

White Bear Lake Area Comprehensive Plan



A new plan to protect water resources

In 2023, the Minnesota Legislature appropriated \$2 million to complete a comprehensive plan that details long-term solutions for sustainable water supplies in the northeast metro area. A workgroup with representatives from nearby communities and several agencies was formed to advise the Met Council in creating and implementing the plan. The goal is to improve access to water and accommodate planned growth in the area without adversely impacting White Bear Lake water levels.

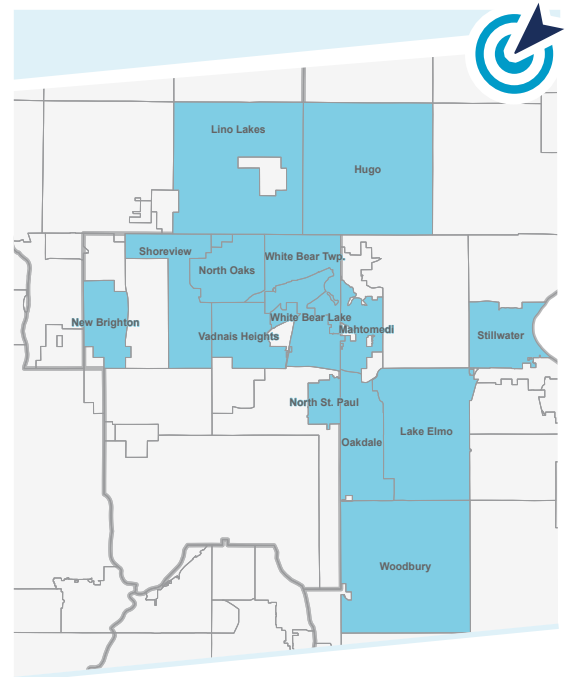
The White Bear Lake Area Comprehensive Plan focuses on potential solutions to reduce the impact that using groundwater for drinking, industrial, and commercial purposes has on surface water resources in the area. The workgroup will recommend and conduct studies and perform a wide range of water management and planning tasks to help achieve long-term sustainability for surface and groundwater resources, including:

- Evaluate overall groundwater use in the area.
- Evaluate groundwater supply wells adversely impacting White Bear Lake.
- Determine whether specific drinking water sources need to be converted from groundwater to surface water – and develop long-term conversion plans.
- Identify other ways to reduce groundwater use in the area, such as reusing treated effluent, recharging treated water into the groundwater aquifer, and augmenting water in White Bear Lake.
- Investigate ways to share engineering, design, distribution, and financial costs among stakeholders.

PARTNERS IN WATER SUSTAINABILITY

The workgroup formed to help the Met Council create the White Bear Lake Area Comprehensive Plan includes representatives from several local communities, and state and regional agencies:

- Metropolitan Council
- Community Partners: Hugo, Lake Elmo, Lino Lakes, Mahtomedi, New Brighton, North Oaks, North St. Paul, Oakdale, Shoreview, Stillwater, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake, White Bear Township, and Woodbury.
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- Minnesota Department of Health
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee
- Saint Paul Regional Water Services



Learn more

Please contact Judy.Sventek@metc.state.mn.us for more details about the White Bear Lake Area Comprehensive Plan. The final plan will be submitted to the Legislature by June 30, 2027.

