soil test kits” program for watershed residents.
- ~ Was represented at ScienceFest 2005, an event of the Young Scientist Roundtable sponsored by ten Metro school districts.
- ~ Prepared e-newsletters and articles that provide updated information on Commission activities to cities and interested parties.
- ~ Maintained its web site to allow for easy access to Commission activities, watershed information and events.

**Grant Opportunities** ~ In 2005 the Commission continued to actively seeking grant opportunities to fund Commission projects. While a number of grant programs were available, their criteria did not match with projects identified by the Commissions in their Management Plan.

An application was written for DNR Environmental and Conservation Partnership Grant funding for the Eagle, Bass, Pike, Twin, Oxbow and Mattson Brook Corridor Study.

In 2005 the Commission was a party to a cooperative agreement that provided, in part, National Park Service Challenge Grant funds to undertake the Brooklyn Center Restoration project. More information on this project is provided earlier in this report and on the Commission’s website.

**Interest Proposals** ~ Biannually, the Commission publishes a notice in the *State Register* requesting interest proposals for administrative, legal and technical services. As prescribed in MSA 103B.227, Subd. 5, the noticing process will be repeated in 2006.

**Communications** ~ The Education and Public Outreach Committee (EPOC) of the joint Commissions prepares periodic newsletters for distribution to member cities for reproduction and distribution to the public. These newsletters provide information relative to the Commissions' operations and implementation of their Management Plan. Articles describing current activities and projects are also included.

In addition, from time to time the EPOC provides news releases to member cities, local newspapers and other media describing Commission and watershed-wide activities and events. Newsletters, news releases, and this Annual Report are available on the Commissions' web site, [www.shinglecreek.org](http://www.shinglecreek.org).

**Financial Reporting** ~ The financial accounting is handled by the Commission's Treasurer, an elected officer. Monthly Treasurer's Reports are prepared for review and approval by the Commission at their monthly meetings. Karen Jaeger, representative from the City of Maple Grove, served as Treasurer for the Commission during 2005. Assistance was provided by Deputy Treasurer, Judie Anderson, JASS. The Commission's fiscal year is the calendar year.

**Operating Budget** ~ The Commission's Joint Powers Agreement provides that each member city contributes toward the annual operating budget based 50% on the area located within the watershed boundary and 50% on the tax capacity of all property within the watershed. The 2004 cost allocations to the members are shown as part of the Operating Budget found in *Appendix 5*. Of the \$132,700 operating budget approved by the Commission for 2005, income of \$12,000 was projected as proceeds from application fees, and \$1,000 as interest income, resulting in assessments to members totaling \$92,950. \$26,750 was budgeted from reserve funds.

**Treasurer's Reports** ~ Details of the Commission's expenditures are provided in financial documents prepared by the Commission's Treasurer which show year-end totals and monthly expenditures for each accounting category (Appendix 6.) Total expenditures for the year ending December 31, 2005 were \$112,466. Revenues received in 2005 totaled \$107,110, including fees of \$8,700 collected for projects reviewed by the Commission and \$4,696 interest income. No WCA escrows were received in 2005.

**Financial Statement** ~ The Commission's 2005 Audit is being prepared by the firm of Johnson & company, Ltd. and will be available at a later date.

**Work Plan for 2006** ~ The Commission's projected work plan for 2006 is as follows:

- ~ Continue to review projects within the watershed in accordance with the management standards and policies of the Commission.
- ~ Continue to serve as the local government unit (LGU) for administering the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act unless member cities elect to serve as the LGU.
- ~ Develop and implement an Education and Public Outreach program that meets the requirements of the Education and Public Outreach and Public Participation minimum measures of the NPDES-II permit program.
- ~ Conduct an annual review of the NPDES-II permit program and submit a report to the participating MS4s.
- ~ Continue to fund and encourage participation by schools located within the watershed in Hennepin County's River Watch program.
- ~ Continually update the Commission's web site.
- ~ Conduct the Phase II Stream Assessment extending the Shingle Creek Corridor Study to the other major streams in the watersheds including Mattson Brook, and Edinburg/Century Channels.
- ~ Upon completion of the Water Quality Plan and CIP, initiate a Major Plan Amendment modifying the Second Generation Management Plan to adopt the WQP, revised CIP, and revised Cost Sharing Policy.
- ~ Prepare periodic newsletters and other media releases in accordance with MN Rules 8410.0100, §4.
- ~ Implement 2006 objectives of EPOC.
- ~ Have a Commission presence at activities such as Great Shingle Creek Watershed Cleanup and other member community events.
- ~ Continue Water Quality Education Grant Program.
- ~ Actively seek grant opportunities to fund Commission projects.
- ~ Encourage cities to implement regional ponding facilities wherever feasible to treat stormwater runoff.
- ~ Publish an Annual Report summarizing the Commission's yearly activities and financial reporting.
- ~ Work with other governmental agencies and other watershed management organizations towards a common goal of protecting water resources and improving water quality within the watershed.

~~~~~

Questions regarding this report should be directed  
to JASS, 763.553.1144 or judie@jass.biz