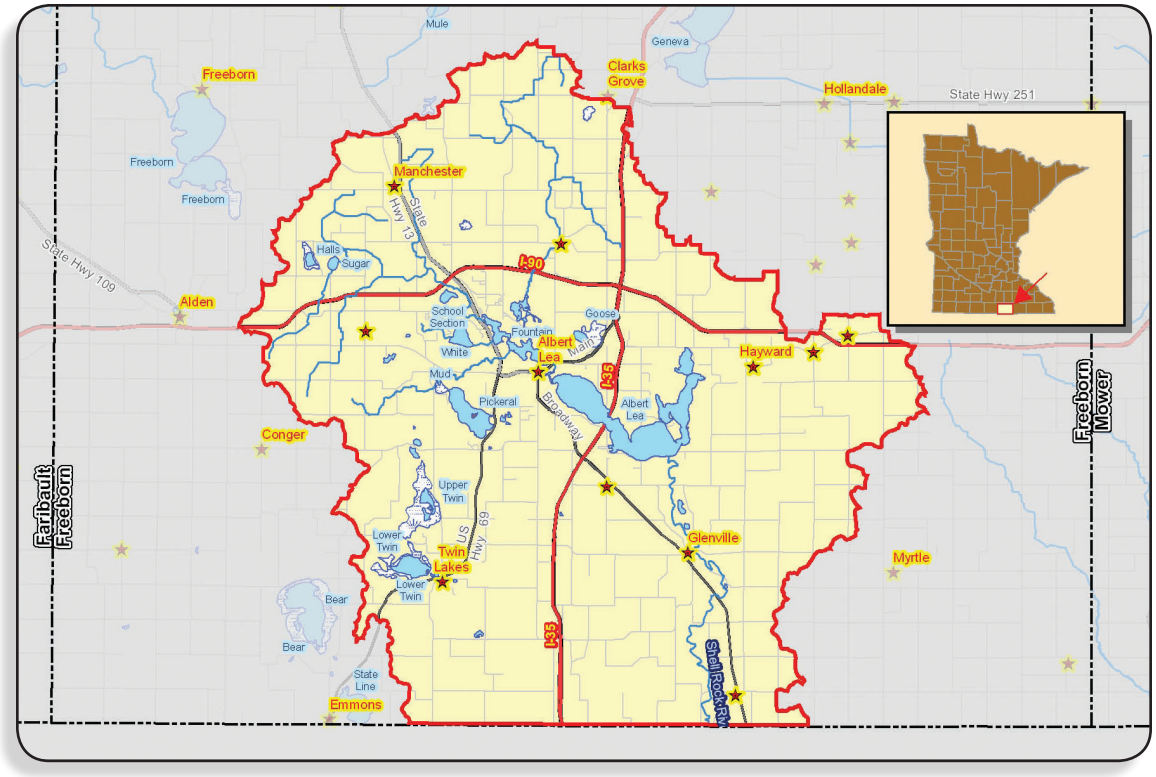
Shell Rock River
WATERSHED DISTRICT



GENERAL INFORMATION

Established: June 25, 2003
by citizen petition

411 S Broadway PO Box 1147
Albert Lea, MN 56007
Phone: (507) 377-5785
www.shellrock.org

Included Counties: Freeborn

District Size: 246 square miles

Major Lakes: Pickerel, Chapeau, Albert Lea, Fountain, Upper and Lower Twin

Shell Rock River: 12.2 miles

Number of Staff: 5

2008 Taxable Market Value: $1,592,948,700

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Name	Position	County	Address	Phone
Al Bakken	Chair	Freeborn	16691 740th Ave, Albert Lea, MN 56007	(507) 373-6686
Bruce Haugsdal	Manager	Freeborn	2117 Kenneth Dr, Albert Lea, MN 56007	(507) 373-2743
Art Ludtke	Secretary	Freeborn	1114 Wood Park Ln, Albert Lea, MN 56007	(507) 377-1522
Gary Pestorious	Vice Chair	Freeborn	20770 707th Ave, Albert Lea, MN 56007	(507) 373-6758
Clayton Petersen	Treasurer	Freeborn	22108 720th Ave, Albert Lea, MN 56007	(507) 373-0061
Roger L Peterson	Manager	Freeborn	25619 750th Ave, Clarks Grove, MN 56016	(507) 826-3229
Brett Richards	Manager	Freeborn	662 Meadow Ln, Albert Lea, MN 56007	(507) 256-7580

RECENT PROJECTS

ISTS Compliance Program — in cooperation with Freeborn County, a program to document the compliance of septic systems in the watershed to state standards and to eliminate the imminent health threats detected. The District developed a cost-share program to help with the cost of the compliance inspections.

Partnership — to work with the cities and towns of Freeborn County to create an effective stormwater management plan. Several cities have received cost share toward street cleaning equipment to keep debris from getting into the stormwater systems and then into lakes.

Partnership — with Freeborn County to fund a full-time technician to work on feedlots to reduce fecal coliform loading in Shell Rock River and to provide assistance with BMP's and nutrient management plans. A Clean Water Legacy Grant provided funds for this partnership.

Public Education — involving workshops that educate residents on what they can do to help improve water quality, such as rain gardens and rain barrels. Hiring an educator to go into the Albert Lea School District classes with an Enviroscape to show how land use affects streams and lakes.

TMDL Assessment — conducted by the District since its establishment, now includes six lakes and 18 stream sites. The District is working with Turtle Creek and Cedar River Watershed Districts, and Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District to develop and implement a work plan to address turbidity for the Cedar River Basin. A grant was received from MPCA to conduct the project.

Partnership — with volunteers from the District to take water samples, which will help complete the nutrient impairment assessment for the lakes and streams not covered under TMDL. This is funded by Surface Water Assessment Grant from MPCA.

Electrical Fish Barrier Pickerel Lake — an electrical fish barrier to keep the rough fish out of Pickerel Lake.

Manchester sewer project — help with facilitating a new municipal wastewater treatment to improve water quality in Wedge Creek.

Educational Video — a video "Healthy Lakes Make a Healthy Community" was produced by the District along with the Albert Lea Medical Center and The Lakes Restoration Committee. The purpose of the video is to inform residents about:

Andy Henschel and Jerad Stricker collecting samples from a site on the Shell Rock River for the TMDL assessment.

- how local lakes became polluted and how the SRRWD is addressing those problems
- how sources of pollutants include both rural and urban resources
- how a watershed district operates
- how residents can help the SRRWD achieve its mission of improved water quality
- how the SRRWD will use the local option sales tax and other revenue

RainGarden — partnership with Freeborn County Fair, did a raingarden on the fairgrounds and have given away rain barrels each day of the fair in 2007 and 2008.

FUTURE PROJECTS

Stormwater retention area that will address: stormwater treatment, live storage for flood mitigation, and a landscaping plan for the south industrial park; which will restore the original flood plain and reduce the amount of nutrients, sediment, and other pollutants in the stormwater being discharged to Albert Lea Lake.

Stream bank repairs in the Wedge Creek Subwatershed.

Continuation of construction and installation of needed rough fish barriers.

Planning — for dredging of Fountain and Albert Lea Lakes.

2007 EXPENDITURES

Total 2007 Expenditures	$595,883
Management / General Administrative	$211,495
Data Collection / Monitoring	$71,556
Projects / Implementation	$141,138
Water Management Programs	$171,694

MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF WATERSHED DISTRICTS, INC
Land and Water Shall be Preserved

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources