

Itasca Waters

ANNUAL REPORT

itascawaters.org

2018



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MISSION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The mission of the Itasca Waters (formerly Itasca Water Legacy Partnership) is to “Team Up” with other organizations and concerned citizens to maintain abundant, clean water for our continued health, enjoyment and a strong economy.

Itasca Waters (IW) is pursuing its mission by:

- Promoting water stewardship through education and outreach
- Engaging all Itasca County citizens to join in these efforts
- Continuing its efforts to fund science-based research focused on water quality

SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

Our supporters and partners have included the Blandin Foundation – Minnesota Humanities Center – Itasca County – Itasca Soil & Water Conservation District – ISD #318 – U.S. Forest Service – National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Minnesota DNR – Minnesota PCA – Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)– Wes Libbey Northern Lakes Chapter of the Izaak Walton League – Grand Rapids Players – Minnesota Power – Itasca County Lake Associations – Itasca County Business Community – Community Volunteers and Individual Members.

2018 EVENTS AND SUCCESSES

Itasca Waters continued to work with its many partners to look for new opportunities to be good stewards of our great water resources. You will find specific information on projects funded by grants later in this report, but here are just a few highlights:

- Given a \$150,000 grant from the Blandin Foundation focused on protecting shorelands in Itasca County.
- Hosted the seventh Youth Water Summit in May that allowed over 450 fifth graders a chance to participate in all-day scientific hands-on activities and presented a hands-on event at the Itasca County Fair.
- Hired a part-time coordinator, a first for Itasca Waters, and opened an office at Central Square Mall.
- Worked on building awareness of IW, including a billboard on Highway 169, new banners for events, an informative library presentation, and an updated website.
- Published a very well received Shoreland Guide, widely distributed to lake associations, realtors, and others.
- Hosted a very successful Septic Secrets seminar.
- Continued to work on the We Are Water 2019 event, hosted in conjunction with the Minnesota Humanities Center and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The event will include a series of activities in 2019, culminating with a six-week exhibit at the Reif Center.

GRANTS

Blandin Grants

In March 2018, the Blandin Foundation awarded Itasca Waters a \$150,000 grant to fund a three-year program focused on protecting and restoring shoreland areas in Itasca County to reduce nutrient loading in area lakes and maintain high water quality. The application included a request for a part-time coordinator to help implement the program, a first for Itasca Waters. As part of the grant, Itasca Waters began work with the University of Minnesota Morris, Center for Small Towns, to implement a survey of lakeshore owners.

Some funds from the 2011 Blandin grant are still available for use for community events.

PROJECTS AND EVENTS

Bush Foundation Grant Application

In May, after addressing the Bush Foundation Board, Dave Lick (representing Itasca Waters) was encouraged to submit a grant to fund community engagement on shoreland issues. Itasca County generously allowed grant writer John Connelly to assist in preparing the grant proposal. Itasca Waters Board member Tim Scherkenbach and Coordinator Carissa Anderson also helped develop the grant. Submitted in October 2018, Itasca Waters was notified in February 2019 that Itasca Waters was awarded a \$107,000 grant.

Coordinator and Office

Itasca Waters (IW) is expanding and growing! In mid-2018 IW hired its first part-time coordinator. The hiring of a coordinator has had a very positive impact, broadening IW's contacts in the community and providing needed support for IW projects. In addition, IW now has an office in Central Square Mall in Grand Rapids. Having an office has increased the organization's community visibility and opportunities for IW to participate in downtown and local business committees and events.

Shoreland Initiative

Launched by the Planning Committee in 2017, first steps included identifying areas of emphasis--the aquatic zone, shoreland, runoff and erosion, and septic/excavation, with the later addition of private forest management. With funding from the 2018 Blandin Foundation grant, next steps involve developing projects in these areas, including identifying and training a cadre of shoreland advisors. The first planning meeting was held late in 2018.

Deer Lake Septic Inspection Program

2018 was the first full year that Blandin Foundation funds financed an incentive program for septic system compliance. The Blandin grant offered \$10,000 toward septic system inspections of Deer Lake properties, who volunteered to have their systems inspected. Funding will be available until the \$10,000 is spent or after a period of three years.

Shoreland Guide

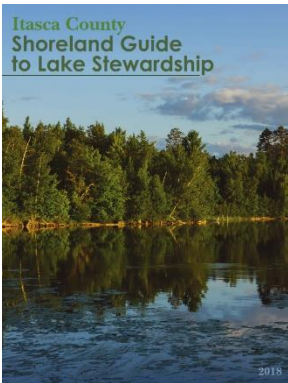
In 2018, Itasca Waters published "Itasca County Shoreland Guide to Lake Stewardship," a 30-page educational guide centered around ways to protect and restore Itasca County's numerous lakes, rivers and wetlands. A few of the many topics covered include runoff, watersheds, shoreland buffers, AIS, private forest management, land easements, shoreland permit requirements, and Itasca County contact information.

During the year, 3500 Shoreland Guides were distributed to state, county and city offices, fourteen lake associations, nine realty offices, nine local events, the Chamber of Commerce, Visit Grand Rapids, Itasca Waters members, and the Reif Board of Directors.

Shoreland Guides are available at the Chamber of Commerce, Itasca County Environmental Services, Itasca County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Visit Grand Rapids, and Itasca Waters' office in the Central Square Mall. Also, a PDF of the Guide is available from the Itasca Waters website at <http://itascawaters.org/shoreland-guide-2018>. Further information about obtaining guides is available at info@itascawaters.org or by calling the Itasca Waters office at: 218-256-5998.

Septic Secrets Seminar

Itasca Waters sponsored a seminar focused on septic system dos and don'ts at Wabana Town Hall on June 28, 2018. Following a potluck supper at 4 pm, Sara Heger, Water Resource Center University of Minnesota, and Craig Gilbertson, Minnesota Department of Health presented two hours of information. Attendees were given various materials including the Septic System Owner's Guide and a list of various online resources. Over 80 people attended the information session.



Bunes Septic pumped the Town Hall septic system, taking about an hour to demonstrate materials and techniques to the 15-20 people who stayed for the demonstration. The event was planned and coordinated by Itasca Waters Board members Bill Marshall, Dave Lick and John Davis (Deer Lake Association) with help from other Board members. The seminar was advertised using flyers, newspaper ads, social media and interviews on KOZY and KAXE.

RMB Water Quality Monitoring Data Cleanup Project

In 2015, Itasca County SWCD began working with RMB Environmental Laboratories (RMB) to update the county water plan. They discovered that not all the data collected on Itasca County Lakes had made its way to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) database (EQuIS).

In 2017, Itasca Water (IW) sponsored a project with RMB Labs, who also donated staff hours to the project, to contact all the Itasca County lake associations to gather their water quality monitoring data. The product was to be a report for each lake summarizing its data and water quality characteristics. In addition, accumulated data, which met metadata requirements, would be submitted to the MPCA for entry into EQuIS.

RMB began the project by receiving a download of all the Itasca County lake data from the MPCA database. Then a call for lake data was disseminated within Itasca County through IWLP, the Itasca County Coalition of Lake Associations (ICOLA), the SWCD, and the local newspaper (Grand Rapids Herald Review). RMB received data in many different formats including paper hard copy, Excel worksheets, and Word files. As data was compiled, it became evident that a process to clean up the data was needed to address the many anomalies.

In a February 2018 RMB provided a report to Itasca Waters that included:

- One-page Lake Fact Sheets for 72 lakes
- A spreadsheet containing Itasca County water quality data not already in the MPCA database.
- A full Itasca County dataset, including MPCA data.

Given the significant amounts of missing data, and the anomalies in the data that had been provided, RMB identified and recommended additional steps that could be undertaken to complete the data compilation and cleanup project.

In May of 2018 Itasca Waters entered into a contract with RMB for completion of the recommended next steps. Much of this additional work has been completed, however additional data cleanup efforts by the MPCA have been delayed due to other priorities. MPCA has indicated that they should be able to begin work on Itasca County data issues during late winter so that clean data can be shared with IW and entered into EQuIS.

Aquatic Invasive Species Enforcement

Itasca Waters Board members Davin Tinquist and David Lick, working with Itasca County Commissioner Terry Snyder, reached out to Sheriff Vic Williams to coordinate enforcement of AIS regulations on a county-wide basis. The three-day project consisting of the Minnesota DNR, Itasca County, the U. S. Forest Service and the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwa concentrated on AIS rules at various boat landings in the county. Sheriff Vic Williams coordinated the work and these organizations enforced saturated enforcement on three summer days coinciding with major holidays. In addition, Bill Grantges (the Itasca County AIS Coordinator) also participated in the discussions.

We are Water

In mid-2017, Itasca Waters learned of a water-focused exhibit produced by the MN Humanities Center in partnership with the MN Pollution Control Agency and several other state agencies. Only eight host organizations across the state are selected to host the exhibit. IW's proposal to be one of those eight hosts was accepted, planning started in 2017, and planning will continue throughout 2018 and 2019.



The exhibit is all about clean water and related environmental issues, including: septic, unused/unsealed wells, native shoreland plants to reduce runoff and erosion, raingardens, reducing summer landscaping watering, AIS, non toxic cleaners, disposing medications, pet waste, disposing of household hazardous waste, fertilizer/pesticide usage, and participating in decisions about water in your community.



The information displays for the six-week exhibit will be anchored at our partner, The Reif Center, from August 2 to September 16, 2019. For its part, Itasca Waters will partner up with local organizations, groups, and agencies to plan for and stage several local events connected to the project between September 2018 and September 2019.

Aquanesia

Aquanesia, an outdoor adventure game centered around water quality issues, was held September 29 and 30 in several of Grand Rapids parks. The game was developed by Northern Lights. Itasca Waters, the Reif, and Grand Rapids Players partnered in putting on the two-day event.

Community Outreach

Youth Water Summit

Itasca Waters, with the help of Independent School District (ISD) 318 Community Education, hosted the 5th grade Youth Water Summit (YWS) on Tuesday, May 22 at the Itasca County Fairgrounds. Celebrating its seventh year, the YWS seeks to educate students in basic water science, a lesson that is often difficult to accomplish in the classroom.



This year nearly 450 students from ISD 318, including Bigfork, and ISD 316 attended, as well as students from St. Joe's Catholic School. Throughout the day, students participated in several of forty-five 30-minute sessions concerning water education. Topics included hydrology, aquatic vegetation, micro- and macro-invertebrate identification, water chemistry, water art, surface tension, water physics, kayaking, leaded tackle, aquatic invasive species, and more. More than 100 adults took part in planning and coordinating the event.

Itasca County Fair

Itasca Waters shared a booth at the County Fair with Itasca County AIS. Fair goers were engaged by our exhibits: an aquatic invertebrates demonstration that showed how these invertebrates contribute to the life cycle of aquatic environments, an Itasca County map where people could pinpoint their homes, and an activity where people could write down their water concerns. Our new Itasca County Shoreland Guide to Lake Stewardship was passed out.



Itasca County Water Plan

The Itasca County Water Management plan outlines County wide goals, objectives, and action items, for a ten-year period, to achieve the surface and ground water resource goals of the County. The plan has been extended to 2022 but required an amendment to the Executive Summary by the end of 2018. Itasca Waters submitted a letter to the Itasca County SWCD with comments on the plan. The letter included suggestions and precautions for the County to consider in planning and ordinance revision. The current plan may be found at [Itasca County Water Plan](#).

Itasca Coalition of Lake Associations (ICOLA)

Tim Scherkenbach, from Itasca Waters, worked with a few ICOLA members to create a draft plan that would assist lake associations in addressing AIS risks to their lake. In 2019 this draft will be shared with all ICOLA members for their input in order to create a final AIS document. In 2018, the Itasca Waters Board designated a position on the Technical Advisory Board for an ICOLA representative.

Marketing

Library Presentation

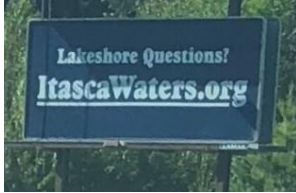
On July 2, the Grand Rapids Library hosted a presentation by Itasca Waters Board member Brian Whittemore. Focus was on Itasca Waters initiative to improve shorelands in Itasca County, which aims to keep the county's waters world class through proper watershed stewardship.

Billboard/banners

As part of its expanded marketing work, Itasca Waters paid for a billboard on Highway 169 in Grand Rapids. It was designed to link to the newly updated website. New banners were used at several Itasca Waters events.

Website Project

Building on work started in 2017, Itasca Waters launched its new website in April: www.itascawaters.org. The website is designed to be a major source of online information about issues facing Itasca County lakeshore property owners. Resources are organized into five areas: aquatic zone, shoreland, runoff and erosion, septic/excavation and private forest management. The website will also feature information about the Shoreland Initiative, the new Itasca County Shoreland Guide to Lake Stewardship, AIS, a news and calendar section, links to our Facebook and Instagram accounts, a donation link, and general information about Itasca Waters.



COMMITTEES

Development

Staff at the Blandin Foundation encouraged Itasca Waters to more aggressively pursue Board development. Starting late 2018, a small Executive Committee sub-committee began planning a Board retreat for 2019.

Education

Throughout the year, Itasca Waters volunteers help run a series of events designed to better inform the community about the importance of our water resources.

Membership and Fundraising

Itasca Waters' accomplishments for 2018 were made possible by generous support from its members and dedicated volunteers. Financial contributions enable Itasca Waters (IW) to carry out its mission by providing funds for educational outreach, special events, and operational costs not covered by grant monies. Individual, business and stock donations ranging from \$25.00 to \$1,000 make a powerful statement about how the people of Itasca County value our water resources and want to be part of a community who actively work to maintain those resources.

The commitment by volunteers who share IW's vision is invaluable and Itasca Waters thanks all who so generously shared their time, talent and financial support in 2018.

Planning

June 2018 Planning Event

The Planning Committee organized a strategic planning session in June designed to generate an Operating Plan identifying the tasks and activities necessary to meet the goals and objectives of the new Blandin Grant, the We Are Waters contract, and the implementation of the Shoreland Initiative.

During the session, the group reviewed the IW Vision framework from the organization's 2014 Planning efforts. That framework included both Internal and External parts. The goal of the review of the various elements of our Vision Framework was to identify and prioritize answers to the question, "What do we want/need to accomplish over the next 2-3 years to advance our Mission and meet our organizational grant and contract commitments and



responsibilities?

After the Internal and External elements were reviewed, modified and prioritized, the group decided to focus on the External portion of the framework as we moved to the identification of objectives. The five External elements for which objectives were identified were: Grants, Growth, Communication, Education, Stakeholders/Partners, and Board Communication.

The group then had a discussion, led by Brian Whittemore, on how we could improve Board communications and meetings.

The group generated the following next steps for the Planning Committee:

- Schedule another Committee meeting to develop action steps for each of the Internal and External objectives generated.
- Discuss the ‘Parking Lot’ items with the Executive Board to determine individual responsibility for follow-up.
- For IW’s Shoreland Initiative, establish a separate group to evaluate options and opportunities for action.

Public Relations

Informing the public about the importance of one of our County’s most valuable resources—our water—is one of the major goals for Itasca Waters. We accomplish this through our sponsored events, on our website at <http://www.itscawaters.org/> and on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ItascaWaters/>.

Technology

Committee members oversee Itasca Waters Facebook page and website, updating administrative information such as minutes and news items. The committee also coordinates a virtual filing cabinet at Dropbox, which gives Board members access to historical and current documents.



2018 FINANCIAL REPORT

Itasca Waters contracts with the Kirk Gilbertson CPA, P.A. accounting firm for compilation and general ledger services. Itasca Waters contracted with a predecessor firm, Hannu & Company, Ltd, since 2010. These firms recorded all receipts and expenses, reconciled the bank statement, and provided financial statements each month. All financial statements are distributed to Board members monthly. This is a valued service that strengthens our internal controls.

Building on work started in 2017, in 2018 Itasca Waters received two grants: a \$150,000 grant from the Blandin Foundation and a \$10,000 award from the Minnesota Humanities Center.

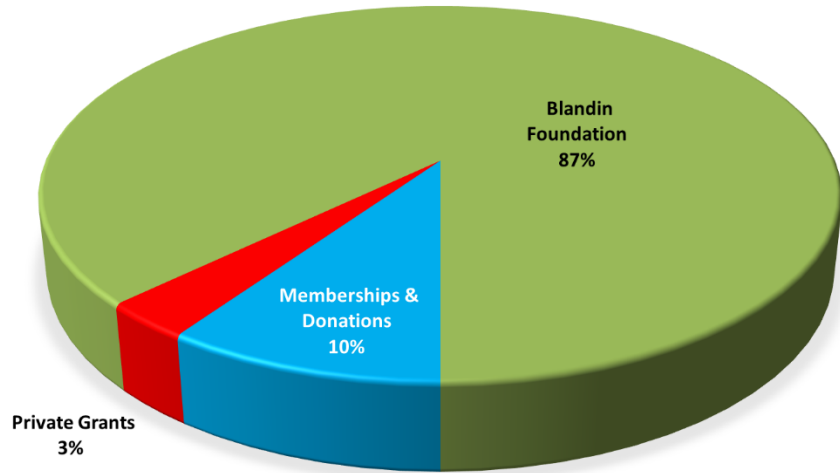
Much of 2018 was spent promoting shoreland practices with the 2018 Blandin grant and planning for Minnesota Humanities Center We Are Water activities and exhibit that promotes clean water. Funds from the 2018 Blandin grant were designated to hire a part-time coordinator, a first for Itasca Waters. She has been a great addition providing much appreciated support to the Board of Directors.

Funds from the 2011 Blandin Foundation grant (\$4,725) supported youth education through the May Youth Water Summit. We are proud that we can provide this program at this low cost. The power of volunteers is our strength.

Itasca Waters spent \$13,666 to support its general operating costs (such as contracted services, cell phone, office supplies, postage, promotion, accounting fees, and insurance), an increase from 2017 of \$1,136. This reflects new office and cell phone costs associated with the hiring of the new coordinator and opening an office for Itasca Waters.

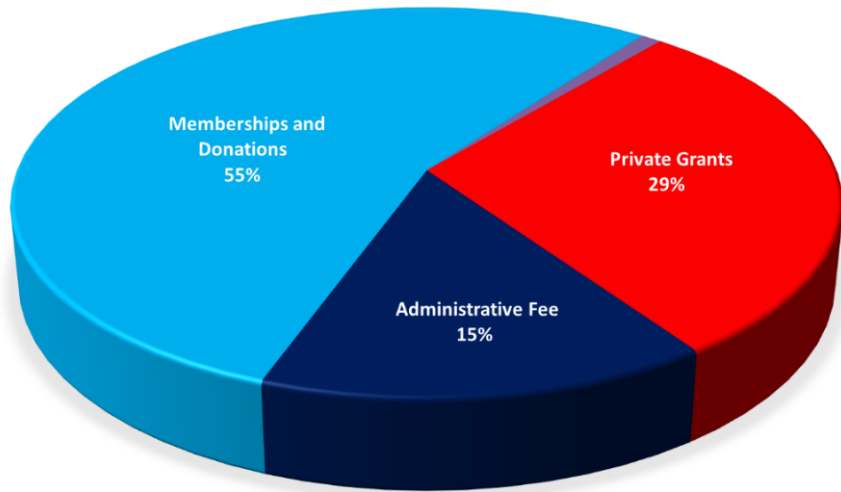
Itasca Waters ended with a cash balance of \$109,905: operating--\$60,191; Blandin Foundation grant--\$51,131; and unreimbursed We Are Water expenses--negative balance of \$1,417. The decrease in General Operating revenue resulted from no administrative fee revenue for 2018.

2018 SOURCE OF FUNDS



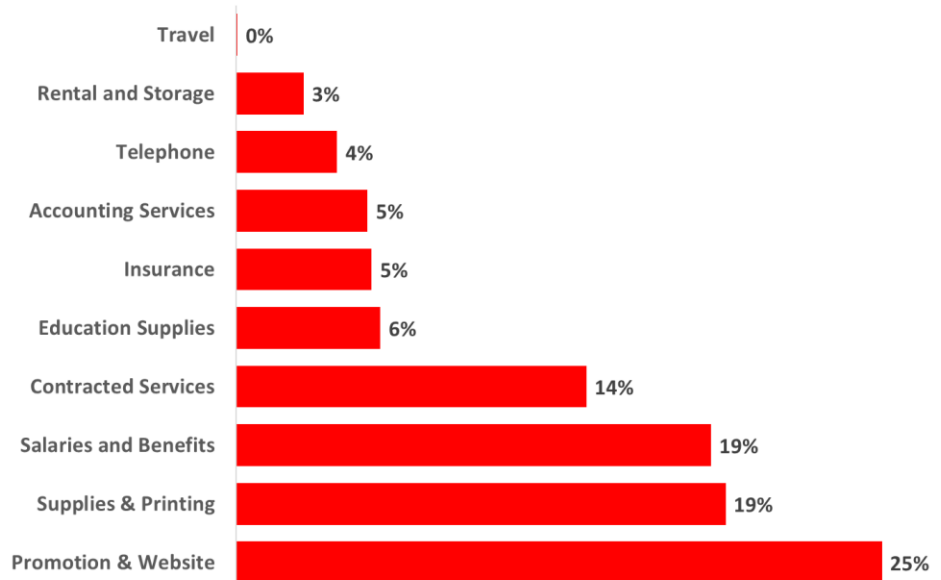
NOTE: 2018 funds received totaled \$58,576 with negative interest and dividends of \$238 not depicted in this chart.

2017 SOURCE OF FUNDS



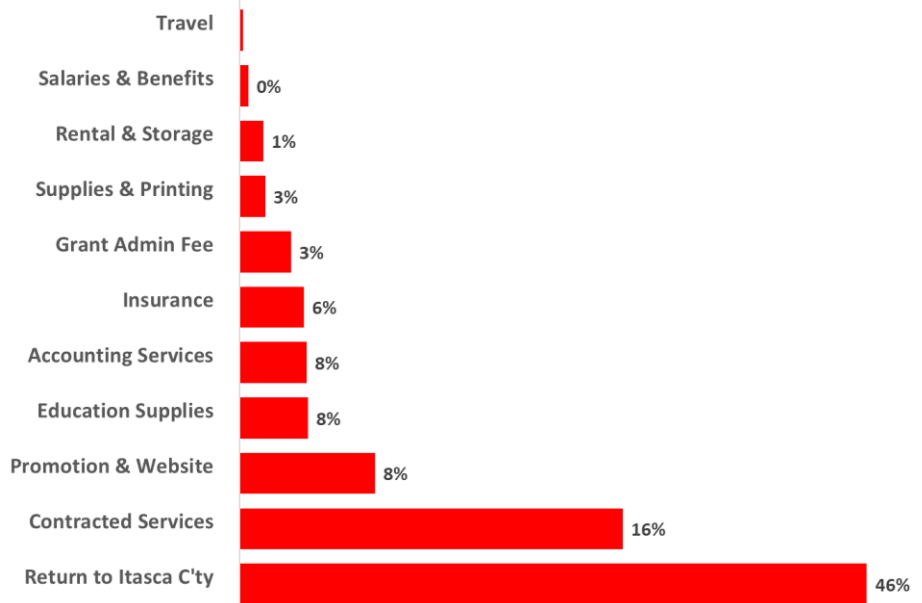
NOTE: 2017 funds received totaled \$14,498 with interest & dividends of \$137.

2018 Spending by Activity



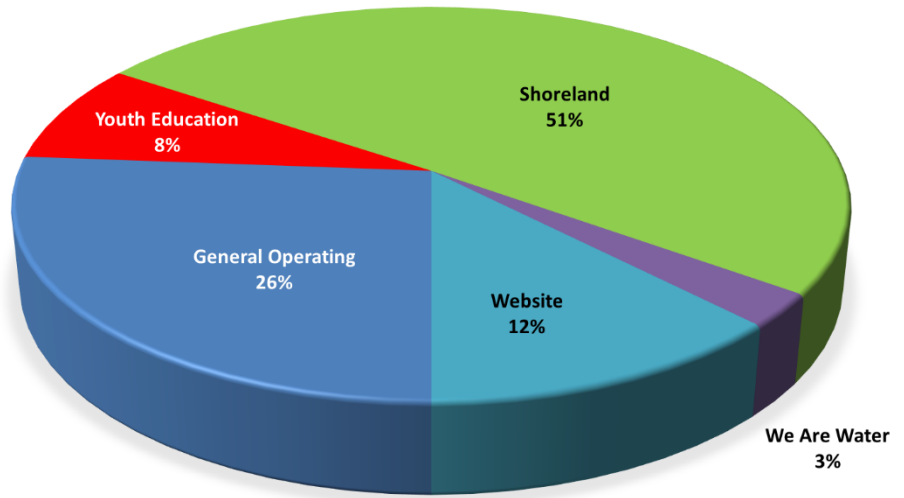
NOTE: 2018 spending totaled \$52,169.

2017 SPENDING BY ACTIVITY



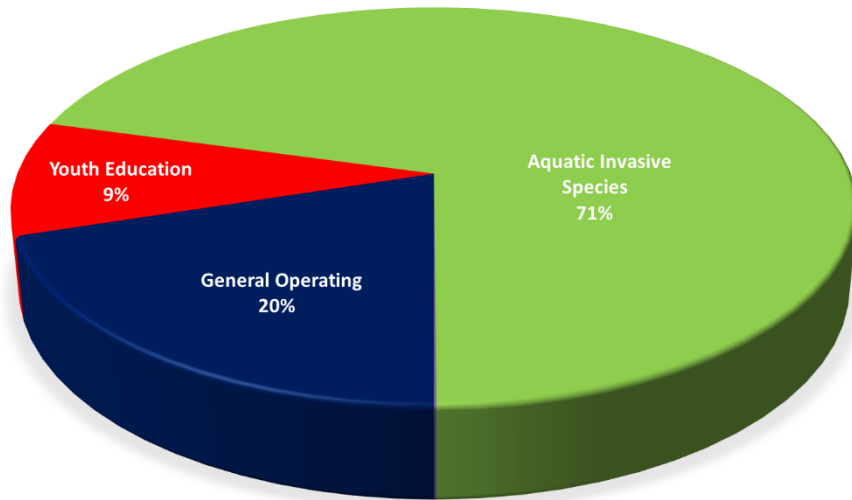
NOTE: 2017 spending totaled \$62,483.

2018 SPENDING BY PROGRAM



NOTE: 2018 spending totaled \$52,169.

2017 SPENDING BY PROGRAM



NOTE: 2017 spending totaled \$62,483.

ORGANIZATION HISTORY

Local water quality advocates came together in late 2006 to identify and implement a set of activities that would ensure clean water resources and quality habitat in the major watersheds of Itasca County. IWLP formalized its operations as a community coalition by establishing a board and executive committee to guide partnership activities. In 2009, IWLP completed its first surface water assessment grant to assess water quality for previously untested lakes in the county.

2010: IWLP's Certificate of Incorporation and Articles of Incorporation as a nonprofit organization were filed under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

2011: Qualified for 501(c)3 status with the IRS and organized a full-day adult water summit at Itasca Community College.

2012: Strengthened financial reporting and implemented an informal system for tracking the completion of Board and committee activities; hosted a series of evening meetings for adults; and organized the first Youth Water Summit for fifth graders.

2013: Released the Deer-Pokegama Study; hosted several educational events; completed a second surface water assessment grant assessing the Bigfork River Watershed; and, helped create a Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) in collaboration with Leech Lake Band, Itasca County land department, MN DOT, USFS, MN DNR, University of Minnesota Extension and ICOLA.

2014: Cooperated with partners to develop a program for prevention and eradication of aquatic invasive species; released results on the economic value of water in Itasca County; hosted several educational events; and, was awarded the Itasca County Outstanding Conservationist Award.

2015: Continued work with the Itasca County Aquatic Invasive Species program; sponsored educational events for children and adults (including a second Adult Summit in partnership with the forestry community); shared in the Outstanding Conservationist Award given to the Aquatic Invasive Species Partnership of Itasca County; and, continued support for the water lab at ICC.

2016: Sponsored several educational events; continued work on the AIS Technical Advisory Committee; and negotiated the successful transfer of the AIS program to the Itasca County SWCD.

2017: Completed transfer of the AIS program to Itasca County SWCD; rebranded IWLP to Itasca Waters; hosted the 6th Youth Water Summit; began work on the Shoreland Initiative and Shoreland Guide; and, agreed to host a six-week 2019 event, We are Water.

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dennis Anderson



Dennis joined the IWLP Board in 2010. He graduated with a degree in Fisheries Management from the University of Minnesota in 1969. In December of 1969, he was hired as an Aquatic Biologist by the Minnesota DNR (Conservation Department then) stationed at the St. Paul Fish Hatchery. He was assigned to cold-water fish culture trouble shooting to modernize the practices of the time. Subsequently he worked in southeast Minnesota and Brainerd. In 1987 he was promoted to the Regional Fisheries Management position in Grand Rapids. That position included oversight of fisheries management field stations in northeastern Minnesota. He retired in August 2002.

Dennis's interests include gardening, fishing (winter and summer), especially fly fishing for trout, deer and ruffed grouse hunting and nearly everything outdoors (includes birds, camping, camp cooking, etc.). His interest in environmental quality attracted him to IWLP. Prior to his University schooling, he spent three years in the Army, stationed for two years in northern Italy.

Jan Best



Jan joined IWLP in 2017, and serves on the Public Relations Committee with her husband, Brian Whittemore. With master's degrees in Education and Counseling, Jan has a special interest in children and their families, having taught and participated in the establishment of a landmark elementary counseling program in a New York State school district. In addition, Jan was an officer with the NY State Counseling Association.

An avid outdoors person, Jan has a lifelong interest and concern for the environment, particularly after seeing the effects of acid rain on lakes in the Adirondacks, where she grew up.

Meghan Christianson



Megan Christianson has been the Executive Director of Visit Grand Rapids since 2012. Christianson has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Concordia University, St. Paul Campus. She has 20 years of marketing, public relations, and trade industry membership/advocacy experience. Christianson currently serves as a Board Member of the Minnesota Arrowhead Association and is the NE Minnesota representative on the Explore Minnesota Tourism Council. She is also a Blandin Foundation Community Leadership Alumni. Megan lives in Cohasset Minnesota with her husband (Chad) and their two children (Madison – 17 and Caleb – 15). She enjoys being on the lake, scrapbooking, and spending time with family and friends.

Kathy Cone



Kathy has represented IWLP as Education Chair from 2012 to present, when she joined the Board. In addition, Kathy works full time as an accountant, has two children, and volunteers on the Community Cafe Board and completed a two-year training in "Leadership for the Century".

Kathy enjoys spending time raising meat birds, pork, beef, and laying hens for the farm fresh eggs as well as raising vegetables. She also likes to paint with water color and oil, hunting, fishing, crafts, and spending time with friends.

John A. Downing



John is currently the Director of the Minnesota Sea Grant College Program, a research scientist at the Large Lakes Observatory, and a tenured Professor in the Department of Biology at the University of Minnesota Duluth. His research and teaching dossiers concern many aspects of the aquatic sciences. His leadership experience has included positions in the US and Canada. He has founded and run several small businesses in the US and Canada. He has a long-standing record of success in securing research funding from federal, state, provincial, and local agencies. He maintains current international research collaborations with

Canada, Brazil, and Holland.

John's family has conserved and managed a shore-habitat and forest area in northern Minnesota for 108

years. He is a certified diver, a once-professional musician, and volunteers to help citizens across the US Midwest with local water quality concerns.

Patricia A. Gould St. Aubin



Patty was born and raised in Grand Rapids and is a second-generation Itasca County resident. She is a broker at Itasca Realty Lakes and Homes with 33 years in the business. Patty taught pre-licensing Real Estate at Itasca Community College, Vermillion, Rainy River and Bemidji State University. She has lived on Pokegama Lake for 24 years and, prior to that, her family owned a cabin there. Patty's grandfather developed lakeshore and was an appraiser and an owner of a well drilling company here in Itasca County. Water, the lakes, and a responsibility for stewardship has been part of her entire life. Patty has been on the IWLP Board since its inception and serves as its Membership Chair.

Bill Grantges



Bill Grantges is the Itasca County Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator. Bill is a board member of Itasca Waters, serves on the technical committee of the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) and is Vice-President of ICOLA. He received his Master's in Business Administration from the University of Rhode Island and worked as a program manager for Siemens Medical Systems before coming to Minnesota in 1999. Bill has held certifications from the MN DNR as a Lake Service Provider and as a Level 1 & Level 2 AIS Watercraft Inspector. He is also a certified

University of Minnesota Extension AIS Detector. Bill is passionate about building partnerships to help preserve our strong outdoor traditions.

Katie Hopkins



Katie began serving on the IWLP Board in 2016. She was born and raised in Deer River, MN and grew up with a love for being on the water. She pursued this passion and graduated from UW-Superior with a bachelor's degree in Biology with an emphasis in Aquatic Biology and Fisheries with a minor in GIS. During college, she worked at the Lake Superior Research Institute performing various aquatic research projects on the great lakes. During this time, she realized how precious lakes and streams are and how easily they can be disrupted. Katie began her career at Minnesota Power in 2008 as a chemist and has since transferred positions and is now an operator at the plant.

Katie is an avid outdoorsman who loves fishing, hunting, harvesting wild rice & making maple syrup. Because of her love for the outdoors, she wants to help preserve and protect the waters of Itasca County for future generations to come.

Patricia Leistikow, Treasurer



Pat was born and raised on a farm in SE Iowa, attending University of Northern Iowa and earning a degree in Accounting. She has worked in private and public business throughout Minnesota, retiring in October 2013. She also took off nine years from working outside the home to raise two young children but kept busy with consulting and volunteering.

Pat has been involved with IWLP since the beginning, first serving on the Advisory Group for the setup of the Itasca Community College Water Lab and joining the Board as Finance chair in July 2013. Pat also serves on her Church's Finance Council and the Board of Youth for Christ-Campus Life.

Pat and her husband, Rod, spend vacations enjoying the United States especially Colorado and the Caribbean. At her home on the lake, she loves to swim, fish, and kayak.

Dave Lick, President



Dave is retired as principal owner of Itasca Reliable Insurance Agency, Inc., has a B.S. degree in biology, a minor in chemistry, past president of ICOLA, responsible for septic compliance for Wabana Township Lakes, past board member for Advocates for Family Peace, lifetime member of Izaak Walton League, current member of Minnesota Power's Citizen Advisory Board, active organizer of Citizens Advocating Responsible Power Production "CARRP", public school science teacher for four years, and he directed Youth Conservation Corp camps for the USFS for two years.

Dave's additional Interests are extensive international travel, forest landowner, sustainable forest management from 1994 to present converting 70 acres back to white pine, beekeeper, gardener, woodworker, avid bike rider and cross-country skier, canoeist and scuba diver. He is married and has two children.

Shirley Loegering



Shirley served as Board Secretary from 2010 through 2016 and managed the membership roster, website and Facebook page and now serves as the Membership Chair. Shirley is a retired Administrator with a keen interest in preserving our water resources for future generations, including her four grandchildren. She is active with the Wes Libbey Northern Lakes Chapter of the Izaak Walton League. Over the years, Shirley has helped to organize several environmental events for Itasca Waters, Izaak Walton League and others.

Shirley and husband, Perry, spend vacations enjoying the outdoors, i.e. camping, fishing and bird watching. She is an active member in the Northstar Herb Guild where they study traditional uses for native plants and she also enjoys working on her family genealogy and searching estate sales and auctions for unique antiques.

Bill Marshall



Born and raised in Grand Rapids, Bill completed a bachelor's degree in Family Social Science at the University of Minnesota. He worked there for five years before returning to work in Grand Rapids, where he is now the Director of Enrollment at ICC. In 2012, Bill married Katelyn on the Mississippi River at the Showboat Landing.

Bill has always had a strong connection to our area's lakes and rivers. Having grown-up just a five-minute walk from his Grandpa's aunt's 1930's cabin on Pokegama, young Billy, his sisters, and friends spent most of the summer in the lake and at the cabin. In his free time, Bill enjoys relic hunting at old logging camp sites, metal detecting for silver coins and other artifacts, nature photography, snorkeling area lakes and rivers, deer and bird hunting, having fun with his niece and nephews, and spending time with his dogs, cat, and wife at home.

Lynn Moratzka



Lynn joined the IW Board in 2018 and serves on the Development Committee. Lynn retired as the director of the Office of Planning, Physical Development Division for Dakota County Minnesota in 2008. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of St. Catherine and her Master's in Public Administration from Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Lynn has been an active volunteer throughout her career and since retirement. Currently, she is still involved in the Friends of the Mississippi, a non-profit Board supporting the Mississippi National River Recreation Area (MNRRA) and Regina Medical Center. In 2017 she was appointed by the Itasca County Board of Commissioners to the County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Lynn, her husband, Tim, and two children have been coming to Trout Lake since 1976 purchasing their home in 2000. In 2017, they retired full time to the area. Lynn enjoys spending time with her grandchildren and family, especially at the lake. She also enjoys skiing, biking, reading and doing genealogy with her sisters.

Jan Sandberg, Secretary



Jan joined the IWLP Board in 2012 and helps ensure that the board's work is kept on track. She compiles the annual report and assists with the Itasca County Aquatic Invasive Species committee. Jan and her husband, Richard, bought a cabin on Pokegama Lake in 1986.

Since retiring as a program evaluator with the Office of the Legislative Auditor in 2007, Jan and Richard spend much of the summer at the lake. In 2018, they welcomed their first grandchild and plan frequent visits to Vancouver, British Columbia to "help" as needed. Jan makes Minneapolis her urban home, serving on the Minneapolis Charter Commission as its vice-chair.

Tim Scherkenbach



Tim was raised on the east side of the Iron Range, graduating from Virginia HS in 1966. He graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1972 with a BS in Chemical Engineering and immediately started working at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). During his tenure as a senior manager he directed all the major environmental programs at the MPCA (Air Quality, Water Quality, Superfund, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste).

He served ten years as Assistant Commissioner and as Deputy Commissioner his last two years at the Agency. During his career he spent considerable time working with, or testifying before, the Mn Legislature; and belonged to several national environmental organizations -- chairing several task forces.

Tim and his wife, Deena, raised their three children in south Minneapolis. They have 8 grandchildren. They now live on Shallow Lake during the summer and fall, and spend their winters in Prescott, AZ.

Davin Tinquist



Davin, an Itasca County Commissioner since 2011, joined the Board in 2011. Davin is a resident of Cohasset where he was born and raised. He has been married 31 years and has two children and two grandchildren. He is an active outdoor enthusiast concerned with preserving our natural resources for our future generations.

Davin is co-owner of Cohasset Mill and Lumber since 1998. He is also a member of Cohasset Fire Department for the past 24 years, currently starting his 10th year as Fire Chief. As a County Commissioner, he sits on many committees and boards, one of which is the Mississippi Headwaters Board. These positions all contribute to a broader understanding of the needs of Itasca County. There is a delicate balance between preservation and future growth, and it is important our leaders gain experience and understand what can be at times opposing viewpoints.

Brian Whittemore



Brian is the IWLP Public Relations Committee Chair. He is retired after a 40-year career in broadcasting as an executive, news anchor, and reporter. He was a Vice President/General Manager with CBS Radio and retired as General Manager of WCCO Radio in Minneapolis. Brian has been on national boards of the Radio and Television News Director Association and the consumer group Call for Action. He has served on the Minneapolis Downtown Council, the Twin Cities Communication Counsel, and the Prior Lake, MN, Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. He is a volunteer/member at KAXE/KBXE Radio and produced the documentary series "Teachings from Turtle Island, Stories of Anishanaabe People". He also served as a volunteer at The Raptor

Center in St. Paul.

John W. Zimmerman, Jr., Vice President



John has served on the IW board since January 2011. He leads our planning initiatives, has taken an active role on the AIS Technical Committee, and worked with Itasca County as they have taken a leadership role in water resources, including the recent transfer of the AIS mission from IW to the Itasca County SWCD. John is retired from a career in Human Resources Management with Lockheed Martin where he was also responsible for communications, media relations, administration, and security. He has served as the president and

historian of the Wabana Chain of Lakes Association and has also been an active board member with the Itasca County Historical Society including board chair most recently. He and Alida have been married almost 40 years, raised three children, and are enjoying their first granddaughter.

EMERITUS BOARD MEMBER

Harold E. Dziuk



As a young kid, Harold first learned to appreciate the wonders of nature on a small dairy farm in Benton County, MN. He left the farm to embark on undergraduate and graduate studies in Veterinary Medicine and a career in teaching and research. His graduate studies were delayed for two years while he was on active duty in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps at the Biological Warfare Laboratories, Fort Detrick, Maryland.

His employment included a wide range of public and private venues, including the Tuskegee, Minnesota and Iowa State universities, General Electric, and the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

His primary role in IWLP over 8 years of service on the Executive Committee was to seek grants to support IWLP's many initiatives.

2018 TECHNICAL ADVISORY BOARD

Andy Arens, District Manager, Itasca County Soil and Water Conservation District



Andy Arens graduated in 2001 with a Forest Management Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Andy has been with the Itasca County SWCD since 2003, as Forestry and Shoreland Specialist initially, and District Manager and Water Plan Coordinator since October 2015.

Eric Raitanen, Fisheries Biologist, Chippewa National Forest

Moriya Rufer, Director of Client Services, RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc.



Growing up, Moriya spent summers at her family's cabin on Leech Lake in northern Minnesota. Spending so much time on the lake helped her realize the importance of clean water in lakes and streams.

Moriya has degrees in biology and aquatic entomology with a focus on lakes. She has 12 years' experience working with lake associations, conducting lake monitoring programs and assessing lake water quality data. She enjoys working directly with lake residents and teaching them about lakes and how to protect them.

At RMB Labs, she also identifies aquatic macroinvertebrates, algae and zooplankton, and runs one of the only non-governmental laboratories in the United States that can identify Zebra mussel veligers. She has been developing risk assessment criteria for AIS in lakes and is part of a school outreach program to teach kids about AIS.

She lives in Detroit Lakes, MN with her husband and two children.

Dan Steward, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Dan Swenson, Environmental Services Administrator, Itasca County Environmental Services