

FACT SHEET | Clean Water Infrastructure

Building a Better Minnesota

Governor Mark Dayton has proposed a \$219.7 million plan to modernize Minnesota's aging water infrastructure and protect groundwater from contamination. Governor Dayton's plan would allocate \$167 million of his Jobs Bill proposal to assist communities across the state that cannot afford to make critical investments in aging water infrastructure. The Governor's plan would also invest an additional \$52.7 million for water quality protection initiatives to help leverage millions of federal dollars to implement conservation practices to restore and protect water quality across the state. Below is a breakdown of how the Governor's \$220 million in proposed funding would be allocated.

Water Quality & Infrastructure Investments

- **Point Source Implementation Grant Program** – The Governor's plan would invest \$62 million in the Point Source Implementation Grant Program, to help lift the burden off local communities to pay for treatment plant upgrades to address water quality restoration and protection goals.
- **Water Infrastructure Funding Program** – Governor Dayton's proposal would provide \$80 million to the Water Infrastructure Funding Program to increase aid to communities rehabilitating aging wastewater and drinking water infrastructure systems. Grant funding is based on the average household income of residents and is designed to keep clean water affordable for Minnesotans.
- **Clean Water & Drinking Water Revolving Funds** – To help local governments update essential clean water and drinking water projects to serve residents and businesses, Governor Dayton's Jobs Bill includes \$25 in funding to match federal grants for affordable, low-interest loans.
- **Buffer Reimbursements** – The Governor's plan would invest \$30 million in the Reinvest in Minnesota Reserve program, which works with farmers and private landowners to restore and protect water quality in the implementation of the new buffer law passed last session. The state funds will leverage up to \$120 million in federal dollars and is part of a five year 100,000 acre clean water effort.
- **Keeping Clear Water out of Wastewater** – The Governor's plan would allocate \$5 million for an inflow/infiltration grant program at the Metropolitan Council. The initiative provides matching grants to local governments to keep clear water from entering the municipal wastewater system, which can overwhelm and back up these systems, causing untreated wastewater to enter our lakes and streams.
- **Wetland Replacement** – To replace an estimated 300 acres of wetlands that are lost due to road construction across the state, Governor Dayton's Jobs Bill includes a proposed \$5 million investment in the Local Government Roads Wetlands Replacement Program.
- **Duluth Area Contamination Cleanup** – To clean up contaminated sediment and industrial waste at ten locations at the St. Louis River Estuary and the Duluth harbor and bay, Governor Dayton's Jobs Bill would invest \$12.7 million. The state's 35 percent contribution will be matched by 65 percent federal funding.