



Minnesota's Impaired Waters List

Every two years, MPCA creates a list of impaired waters that do not meet water quality standards. Monitoring suggests that about 40% of Minnesota's lakes and streams are impaired for conventional pollutants. Learn more: [Defining impaired waters](#).

Stay informed. Have questions or need assistance? Contact [Miranda Nichols](#), 651-757-2614 or 800-657-3864 toll free.

Draft 2018 Impaired Waters List

Public comment period: Nov. 27 through January 26, 2018 (4:30 p.m.)

The public may submit comments on the Draft 2018 Impaired Waters List and 2018 Assessment Guidance Manual. All comments received by the deadline, with agency responses, will be forwarded to EPA, along with the proposed list and accompanying documentation, for their review and approval. Submit written comments by e-mail to miranda.nichols@state.mn.us or Miranda Nichols, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Rd N, St. Paul, MN 55155 (must provide a return address).

NEW! See the [Impaired Waters Viewer \(IWAV\)](#) for all impaired waters, including those just listed, delisted, and corrected for 2018.

2018 Draft Impaired Waters List (wq-iw1-58)

- Draft 2018 TMDL (303(d)) List
- Draft 2018 Inventory of All Impaired Waters
- Draft Appendix A of the Statewide Mercury TMDL (Impairments added to the TMDL; for more information see the [Statewide Mercury TMDL web page](#).)

2018 Guidance Manual for Assessing the Quality of Minnesota Surface Waters for Determination of Impairment 305(b) Report and 303(d) List (wq-iw1-04j)


Describes Minnesota's monitoring and assessment strategy, assessment tools, and the redesigned assessment process. The purpose of this guidance is to define the required data and information and lay out the criteria by which waterbodies are assessed to determine if beneficial uses are supported.

Please note: The MPCA has not finalized methods for identifying waters used for production of wild rice or for assessing impairment of waters based on the existing wild rice-related standard. Consequently, the draft 2018 303(d) Impaired Waters List does not include any waters assessed as impaired for the sulfate wild rice standard. The MPCA is in the midst of an effort to revise the sulfate standard to **protect wild rice** and will develop an assessment approach once that rulemaking is complete.


Public meetings

The MPCA will hold four public meetings in November 2017 to discuss the content of the Impaired Waters List including the delistings and impairments proposed. Meetings will be held in regions where water has been assessed in the past two years and produced data that contributed to the 2018 list. You can attend in person or participate live online by following the WebEx links below. E-mail [Miranda Nichols](#) to request additional information for any of the meetings.

Northeast — Thursday, November 9 (9:30 a.m.)


- WebEx recording
-  Presentation (wq-iw1-59a)

South/Southeast — Monday, November 13 (9:00 a.m.)


- WebEx recording
-  Presentation (wq-iw1-59b)

Southwest — Thursday, November 16 (1:00 p.m.)



- WebEx recording
-  Presentation (wq-iw1-59c)

Northwest — Tuesday, November 21 (1:00 p.m.)

- WebEx recording
-  Presentation (wq-iw1-59d)

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