# Not Your Typical Success Story

Tools for communicating success & the science we do



## Communication is key!

- Share important information
- Raise support
- Provide accountability



## Beyond reports & press releases











#### Old fashioned Face to Face: We Are Water



We Are Water MN is a traveling exhibit that promotes better, more collaborative, and more relevant choices about water.

#### Lake Pepin's watershed

The water in this lake has seen nearly every part of our big state.



Restoration at the head of the lake will improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and recreational access. The US Army Corps of Engineers will dredge deep pools, construct peninsula extensions, and plant native vegetation in backwater areas near Bay City. Wisconsin. Work is expected to start in 2022.

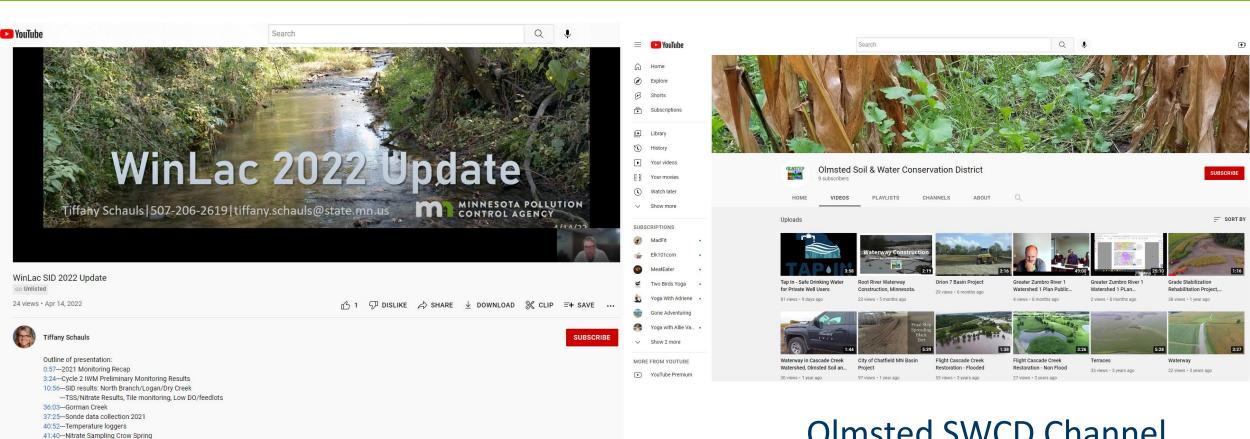


Roughly half of Minnesota plus parts of three neighboring states drain to Lake Pepin through the Upper Mississippi, St. Croix, and Minnesota rivers.

Lake Pepin is home to hundreds of aquatic plant and animal species and a globally important flyway for migratory birds. It is also the area's economic backbone, fueling tourism and recreation industries that support communities along both sides of the lake.

The lake also struggles with high levels of phosphorus that cause harmful algae growth and high levels of sediment, carried in by major river systems.

## Planning & Promoting via YouTube



43:04-Middle Branch Monitoring/Drone Footage 46:58--Summary-what's been learned 48:17-Summary of 2022 field plans

Olmsted SWCD Channel

#### MPCA's Featured Stories

#### **Powderhorn Lake**

A lake restoration success story

### Whitewater Farmerled Council –

Showcasing farmer engagement in watershed work

#### Minnesota water stories

In communities throughout Minnesota, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency staff along with other government agencies and resident groups, are working to protect and restore our rivers, lakes and streams to ensure that our waters are safe for recreation and consumption, and support fish and wildlife ecosystems.



#### Reducing phosphorus in the Red River and Lake Winnipeg

A new planning effort in northwest Minnesota takes a basin-wide approach to reducing the state's phosphorous contributions to the Red River, and to Canada's Lake Winnipeg.



#### Del Clark Lake built for flood control in Canby

Canby Creek now flows into Del Clark Lake and protects Canby from flooding, while providing outdoor recreation and excellent water quality.



#### Going natural for water quality

Removing of an old dam and restoring a creek's curves are improving habitat and water quality in the Pomme de Terre River Watershed.



#### How climate change affects Minnesota's rivers

Increased rainfall from climate change damages river water quality, which in turn damages fishing and recreation.

## Key take-aways

- Effective communication & engagement is the goal (views, comments, "likes"/reactions)
- Don't re-invent the wheel
- Rely on your trusted circle
- Include engagement in your funding



## Thank you!

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