Red River Basin River Watch Program Carlot Program





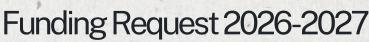
Celebrating 30 years of River Watch

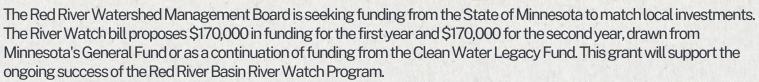
The Red River Basin River Watch Program (RW) offers innovative watershed education initiatives to schools and communities throughout the Red River of the North Basin. Rooted in the belief that education is the most effective means of transforming attitudes and behaviors, RW provides hands-on science and watershed exploration activities for elementary, middle, and high school students. These activities are designed to engage students, deepen their understanding of water resources, and challenge them to think critically about water resource issues.

Supported by the Red River Watershed Management Board and local watershed districts, the RW program has become a widely supported educational program. RW students have collected valuable water quality data, which is utilized by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to complement the state's surface water assessments.

Funding from the Clean Water Legacy Fund has enabled the expansion of the RW program offering participants additional opportunities to learn how to protect and improve Minnesota's vital water resources, including:

- Biological Monitoring River Watch Forum
- River of Dreams River Explorers
- Teacher/Student Training





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River Watch



Program

River Watch, provided by the International Water Institute, enhances watershed understanding and awareness for tomorrow's decision-makers through direct hands-on, field-based experiential watershed science. Schools throughout the Red River of the North Basin participate in a variety of unique and innovative watershed engagement opportunities suited to their school, community, and watershed needs.





Activities

Water Quality Monitoring:
Students collect water
quality data from area rivers
Biological Monitoring:
Students collect and identify
macroinvertebrates revealing
stream health
River Explorers Kayaking:
Students paddle and
document stream conditions
Annual River Watch Forum:
Teams complete an annual
assignment and attend a
Forum tailored to watershed
science

Objectives

- Enhance science capacity related to water quality issues
- Build awareness of river ecosystems and watershed connections
- · Outdoor, hands-on learning

Numbers

- 35 schools over 30 years
- 15,000 Water Quality Samples
- 20 schools involved in the 2024-2025



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