River Watch 2023-2024

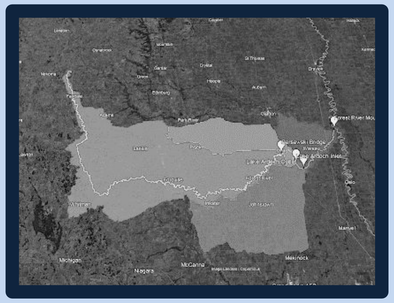
Minto, Forest River Subwatershed of the Red River Watershed, February 28th 2024

"Our Mission: To foster watershed stewardship through leadership in decision support, environmental monitoring, and educational programming."

International Water Institute

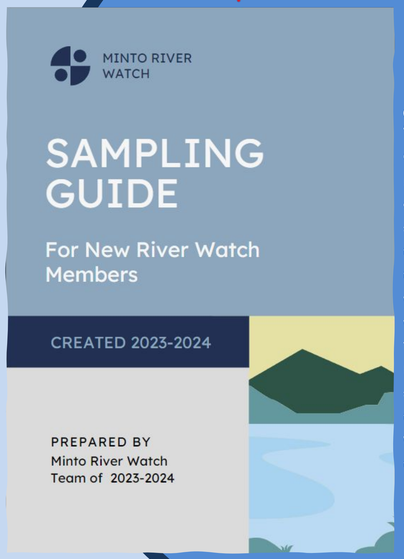
Team & Watershed Overview

Our River Watch team is located in the Forest River Subwatershed of the Red River Basin. Our team is made up of 8 members: 5 seniors and 3 juniors. The seniors that have participated for 3 years include, Riley Robinson, Heide Lane, and Jack Kennedy. The seniors that have participated for 2 years include Daisy Monson and Kasey Gudjates. The 3 juniors on our team have all participated for 2 years: Gina Plutowski, Ben Gudjates, and Liam Medberry. Our advisor is Cindy Stave, and she has been in charge of the team since it was started 10 years ago. Historically our team has always participated in all River Watch activities.



Podcast

The podcast team consisted of Jack, Liam, and Riley. For the Waders podcast, we wanted to focus on both current and past topics in our watershed. Our process began with a brainstorming session to generate topics. The name we chose for the podcast is Waders. We selected 3 main topics: Fordville Aquifer, river channelization, and the Dike wars. Our research was done and used to write our script. Our equipment was gathered by Jack. We used Jack's mic and recording and editing software Audacity. Some challenges we face while creating our podcast were, castability issues between the mic and computer and time and places to record.



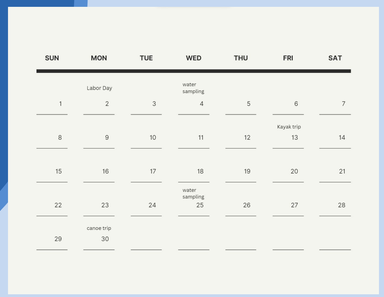
Sampling Binder

Our Riverwatch 2024 Sampling Binder was compiled by Gina, Heide, and Daisy. Our process for making our sampling binder was first to collect all the information into one document. We went through each site and category and entered in information such as locations, descriptions, and photos. Our team collaborated to write the instructions for the sampling equipment. Once we finished gathering all the information we transferred all it over to a visually pleasing document. The program we used to design the binder was Canva. Gathering all the information before hand was a big help in organizing all information into out designed document.

The Sampling Binder will be extremally valuable to future members and advisors because it is a collection of our team's most important data. Information about our sampling sites, equipment, and procedures are all included in the binder. Having this information will help new members and advisors master the basics of River Watch instead of learning everything by themselves. We believe that this binder is the perfect way to ensure the continuation of Minto's River Watch program.

River Watch Calendar

The calendar team consisted of one person: Kasey and Gina. The process through making the calendar was to first gather the dates for future River Watch and community events. We used resources such as the school calendar and from IWINST staff. Team members were responsible for gathering pictures. School staff and family members were invited to submit photos as well. Photos used were contributed by river watch members, Vicky Gudjates, Nicole Robinson, and Darren Stave. The program we used to create the calander was Canva.



Feedback

This years assignment was an enjoyable process for all team members. All team members were actively involved. Members were able to show case their individual interests and talents, in this multi-faceted assignment.

Plans for team activities for the upcoming school year can be reference in the calendar. We have invited 5 new members to strengthen our team for the future.

Minto High School Riverwatch

Support and funding provided by:

Support for the **River Watch Program** is provided by the Red River Watershed Management Board, Minnesota Clean Water Fund, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Red River Joint Water Resource District, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality.