

2020 MAWD AWARDS PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

Program of the Year/Project of the Year

Purpose: The Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts will recognize outstanding work in both projects and programs led by its member watershed districts and watershed management organizations around the state of Minnesota.

Program Objectives:

- Project of the Year - Select and recognize an outstanding project related to water resource enhancement and protection, including restoration or preservation, projects that have been substantially completed by the submittal date.
- Program of the Year - Select and recognize an outstanding program related to water resource enhancement and protection, including watershed planning efforts, monitoring programs, or education and outreach strategies that are ongoing, with both short and long-term outcomes.

Process:

1. **Preliminary Nominations Due (due August 28, 2020):** submitted projects and programs are ranked based on criteria to identify the top three candidates. The top three candidates will then be invited to submit a full proposal for final consideration.
2. **Finalist Nomination Forms (due October 6, 2020):** Finalists in both projects and programs are scored based on weighted criteria to determine recipients of the Program of the Year and Project of the Year award.

Judging Criteria and Application Requirements:

- **Clearly defined need (5%):** A clearly defined Statement of Need is provided along with supporting information that indicates the project or program is fulfilling some type of water resource monitoring, protection, enhancement, or community engagement need within the watershed.
- **Creative partnerships (15%):** Information is provided indicating the role and benefits of both public-public or public-private partnerships in developing and implementing the stated project or program, with emphasis on new and/or unique partners who wouldn't normally be involved.
- **Innovative financing (20%):** A description of how project or program financial stability was achieved.
- **Resourceful solutions (20%):** Information is provided on the use of innovative or cutting edge solutions in the areas of planning, design, and implementation of projects and programs to reach watershed management and protection goals.
- **Success at meeting project or program goal (30%):** A description of both short and long-term outputs and outcomes is provided that address the original goal of the project or program.

- Public value (10%): Information is provided indicating how the project or program benefits society and the common good.

Qualifying project/programs:

Eligible nominations can be any project or program where the watershed has involvement through funding, management, or as a partner. There is no project start or completion date requirement. Past projects are acceptable. Projects or programs that do not receive an award this year may be resubmitted in following years. Only two total nominations are allowed per member. When determining the finalists, the Awards Committee will consider: clearly defined need, creative partnerships, innovative financing, resourceful solutions, success at meeting goals, and public value.

Who can nominate:

We encourage members to nominate their own programs and projects. However, any other agency, local unit of government, or organization may also nominate. No priority is assigned to the source of the nomination.

Instructions:

1. Use the “editable” PDF form for submitting your nominations. Use a separate form for each program or project nomination. Do not send additional reports or information.
4. Include a project or program summary of no more than 250 words. Up to four photos may be included with your preliminary nomination form.
5. Completed forms must be received by August 28, 2020.
6. Send nominations via email to:
 Karen Kill, Administrator
 Brown’s Creek Watershed District
 Email: kkill@mnwcd.org
7. Questions can be directed to Karen Kill at 651-331-8316 or kkill@mnwcd.org

Key Dates

2020 MAWD Awards Program Announced	July 24, 2020
Preliminary Nominations Due	August 28, 2020
Awards Committee Review of Preliminary Nominations due	September 15, 2020
Finalists Announced	September 18, 2020
Finalists Nomination forms due	October 6, 2020
Awards Committee Review of Finalists Nominations due	October 27, 2020
Award Winners notified	November 2, 2020
MAWD Awards Presentation	December 4, 2020