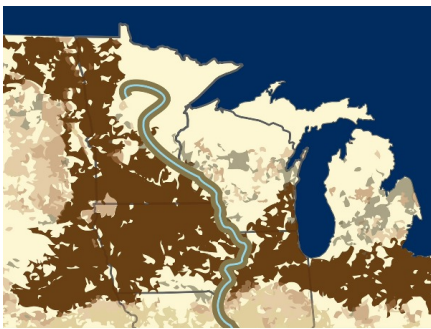




MISSISSIPPI MESSAGES

[Our work takes place on Dakota homelands.](#) Haha Wakpa, Misi-ziibi, Mississippi — the river we steward in Minnesota has long been stewarded and continues to be stewarded by Dakota and Ojibwe people.

FMR Updates



Watch: How the 'big brown spot' pollutes the Mississippi River

When farm fields are bare, there's nothing to stop soil, fertilizers and other farm chemicals from washing off into our rivers, lakes and streams. This "big brown spot" in the Midwest is by far the largest source of pollution to the Mississippi.

[Watch our new video.](#)



Latest storm drain mural gives a clear message: just water, no waste

Our latest mural for water quality celebrates the metro river with vibrant color and a clear message. Visit the new mural at the scenic overlook along the Mississippi River Gorge in St. Paul's Highland Park neighborhood.

[Read a Q&A with artist Precious and see the final design.](#)



Minnesota's drought contributes to drinking water crisis downriver

We talked with Matt Rota at Healthy Gulf in Louisiana about the saltwater intrusion in the Mississippi River threatening New Orleans' drinking water supply — and already impacting communities farther south.

[Read the Q&A.](#)



We've moved! Take a look at FMR's new space

Our new office is just across the river from our old location. Note our new mailing address and check out a few photos of the space and our unpacking process, including an excellent office prank that involved a Little Tikes mini desk.

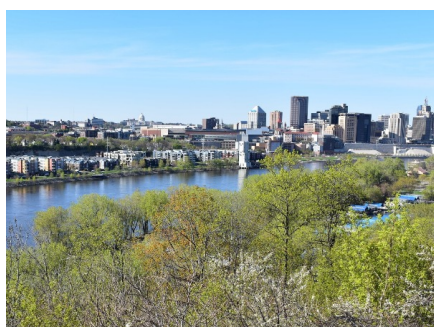
[See our new office.](#)



Now available: FMR's enhanced Cultural Landscapes lesson

Our updated curriculum now features more community voices and water stories, including a new video with Crystal Norcross, steward and advocate of the Dakota burial mounds at Indian Mounds Park in St. Paul.

[Get the full teaching guide.](#)



St. Paul continues to dodge new riverfront development rule

St. Paul's promising ordinance has been stalled for months, with no explanation from city leaders. How did we get here, and what can St. Paul community members do to help?

[Learn more and take action.](#)



Thank you for joining us at The River Provides

Over 250 attendees came together at Nicollet Island Pavilion on Sept. 28 for The River Provides and raised more than \$175,000 to protect the river and the communities it sustains. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who participated!

[See photos of the evening and read a recap.](#)

Mississippi River News

'The Mississippi River has dropped to a historic low for the second consecutive year'

Last year [we wrote about the Mississippi River's record low levels](#) down south and resulting issues: shipwrecks drying out in the exposed riverbed, barges loaded with corn and soybeans stuck in place and the saltwater intrusion in Louisiana. This year, we're experiencing more of the same. Minnesota got some good rain last weekend, but not enough. The Army Corps reports that "it would take 10 inches of rain over the entire Mississippi River Valley" to push back the saltwater and reestablish more typical river flow.

[Read more from CNN.](#)

House of Representatives celebrates FMR's 30th anniversary

Congress took a moment last month to honor FMR for 30 years of protecting, restoring and enhancing the river. Rep. Betty McCollum commemorated the occasion on the House floor, reading into the Congressional Record an account of FMR's achievements and impact. As a partner on federal initiatives for the river, Rep. McCollum knows firsthand how amazing our supporters are — she closed her commemoration by paying tribute to "the commitment and the dedication of the many members, volunteers, and staff."

[See the full text on our Instagram.](#)

Conservation Corner

Nectar and ... blood? A surprising source of nutrients for butterflies

This spooky season, our new pollinator biologist explains the phenomenon of butterfly puddling — sometimes on blood — and how we can make sure these insects get the nutrients and energy they need.



[Learn why butterflies sometimes drink blood.](#)

Supporting FMR



FMR earns a four-star rating from Charity Navigator

FMR is proud to announce that its strong financial health and ongoing accountability and transparency have earned it a four-star rating from Charity Navigator. This rating designates FMR as an official "Give with Confidence" charity, indicating that our organization uses its donations effectively based on Charity Navigator's criteria. [Read our full rating report.](#)

[Give today.](#)

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