

## **Ripple Effect Water Minute – Measuring Our Waters**

When we think of “measuring” our waters here in the Red River Basin, we usually think of quantity. We keep track of levels of flows preceding floods and track these levels with a hawk’s eye during flood events.

But just as important to us is measuring the quality of the water in our rivers and streams. Measuring that quality does not often make it into the spotlight despite its critically important role in helping us identify impaired waters before they become lost to us as a resource.

All three of the major jurisdictions in the Basin—Manitoba, Minnesota and North Dakota—are looking for ways to improve their monitoring, most importantly, to add coverage and to correlate the measuring and analysis more fully among the three jurisdictions.

With no one single large source of harmful pollutants entering the Basin’s waters, only, literally, millions of small “nonpoint” sources, monitoring our waters for quality is imperative.

Our agencies responsible for water quality are working hard to ensure the health of our rivers, streams and lakes. Do your part and help keep our waters clean.

This Ripple Effect is brought to you by the Red River Basin Commission.