




WHAT IS THE REGIONAL STORMWATER PROTECTION TEAM (RSPT)?

- In 2002, the Regional Stormwater Protection Team (RSPT) was formed by state, county, and local municipalities to coordinate public education and outreach efforts. It came at a time when many institutions and municipalities were faced with new water quality permit requirements for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, known as MS4s.
- The RSPT consists of the cities of Duluth, Hermantown, Proctor, Cloquet and Superior, WI; Villages of Oliver and Superior, WI; Midway, Rice Lake and Duluth Townships; University of Minnesota Duluth and its Sea Grant Program and Natural Resources Research Institute; University of Wisconsin Superior; Lake Superior College; St. Louis County; Lake County; the St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee; Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials; the South St. Louis County Soil and Water Conservation District; the MN Department of Transportation; MN Pollution Control Agency; MN Department of Natural Resources, WI Department of Natural Resources, the Fond du Lac Reservation; and Western Lake Superior Sanitary District.
- The RSPT mission is to protect and enhance the region's shared water resources through stormwater pollution prevention by providing coordinated educational programs and technical assistance. The RSPT meets monthly to plan and coordinate their activities.
- RSPT is committed to informing the region about stormwater pollution and to date has produced and run television and radio advertising intended to raise public awareness as well as holding two watershed festivals (2005 and 2007). Educational workshops have been held for the construction industry, on rain barrels and rain gardens, and proper use of sand and salt in winter. The award-winning lakesuperiorstreams.org website was created as were print materials.

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- The RSPT public education campaign has received support from grants, including the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources–Waters and Minnesota’s Lake Superior Coastal Program through the Coastal Zone Management Act, which is administered through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management.
 - Challenges remain for RSPT in the areas of funding and reaching the group’s goal of protection. The engineers, city managers, scientists, state representatives, academic representatives and others who are on the RSPT realize it will take time and continued effort to heighten awareness and prompt action from citizens, businesses, and political leaders to make water pollution protection a priority.
 - RSPT continues to seek ideas and solutions. You can help.

IT ALL COMES DOWN TO YOUR WATER

www.lakesuperiorstreams.org/stormwater/rspt.html

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