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September 13, 2005

Lisa Whalen
Chair
Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission
3235 Fernbrook Lane
Plymouth, MN 55447

Dear Ms. Whalen:

Thank you for your letter of August 18, 2005, regarding the water quality of Lake Sarah. Three Rivers Park District is also concerned about the lake quality and believes that development of a TMDL is an important tool to determine appropriate strategies to facilitate improvement.

The Park District is interested in assisting the Watershed Commission with the Lake Sarah TMDL development. However, because of previous commitments, staff is unable to begin work on this project until early 2006. We anticipate that the Lake Independence TMDL process will be completed by that time, and staff will have time to devote to the Lake Sarah project.

In order to commit the necessary staff resources to the project, we need to develop a cooperative agreement, similar to that developed for the Lake Independence TMDL, for consideration by the Park District Board of Commissioners. The Park District will prepare the draft agreement outlining the specific work tasks, the timeline for data collection and analysis, the public input process, and preparation of the TMDL document. We will provide you with a draft agreement for comment prior to our Board review process. It is our understanding that the Park District will be reimbursed for the majority of the staff time spent on the project.

Three Rivers Park District looks forward to working with you on this important water quality initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas E. Bryant".

Douglas E. Bryant
Superintendent and Secretary to the Board

C: Margie Walz, Director Park Operations Services
John Barten, Water Resources Manager

Promoting environmental stewardship through recreation and education in a natural resources-based park system