INTRODUCTION
The trash items represented in this survey were collected from the Friends of Lake Hiawatha Earth Day Cleanup, which occurred on April 20, 2019. A total of 104 volunteers cleaned for 2.5 hours, working the entire circumference of Lake Hiawatha. 350 lbs. of trash were removed from Lake Hiawatha. A minimum of 18,994 trash items were sorted and cataloged in the following survey. The 350 lbs. of trash was transported to the Minneapolis College of Art and Design (MCAD), where it was sorted and audited over several weeks by dozens of volunteers. Prior to the cleanup it was decided that the top four corporations identified in the trash from Lake Hiawatha would have their logos recreated and displayed with their own trash materials at the MCAD Sculpture Garden in June of 2019. This document accompanies the exhibition.
TRASH CATEGORIES

18,994 items total
1. WRAPPERS AND PLASTIC FILM 3,775 items
2. BOTTLE CAPS 3,639 items
3. STYROFOAM 3,354 items
4. PLASTIC SHARDS 2,957 items
5. STREET SWEeper BRISTLES 1,217
6. STRAWS 1,135 items
7. PLASTIC CUPS AND LIDS 527 Items
8. CIGARILLO TIPS 397 items
9. BALLS 282 items
10. FOAM RUBBER 236 items
11. PLASTIC BOTTLES 235
12. WRITING UTENSils (PENS, PENCILS AND MARKERS) 234 items
13. BEAUTY PRODUCTS 109 items
14. PAPER PRODUCTS 103 items
15. CIGARETTE BUTTS 86 items
16. LIGHTERS 69 items
17. TEXTILES, CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR 64 items
18. AUTO WRECKAGE 63 items
19. TREATED/PAINTED LUMBER 43 items
20. METAL CANS 36 items
21. FISHING 39 items
22. COMBS 26 items
23. CORKS 25 items
24. GLASS 23 items
25. CHEWING TOBACCO TINS 23 items
26. METAL OBJECTS 17 items
27. PAPER CUPS 10 items
ITEMS OF INTEREST 312 items
BIOHAZARD 64 items

Photo: Trash sort at MCAD

PARENT CORPORATION DATA
LAKE HIAWATHA Trash Survey 2019 Top Four Corporations:
1. PEPSICO
2. COCA COLA
3. MCDONALDS
4. MARS

1. PEPSICO FRITO LAY - 460 total
Wrappers and plastic film 129
Bottle caps 296
Bottles 26
Cups and Lids 1
Paper 1
Paper cup 1
Shards 5
Products: Pepsi, Mountain Dew, Gatorade, Aquafina, Doritos, Cheetos, Ruffles, Lays, Funyons, Chester's, Munchies, Brisk Tea, Grandma's, Smartfood, Naked, Tropicana, Ocean Spray.

2. COCA COLA - 455
Wrappers 42
Bottle caps 385
Cans 5
Bottles 16
Cups and Lids 1
Paper cup 1
Styrofoam 2
Shards 1
Items of Interest 2
Products: Dasani, Coke, Powerade. Fanta, Crush, Sprite, Minute Maid, Odwalla, Smartwater, Vitamin Water.

3. MCDONALDS - 343
Wrappers 4
Straws 215
Cups and Lids 113
Paper 4
Paper cup 1
Shards 5
Items of Interest 1
Products: McDonalds

4. MARS - 205
Wrappers 205
Products: Snickers, Milky Way, M&M's, Mars, 3 Musketeers, Twix, Skittles, Starburst..

5. HERSHEY - 193
Wrappers 188
Bottles 1
Paper 1
Shards 3

6. SWISHER - 153
Wrappers (Swisher Sweets) 153
Plastic cigarillo tips not included in brand count

7. NESTLE - 109
Wrappers 89
Bottles 20

8. NEWEL RUBBERMAID - 83
   pens 48
   balls 35

9. BIC - 80
   pens 45
   lighters 35

10. STARBUCKS - 73
    Paper 1
    Straws 57
    Cups and Lids 12
    Paper cups 2
    Items of Interest 1

11. HEAD NV (Penn) - 64
    Balls (Penn Tennis) 62
    Plastic lids 1
    Shards 1

12. GENERAL MILLS - 54
    Wrappers 54

13. DR PEPPER SNAPPLE - 53
    Bottle caps 30
    Bottles 3
    Wrappers 14

14. PHILLIP MORRIS (ALTRIA) - 46
    Wrappers 42
    Chewing Tobacco Tins 4

15. TOOTSIE ROLL INDUSTRIES - 38
    Wrappers 38

16. MCKEE FOODS - 35
    Wrappers 35

17. KIRKLAND - 32
    Wrappers 32

18. WALMART - 31
    Wrappers 29
    Bottles 2
19. SUPERAMERICA / SPEEDWAY PETROLEUM - 30
   Styrofoam 21
   Cups and Lids 8
   Paper 1

20. TOKAI (SCRIPTO) - 29
   Lighters 26
   Pens 3

21. TURNING POINT LLC (ZIG ZAG) - 28
   Wrappers 28

22. CULVERS - 25
   Straws 25

23. RANIR LLC - 24
   Shards (Plackers) 24

24. PERFETTI VAN MELLE - 24
   Wrappers 23
   Bottles 1

25. CARIBOU - 20
   Cups and Lids 8
   Straws 10
   Paper Cups 2

26. FERRARA - 17
   Wrappers 17

27. KRAFT/HEINZ (BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY) - 16
   Wrappers 16

28. PROCTOR AND GAMBLE - 14
   Shards (Oral B) 14

29. HOLIDAY - 13
   Styrofoam 3
   Wrappers 1
   Cups and Lids 9

30. WELLS - 13
   Wrappers 13

31. HOSTESS - 11
   Wrappers 11
TOP THREE CORPORATIONS - COMPREHENSIVE TRASH TOTALS

**PepsiCo**
- number of items: 460
- PepsiCo items were collected in 2.5 hours.
- The total trash collection was 15 bags (350 lbs.) of various litter on 4/20/2019
- Avg PepsiCo trash items per bag 30.6
- 344 bags of trash total removed since 2015
- Estimated number of PepsiCo items removed since 2015: 10,557

**Coca-Cola**
- number of items: 455
- Coca Cola trash items were collected in 2.5 hours from Lake Hiawatha.
- The total trash collection on 4/20/2019 was 15 bags
- Avg CocaCola trash items per bag: 30.3
- 344 bags of trash total removed since 2015
- Estimated number of CocaCola items removed since 2015: 10,453

**McDonald's**
- number of items: 343
- McDonald's items were collected in 2.5 hours from Lake Hiawatha.
- The total trash collection on 4/20/2019 was 15 bags
- Avg McDonald's trash items per bag: 22.8
- 345 bags of trash total removed since 2015
- Estimated number of McDonalds items removed since 2015: 7,866

TRASH DATA by Category
WRAPPERS AND PLASTIC FILM
3,775 pieces

1. MARS - 205
   - Milky Way 20
   - M&M's 6
   - Mars 9
   - Kit Kat 39
   - Snickers 107
   - Twix 26
   - Skittles 22
   - Starburst 15

2. HERSHEY - 188
   - Kit Kat 39
   - Payday 5
   - Jolly Rancher 14
   - York 2
   - Goodbar 1
Heath 5
Kisses 1
Hershey Bar 24
Reeses 71
Almond Joy 14
Laffy Taffy 6
Mounds 2
Whoppers 2
Twizzlers 2

3. SWISHER INTERNATIONAL - 153
   Swisher Sweets large envelope 14
   Swisher Sweets small sleeve 139

4. PEPSICO FRITO LAY - 130
   Aquafina 33
   Dorito’s 12
   Cheetos 18
   Ruffles 2
   Lay’s 11
   Funyons 3
   Chester’s 10
   Munchies peanuts 4
   Brisk Tea 3
   Pepsi 3
   Mountain Dew 6
   Cheez-it 1
   Grandma’s 1
   Smartfood 1
   Naked 1
   Tropicana 1
   Ocean Spray 1
   Quaker Oats 7
   Gatorade 12

5. NESTLE - 89
   Pure Life 42
   Ice Mountain 1
   Nestle Crunch 8
   100 Grand 6
   Laffy Taffy 3
   Baby Ruth 4
   Butterfinger 22
   Nestle 4
   Perrier 1
   Flipz 1

6. GENERAL MILLS - 54
Annies 5
Fruit Roll ups 12
Gushers 6
Combos 1
Nature Valley 28
Fiber One 1

7. TOOTSIE ROLL INDUSTRIES - 38
Tootsie Roll 1
Charms Blow Pop 31
Caramel Apple Pop 4
Tootsie Pop 2

8. MCKEE FOODS - 35
Little Debbies 27
Sunbelt Bakery 8

9. COCA COLA - 34
Fanta 2
Vitamin Water 2
Crush 1
Sprite 1
Coca Cola 13
Minute Maid 1
Dasani 8
Powerade 6

10. KIRKLAND - 32
Fruity snacks 4
Soft and Chewy 8
Kirkland Water 20

11. WALMART - 30
Great Value Water 27
Chewy Chocolate Chunk 2
Lowfat Grain Bar 1

12. BLACK AND MILD Phillip Morris Altria - 29
Black and Mild small sleeve 29

13. ZIG ZAG - 28
Blunt Wrap 18
Zig Zag 10

14. PERFETTI VAN MELLE - 23
Airheads 23

15. FERRARA - 17
Lemonheads 1
Now and Later 2
Trolli 5
Black Forest 6
Kinder Joy 3

16. BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY - HEINZ - 16
Heinz packets 16

17. KELLOGG - 15
Cheez it 5
Keebler 2
Nutri Grain 1
Pop Tart 2
Kellog 4
Zesta 1

18. NIAGARA - 13
Niagara water 13

19. WELLS - 13
Blue Bunny 13

20. HOSTESS - 11
Hostess 11

Wrappers lesser brands and unidentifiable 803, single use plastic grocery bags 33,
Clear plastic and cellophane 1,492 (incl. Ziploc bags 81)
TOTAL 3,775
Wrappers Category-Top four corporations: Mars, Hershey, Swisher International and Pepsico.
Wrapper Sorting event at MCAD
Sorted items in -wrappers and plastic film- categories.

**BOTTLE CAPS**

3,639 pieces
- RC - Royal Crown 2
- Nerf 2
- Bud Light 1
- Miller 2
Wis Pac 2
Naked (Pepsi) 9
Bai Antioxidant infused 1
Jarritos 3
OKF 2
Tropicana (Pepsi) 1
Fruiti 2
Faygo 3
Penn (Head NV)1
Odwalla (Coca Cola) 3
Evian (Danone) 3
Health Ade Kombucha 1
Assorted brands 22
Smartwater (Coca Cola) 18
Minute Maid (Coca Cola) 22
Coors 1
Powerade (Coca Cola) 52
Dr. Pepper 30
Gatorade (Pepsi) 95
Pepsi 191
Coca Cola 241
Unidentified Random Soda 306

WATER BOTTLE STYLE
Chippewa 17
Dasani (Coca Cola) 50
Clear 673
White 90
Green 70
Blue 135
Black 19

OTHER
Jug Tops 84
Unidentified large size caps 189
Clear nozzle caps 113
Bottle Rings 376
Random caps 571
Toxic or Medical 71
Bottle caps sorted.

**STYROFOAM**

3,354 pieces
(see data sheet for comprehensive list)
Unidentified Cups 411
Cups with logos 44
Packing peanuts 72
Supermoms cups 16 (Speedway/SuperAmerica)
Super America cup 5 (Speedway/SuperAmerica)
Coca Cola 2
Holiday 3
Solo 1
PLASTIC SHARDS
2,957 pieces
(see data sheet for comprehensive list)
McDonalds 5
Pepsi 5
Taco Bell 1
Hershey (Ice Breakers) 3
Coca Cola 1
Head NV (Penn) 1
Proctor and Gamble Flossers (Oral B) 14
Ranir LLC (Plackers) 24
Strapping bands 49
Plastic Hangers 23
Plastic Utensils 61
Pieces with identifiable brands or type object 265
Unidentifiable shards 2,692

plackers, plastic bands, plastic dinnerware and plastic shards.

STREET SWEEPER BRISTLES
1,217 pieces

*Plastic street sweeping bristles*

**STRAWS**

1,135 pieces
- McDonalds 215
- Starbucks 57
- Caribou 10
- Culvers 25 pieces

- Blue 25
- Light Blue 10
- Green 57
- Red 89
- Yellow swizzle 32
- White with Red and Yellow Stripe 215
- White with red Stripe 180
- Clear 387
- Miscellaneous 387

**PLASTIC CUPS AND LIDS**
527 pieces
McDonalds 113
Berry Plastics 16
Dart 14
Starbucks 12
Holiday 9
SuperAmerica 8
Caribou 8
Taco Bell 7
Wendy's 5
Yoplait 5
Burger King 3
Solo 2
Coca Cola 1
Mountain Dew (Pepsi) 1
Dole 1
FK Greenware (compostable) 2
Little Caesars 2
unidentified coffee cup lids 5
unidentified plastic drink lids 30
unidentified cups 170
Unidentified containers 9
Unidentified large lids 25

CIGARILLO TIPS
397 pieces

BALLS
282 pieces
Tennis balls = 165
62 Penn (Head NV)
35 Wilson (Newell Rubbermaid)
7 Chuckit!
1 Gamma
1 Dunlop
1 Prince
1 Lifetime
2 Michael Lynn's Tennis Shop
1 Slazenger Championship
54 Unidentified

Soccer = 2
1 Franklin
1 Unidentified

Baseball = 3
1 Franklin
2 Unidentified

1 Kong
1 Aastrom Plastic

62 Unidentified - other

7 Wiffle Balls
5 Plastic golf balls

Golf balls = 36
8 Titleist
2 Srixon
7 Topflight
6 Callaway
2 ProStaff
2 Pinnacle
1 Tommy Amore
1 Wilson Staff
1 Noodle
1 RAM
1 Taylor Made
1 Bridgestone Golf
1 Cougar
2 Unidentified
FOAM RUBBER

236 pieces
76 nerf darts
16 balloons
5 toe separators
5 ear plugs
19 white
8 blue
3 yellow
10 pink, red, purple
7 gray
13 green
4 brown
70 black
PLASTIC BOTTLES
235 pieces

Coca-Cola
3 coke
7 dasani
2 Odwalla juices
4 Powerade

Nestle
17 Nestle Pure Life
3 ice mountain
Pepsi Co
7 Pepsi
13 Aquafina
5 Gatorade
1 Mountain Dew

1 AW root beer
2 Dr Pepper
1 Kemp’s
1 Great Value water
1 Member’s mark purified water
1 Fuji water
1 Market Pantry purified water
1 core organic
2 Koolaid
2 Lucas Gusano
2 Danimals smoothies
7 Five-hour energy (innovations ventures LLC)
1 EE eternal energy
1 Sniper energy shooter
1 SunnyD (harvest hill)
1 mondo
1 fruit barrel (abc)
1 deep eddy vodka (Kentucky liquor company)
1 Svedka vodka (constellation brands)
3 Smirnoff vodka (Diageo)
3 uv vodkas (Phillips distilling)
1 Prairie vodka (Phillips distilling)
7 New Amsterdam vodkas
1 Burnett vodka (Heaven hill)
1 E & J brandy
1 rum Chata
2 Bacardi
1 cinerator whiskey
1 Makers Mark whiskey (suntory Holdings, vltd)
1 Captain Morgan loco nut rum
7 fireball whiskey (sazerac company)
2 Clear Eyes (Prestige brands)
1 rhoto cool drops
1 Ice Breakers liquid ice (Hershey's)
1 Mentos gum (perfetti van melle)
1 Juicy Drop (Topps co)
1 Complete Nutritional shake
WRITING UTENSILS (PENS, PENCILS AND MARKERS)

234 Pieces

Bic (Bic) 45
Papermate (Newell) 31
Sharpie (Newell) 17
Crayola 4
Scripto 3
Others
BEAUTY PRODUCTS

109 pieces
Lipgloss/Chapsticks = 63
3 Carma Laboratories
4 Carmex
1 the Wedge
2 Badger Lip Balm
3 Blistex
1 Chap Ice
1 Natural Ice
1 Chap Blok
1 Chap Aid
7 Chap Stick
1 Bobby Brown
2 Lipsmacker (owned by Bonnie Bell)
1 Bonnie Bell
1 Loreal
2 Bath & Body Works
1 Softlips
2 Vaseline
2  Burt's Bees
3  EOS
2  Victoria's Secret
1  Kandy Castle
1  Mabelline
1  Just Kolour
1  Rimmel
1  Hill's (Konick & Company)
1  Edina Orthodontics
16  unknown

Mascara = 3
1  Color mates
1  LA Colors
1  unknown

Eye Drops = 27
1  Systane
2  Visine
1  Clear Eyes
1  Walgreens
22  unidentified

Contact Lenses = 3
1  Fresh Look
2  Dailies

Lotions/lubricants = 4
1  Gold Bond lotion
1  Tea Tree lotion
1  Lab Sciences moisture gel
1  Wet Platinum silicone lubricant

Toothpaste = 2
1  Colgate
1  Schmidt's

Other = 7
1  Oral B floss
1  Mack's Ear Wax
1  Sunmark Antibiotic ointment
1  Orajel
1  Young living oil spray
1  bandaids - Johnson & Johnson
1  Zican cold sore
PAPER PRODUCTS

103 pieces

1 Burger King bag
1 Burger King receipt
1 Burger King paper cup
2 McDonald's bags + contents
1 McDonald's receipt
1 McDonald's wrapper
1 Icee container
1 Culver's bag + contents
1 Valley's Own vanilla cupcake container
1 Maximum strength Ranitidine tablet container
1 Starbucks's napkin
1 Reese's peanut butter cup black paper wrapper
1 Super Mom's spicy chicken paper wrapper
1 Chipotle cup
1 Schroeder milk container
1 Pepsi Cola cup
1 Simply Nature drink
1 Juicy Juice container
1 Trident gum paper container
1 Hiawatha Golf Course scorecard
1 Band-aid container, Johnson & Johnson
1 Black Cat fireworks label
1 coffee cup cardboard holder
1 Daisy Fuentes tag
1 bar code
2 dryer sheets
1 Mister gas receipt
1 paper bag unidentified
1 pink office request for student
1 3M post-it pad
1 sustainable Forestry initiative paper cup
1 Scherer window and door construction ad
2 wrappers unidentified
1 piece cardboard
1 food cardboard container unidentified
5 pieces newsprint unidentified
1 snow cone container unidentified
1 takeout chinese food container
2 clothes lint remover sheets
7 unidentifiable pieces of scrap paper
49 unidentified paper towel or paper scraps

CIGARETTE BUTTS
86 pieces
LIGHTERS
69 pieces
Bic 35
Scripto 26
Others

TEXTILES
64 pieces
23 footwear
5 hats
9 socks
4 gloves/mittens
18 cloth scraps
5 ropes
AUTO WRECKAGE
63 pieces
TREATED/PAINTED LUMBER
48 pieces

SPRAY CANS AND AIR FRESHENERS
43 pieces
3 cans of OFF Bug Spray
5 cans of spray paint
1 Can of Fuel Defense carburetor and choke cleaner
6 AA Duracell batteries
1 Grabber Pak
4 unidentified bottles of adhesive
16 air fresheners (incl. 12 Fabreze)
1 Yak Trax
1 Petroleum jelly
2 medical swabs
FISHING

39 pieces
35 Fishing bobbers (2 Thill brand)
2 Fishing hooks
1 Fishing line
COMBS
26 pieces

CORKS
25 pieces
METAL CANS

36 pieces
1 Grain Belt
1 Stella Artois
1 Hamm's
2 Pabst Blue Ribbon
1 Budweiser
2 Coors
3 Red Bull
3 Michelob
2 Milwaukee's Best Premium
1 Third Street
1 Odell's
1 Fanta
1 A&W
6 Dr. Pepper
2 Coke
2 Sprite
1 Mountain Dew
2 Arnie Palmer
1 Tea (Green Tea Peach Mango)
1 Amway Energy Drink
1 del Monte tin can
GLASS

23 pieces
Bottles (intact) = 16
2 Mickey's fine malt liquor
1 Victoria beer (Mexican)
1 E&J Brandy
1 Hennessy cognac
11 unidentified
6 shards
1 small glass orb

CHEWING TOBACCO TINS

23 pieces
Grizzly 5
Skoal 2
METAL OBJECTS
17 pieces
6 pieces of aluminum foil
3 bottle caps - Corona, Sierra Nevada, unidentified
3 power line flags - 1 CenterPoint energy, 2 pink unidentified
2 arrow shafts
1 salt shaker
1 pegboard hook
1 piece of wire

PAPER CUPS
10 pieces
1 McDonalds
1 Coca Cola
1 Pepsi
2 Caribou
1 Chipotle
2 Starbucks
1 DMF Nightcrawlers
1 World Centric (Compostable)

ITEMS OF INTEREST

307 pieces
9 Bubble Wands
19 Barrettes
2 Frog Thumb Toys
4 Plastic Hands
1 Spider Ring
5 Humanoid Figurines
11 Bicycle Reflectors
3 Foam Letters (K-A-V)
2 Gun Powder Cap Gun rounds
13 Animal Reproductions
17 Lawn Chemical Sign Holders
1 Tiny Pink Microphone
8 Pacifiers
3 Googly Eyes
3 Connector Toys
1 Plastic French Fry
7 Eyeglasses
4 Sealing bands (2 Coca Cola)
1 Roll of Film
1 Message in a Perrier Bottle (Nestle)
1 Schlicter's Nursery tag
1 Tangletown Gardens garden stake
5 Keychain Holders (1 McDonalds)
1 Starbucks stirrer
3 Ribbons
1 Gametroller
2 Easter Eggs and 1 Plastic Golf Ball eaten by wildlife
3 Security tabs
3 Styrofoam gourds
1 Fiskars Scissors
3 Foam toe separators
1 Angela Conley Sticker
1 Birth Control Pill Dispenser
1 tiny red hat
1 Spaceship
4 fuses
5 Sealed Vials
5 Toothbrushes
1 Hiawatha Golf Card
1 Skull and Crossbones ‘grill’
1 Auto Accident Kit with camera and flashlight
1 Jai Hanuman Sindoor “For Hindu religious ritual only”
2 plastic toy shovels
200 other items

*Items of interest category.*
Lawn chemical sign holders.

BIOHAZARD
64 pieces
34 Hypodermic Syringes
11 Used condoms
8 Used diapers
8 Tampon applicators
3 Bagged dog poop
5 Used band-aids
2 Sealed vials
1 Mystery goo/adhesive?

18,994 items collected in 2.5 hours. Can you believe it? We counted all of that! One tiny section of the world's litter. Most of the identities from products have either degraded beyond recognition, or are not traceable to a corporation by design. However, many products still bear the identity of the corporation that produced them. We have noted each item's corporate identity when visible. We have noted the number of times each corporate identity occurred. Finally we have compiled a list of the top corporate identities found in the trash from Lake Hiawatha. As planned from the outset, the top four corporations have won the distinction of being represented in these sculptures.
LAKE HIAWATHA - SITE CONTEXT:

Lake Hiawatha was known prior to 1929 as Rice Lake. This area, including Lake Hiawatha and the Chain of Lakes as well as the nearby confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers (Bdote), is the home of and remains the spiritual center for the Dakota peoples. After the US Dakota War they were forcibly removed from this land and 1,658 Dakota women and children were placed in a concentration camp at nearby Fort Snelling where they faced starvation and death. 302 Dakota men were slated for execution by the US government.
men were ultimately hanged at Mankato, MN in 1862 in the largest mass execution in American History. Additionally 2 Dakota Men were executed at Fort Snelling. (Šákpe and Wakháŋ Ožáŋžaŋ) The surviving Dakota people were removed to reservations in North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Montana, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

In 1929 the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board purchased the land and the name Rice Lake was changed to Lake Hiawatha. Minnehaha Creek was straightened on the property, the Lake was dredged, and the spoils of the dredging were placed upon the adjoining wetland complex. Hiawatha Golf Course was created on the western side of the Lake on this former wetland. The shore of Lake Hiawatha was reconfigured and a stone and concrete wall was constructed along the shoreline. Some of this work was done by the WPA. In 1935 the north pipe or 43rd street pipe was constructed by the City of Minneapolis, redirecting stormwater runoff from 920 acres of South Minneapolis and emptying it directly into Lake Hiawatha without filtration. The portion of the north pipe south of 43rd street has remained unchanged since its construction in 1935.

Lake Hiawatha is one of the Chain of Lakes of Minneapolis, it is the only Lake in the chain which is directly connected to Minnehaha Creek. Lake Hiawatha is part of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District. Minnehaha Creek originates at Lake Minnetonka 25 miles to the west. The Creek passes through Lake Hiawatha and then proceeds to the Mississippi River where the water runs all the way to the Gulf of Mexico. Communities downstream rely on the very same water as a source for drinking water. Lake Hiawatha is rich in biodiversity and is home to many species of wildlife including; beaver, muskrat, otter, mink, soft shelled, snapper and painted turtles, Great Horned Owl, eagle, osprey, kingfisher, Great Blue Heron and more. It is also a key migratory stop for birds of great diversity. There has recently been a notable loss of biodiversity at Lake Hiawatha, especially notable is the disappearance of frogs. Salamanders and snakes are also absent. There remains a population of American Toads. Lake Hiawatha is severely compromised by pollution including trash, sediment, chemical and nutrient pollution. The Lake is listed by the MPCA as impaired for sodium, phosphorous and bacteria and most notably is the recipient of tons of mostly plastic and styrofoam trash annually. Trash is not considered a pollutant in the state of Minnesota, which is one of the major reasons the 2015, 2018 and 2019 surveys were conducted. Because of this, no agency takes responsibility for the cleanup of trash at Lake Hiawatha. Trash in Lake Hiawatha comes from two major sources; the Creek and most notably the north pipe or 43rd street pipe which empties the litter from the streets of 920 acres of south Minneapolis, without filtration, directly into Lake Hiawatha. Consequently, trash levels in Lake Hiawatha far exceed that of the other lakes in Minneapolis.

FRIENDS OF LAKE HIAWATHA
Friends of Lake Hiawatha is a lake association comprised of community members who are dedicated to improving the quality of Lake Hiawatha through community engagement, educational outreach, and good governance through effective partnerships with other organizations and public officials. We are also dedicated to protecting the existing habitat and wildlife, restoring climate resilience and equitable access to natural spaces. We are dedicated to seeing a comprehensive mitigation system installed for the north pipe storm sewer system. We also wish to see sustainable green infrastructure and bioremediation used to address trash, sediment and pollution problems stemming from the north pipe.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:
THANK YOU to Matthew Fistler, Friends of Lake Hiawatha, Robin Schwartzman, MCAD 3D Shop and MCAD Gallery!

PRESS:
5 Eyewitness News:
KARE 11:

CORPORATE RESPONSES:
QUOTE: "We reached out to all four of the companies featured in this project."
McDonald's says, "McDonald's is focused on improving its packaging to help significantly reduce waste and positively impact the communities we serve around the world. In Minneapolis, McDonald's restaurants comply with the Green to Go Environmentally Acceptable Packaging Ordinance. We offer recycling and garbage receptacles within our restaurants and we encourage our customers to use appropriate refuse containers to dispose of their waste when they take their orders to go."

Mars Corporation says, "We're disappointed to learn that our packaging has been found in the Lake Hiawatha Trash Survey and commend the effort of the Standish- Ericsson Neighborhood Associate to keep the shorelines and lake clean. At Mars, we are committed to sustainable packaging and our vision is a world where plastics and packaging never become waste. Our goal is to design packaging that is 100% recyclable, reusable or compostable by 2025. In order to achieve our goals we are collaborating with NGO's, governments and partners like the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's New Plastic Economy Global Commitment. We are also committed to supporting consumer recycling and litter education."

PepsiCo responded with this comment:

"PepsiCo shares the concern that plastics and other waste are accumulating in the marine environment and on land, which is why we are committed to achieving 100% recyclable, compostable or biodegradable packaging by 2025. Protecting our planet is hugely important to us and the issue of plastics and waste requires urgent attention. PepsiCo has a number of initiatives in place to increase recycling rates and reduce the amount of packaging we use, all while working with experts and investing in this space to bring the latest sustainable packaging advances to market. But, we recognize the need to do more. PepsiCo has elevated its participation in cross-industry and NGO initiatives, such as The New Plastics Economy, World Economic Forum, and The Alliance to End Plastic Waste, and we always welcome constructive dialogue with organizations committed to addressing the plastics waste crisis."

In addition, the Minnesota Beverage Association sent a statement. PepsiCo and Coca-Cola are members of the MBA. MBA's president Tim Wilkin:

“Minnesota's beverage companies have long worked with conservation organizations and anti-litter groups to keep our waterways clean, and there is no good reason for our containers to be thrown away given that we have carefully designed them to be 100% recyclable, even the caps. We want every bottle back and if properly disposed of, our containers can be recycled again and again for new bottles or for other products.”

MAIL
In October 2019 letters and printed copies of the 2019 Trash Survey were mailed to Pepsico, CocaCola and McDonalds corporations.
Letter excerpt:
“Will PepsiCo/CocaCola/McDonalds consider offering their support to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) and The City of Minneapolis in the construction of a comprehensive system of stormwater mitigation for Lake Hiawatha? In our locality,
stopping the spread of plastics and other pollutants can be most effectively achieved by
developing a comprehensive filtration system at the end of the ‘north pipe’ which is a 920
acre subwatershed that currently empties the litter and pollution of South Minneapolis
directly into Lake Hiawatha without treatment of any kind. The cost of the trash
collection system as estimated in the Benefits and Costs Comparative Screening analysis
the MPRB did in 2017 states $150,000. This is an estimate based on the information they
had at that time, and no particular system has been chosen yet.
Pepsico/CocaCola/McDonalds could be a leader in proactive approaches to address the
problem of plastic pollution with measurable water quality and habitat improvements. I
thank you for your consideration.”

Pepsico  number of items: 460
Pepsico items were collected in 2.5 hours.
The total trash collection was 15 bags (350 lbs.) of various litter on 4/20/2019
Avg Pepsico trash items per bag 30.6
344 bags of trash total removed since 2015
Estimated number of Pepsico items removed since 2015: 10,557

CocaCola  number of items: 455
Coca Cola trash items were collected in 2.5 hours from Lake Hiawatha.
The total trash collection on 4/20/2019 was 15 bags
Avg CocaCola trash items per bag: 30.3
344 bags of trash total removed since 2015
Estimated number of CocaCola items removed since 2015: 10,453

McDonalds  number of items: 343
McDonald’s items were collected in 2.5 hours from Lake Hiawatha.
The total trash collection on 4/20/2019 was 15 bags
Avg McDonalds trash items per bag 22.8
345 bags of trash total removed since 2015
Estimated number of McDonalds items removed since 2015: 7,866

ThankYou!

Sean Connaught and Friends of Lake Hiawatha
Minneapolis, MN 55407
www.friendsoflakehiawatha.org

Contact for MPRB support:
Tyler Pederson
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
"Pederson, Tyler W." < TPederson@minneapolisparks.org >
MAIL RESPONSES November 2019:
November 14, 2019

Sean Connaughty
Minneapolis, MN 55407

Dear Sean,

Thank you for contacting us at PepsiCo regarding a possible sponsorship opportunity. We sincerely appreciate your efforts to clean up Lake Hiawatha.

As you might imagine, we receive thousands of sponsorship requests for local, national, and even international affiliations. While we would absolutely agree that our loyal consumers are the best spokespeople and ambassadors for our beverages, our funding for each partnership is limited and usually determined well in advance. For that reason, I regret that we’re not able to offer assistance for your sponsorship request at this time.

Thanks so much for thinking of us. We wish you the best of luck in all that you do.

Sincerely,
Ryan
Consumer Relations Representative

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October 23, 2019

Mr. Sean Connaughty
Minneapolis MN

Dear Mr. Connaughty,

Thank you for contacting The Coca-Cola Company. We are delighted that you would think of our Company as a potential sponsor.

We receive many worthwhile requests for sponsorship-like efforts. Because it is impossible to respond positively to each one, our practice is to assist those organizations that are national or international in scope.

Bottlers of Coca-Cola are under contract to produce and market the bottled product. Depending on the type of proposal and urgency of consideration, occasionally bottlers will support various events and organizations. For this reason, you may wish to contact your local bottling company directly. You may contact your local Coca-Cola bottler at the following:

1-800-800-2003

If necessary, they may refer you to an office closer to your location.

We wish you the best of luck. If you have additional questions or comments, feel free to contact us again.

Sincerely,
Customer Interaction
Center, North America

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November 08, 2019

Mr. Sean Connaughty
Friends Of Lake Hiawatha
Minneapolis, MN 55407

Dear Mr. Connaughty:

Thank you for your inquiry for a McDonald's donation.

For local donations, contributions and sponsorships, we encourage you to contact your local McDonald's restaurant manager. Most McDonald's restaurants are independently owned and operated by franchisees who make the decisions regarding contributions to local organizations and events in their community.

Again, thank you for contacting McDonald's. We hope this information is helpful and wish you luck in your endeavors.

Sincerely,

Jessica
Customer Satisfaction Representative
CCC TEAMQA - McDonald's Customer Contact Center
ref#: 16825869
Introduction:
This is our fifth season of picking up trash at Lake Hiawatha. We have removed a total of 6,300 lbs since 2015. And the Lake is still littered with trash with quantities of plastic and styrofoam so prodigious that Lake Hiawatha will never be free of it. It is the accumulation of decades of stormwater pollution, most of which originates from the streets of South Minneapolis emptying without filtration into Lake Hiawatha and upstream Minnehaha Creek. More trash arrives in Lake Hiawatha with every rainfall. None of our agencies take responsibility for cleaning up trash from Lake Hiawatha.

On April 20th, 2019, 104 volunteers cleaned for 2.5 hours and removed 350 lbs of mostly plastic and styrofoam trash. In the months that followed, dozens more volunteers sorted and cataloged the 18,996 trash items that were recovered in that cleanup. A comprehensive trash survey was created. It is the third comprehensive survey that has been conducted since we began in 2015. I am here to formally submit this report to the MPRB. The sorted items were presented to the community in the installation *Anthropocenic Midden Survey - Lake Hiawatha Trash Survey 2019*. The exhibition seeks to finally answer the question: Who is responsible for the trash in Lake Hiawatha? Who is responsible to clean it up? The PRODUCER, CONSUMER, AND MUNICIPALITY. Through the exhibition’s survey, these three groups are formally asked to accept partial responsibility for the trash problem at Lake Hiawatha.
The Consumer, in this case, is our community. Community members are responsible for disposing of waste materials properly and to help in clean up and preventive measures. It should be stated that community members have already borne a large share of the effort so far to clean up Lake Hiawatha, with regular cleanups involving hundreds of community volunteers. I estimate that in this most recent 2019 cleanup, survey, and exhibition 175 volunteers contributed to this community outreach effort. The bulk of my work as an artist these past five years has been community outreach dedicated to raising awareness about the value of Lake Hiawatha and its role in preserving biodiversity, addressing climate change, and the considerable pollution problems that are plaguing it.

The Producers are the major corporations who generate, promote, and sell their products in plastic packaging to our community, including the businesses who sell these products. These materials end up in Lake Hiawatha in prodigious amounts. The trash survey found the top four corporations were PepsiCo, Coca-Cola, McDonald’s and the Mars Corporation. We have sent letters to these corporations, asking them to adopt sustainable packaging and to contribute
financial support to the MPRB for the comprehensive mitigation of the north pipe at Lake Hiawatha. The cost of the trash collection system as estimated by the MPRB in the Benefits and Costs Comparative Screening analysis in 2017 states $150,000.

The Municipality, in this case, includes both the City of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. The City created and manages our streets and the stormwater infrastructure that delivers pollution to Lake Hiawatha and subsequent downstream waterbodies. They also manage the trash collection and trash and recycling receptacles on our streets. The MPRB owns the parkland surrounding Lake Hiawatha and has the stated responsibility to keep the parkland “free of trash.”

That is why I am here, to ask you, as representatives of the MPRB, to accept these trash materials and thereby accept responsibility for cleaning up the trash at Lake Hiawatha.

ASKS
1. We ask you to expedite and prioritize the mitigation of the north pipe in the forthcoming reconfiguration of the parkland surrounding Lake Hiawatha. These necessary infrastructure changes should take priority in planning and implementation and should occur without any further delay. And should not be tied to the debate over 9 or 18 holes of golf.

2. We ask you to contribute to the cleanup efforts at Lake Hiawatha with new staff members dedicated to picking up trash until a comprehensive system of mitigation can be put in place at the north pipe.

Thank you so much! Here is your portion of the trash; you may keep or dispose of these materials as you see fit. We look forward to working with you in the near future as we work together to address the many issues beyond trash to restore Lake Hiawatha to health; addressing climate change, while simultaneously preserving and protecting its current wildlife residents in this critical habitat.
Thank you!
Sean Connaughty and Friends of Lake Hiawatha.
CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

8/1/2019 11:30 am at City Hall, Mayor’s Office.

I chose a selection of trash items that I thought were appropriate for the City of Minneapolis. All the items are from the Earth Day cleanup at Lake Hiawatha on April 20th, 2019. Our survey cataloged 18,994 trash items. The items were collected on one day in just two and a half hours. So, each selected item represents only 4% of the total quantity of the type of trash items removed since 2015.

SELECTED TRASH ITEMS

1. 3,354 pieces of **styrofoam** (in one trash bag)
2. 17 **lawn chemical sign holders** (bound in a bundle)
3. 1,217 **street sweeper bristles** (bound in a bundle)
4. 678 **clear bottle caps from water bottles** (sealed in a Ziplock bag)
5. 1,135 **plastic straws**-except the 215 McDonald’s straws that were used for the exhibition at MCAD.
6. **Spray cans, air fresheners and adhesives** (sealed in a Ziplock bag)
7. Items that show evidence of being eaten by wildlife (in a Ziploc bag)

CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

OUR ASKS:

1. Prioritize the implementation of stormwater treatment at Lake Hiawatha in the manner proposed in the MPRB’s golf course reconfiguration plan.
2. Implement a temporary net solution at the north pipe to capture trash and debris at Lake Hiawatha until comprehensive mitigation can be implemented.
3. City monitoring of trash output from the north pipe and monitoring of trash levels at Lake Hiawatha.
4. Hiring of new City staff to clean at Lake Hiawatha.
5. Streamline public trash receptacle cleanup.
6. Implement plastic straw, plastic bag ordinance.
7. An official Response to be published alongside the Final Report

SUMMARY OF TOPICS DISCUSSED
The amount of styrofoam we collected in 2019 has been reduced from its peak in 2015, but still remains high on the list of trash items. As can be seen in the trash sample, styrofoam breaks into ever smaller pieces and becomes embedded in the soil at Lake Hiawatha. There are literally millions of tiny pieces of styrofoam and plastic that will never be entirely removed. Every time the water level rises these pieces are released to migrate around the Lake and are sometimes eaten by wildlife. We are thankful for the “Green to go” Ordinance which we believe has contributed to the reduction of styrofoam at Lake Hiawatha. We still need enforcement: see example of Supermom’s cups.

Photo: on the right, duckling eating styrofoam at Lake Hiawatha in 2017, photo by Penny Fuller
These items show clear evidence of being eaten by wildlife. We have documentation of wildlife eating trash items and some evidence of wildlife mortality from trash. That is one of the major reasons why we are cleaning and why we feel it is urgent to address the problem of the north pipe now. Lake Hiawatha is a critical habitat is a key migratory stop in the Mississippi Flyway and the Lake is home to otters, mink, beaver, muskrat, owls, eagles, osprey, etc. Preserving this biodiversity and stopping the pollution that is threatening wildlife is imperative.

1,217 STREET SWEEPER BRISTLES  (in 2.5 hours of collection)

These blue plastic bristles are from street sweeping machines that help keep our streets free of trash and debris. This activity is vitally important to mitigating damage to Lake Hiawatha and downstream waters. The work done by Minneapolis Public Works needs to be supported because of the many ways that Public Works help mitigate pollution in Lake Hiawatha. There is an ethic that I hear repeated often by Minneapolis Public Works and the watershed districts that “upstream” solutions are better than downstream or point source solutions. This is true, however, this is done at the expense of any action or monitoring at Lake Hiawatha where a 920-acre subwatershed empties without filtration bringing tons of trash, sediment, and pollutants into Lake Hiawatha. We are asking for monitoring of trash output from the north pipe and trash levels accumulating at Lake Hiawatha. As part of Public Works’ mandate. We hope that Public Works will begin to include more “end of the line” solutions in addition to their vital “upstream” work. We are also requesting new staff be hired to pick up trash at Lake Hiawatha. We also feel that streamlining the system of trash removal from street receptacles is needed. We have often noted that cans are full for weeks and trash overflows into the streets and contributes to the trash at Lake Hiawatha.
In the state of Minnesota trash is not considered a pollutant. Other pollutants are measured and monitored in our waters. Lake Hiawatha is listed by the MPCA as impaired for phosphorous, sodium, and bacteria. If there were a TMDL for trash, Lake Hiawatha would likely be the most impaired of all of our state’s waters with the possible exception of the downstream Mississippi River. These items prove that trash is indeed a pollutant. Hundreds of these items have been found in Lake Hiawatha since we began monitoring in 2015. We are asking for the State of Minnesota to create a water quality standard for trash. We also ask that Minneapolis Public Works should monitor trash output from the north pipe and trash levels at Lake Hiawatha in addition to monitoring of other pollutants.

LAWN CHEMICALS (sign holders)  (in 2.5 hours of collection)
Trash is only the most visible symptom of the continuous and ongoing pollution of Lake Hiawatha and downstream water bodies. Glyphosate and other pesticides are used extensively within the subwatershed of Lake Hiawatha. Businesses, institutions, homeowners and Hiawatha Golf Course continue to use pesticides and synthetic fertilizers. These chemicals are toxic to aquatic life and negatively impact water quality and safety at Lake Hiawatha and downstream water bodies. Note the disappearance of frogs (an indicator species) and other amphibians at Lake Hiawatha. Amphibians are especially sensitive to these chemicals and their absence may be due to the high levels of pesticides found around Lake Hiawatha. We recommend that the City consider ways to eliminate these chemicals from the subwatershed of Lake Hiawatha. Synthetic Fertilizers contribute to unacceptably high phosphorous levels in Lake Hiawatha. Resulting in toxic algae blooms and hypoxia.

**BOTTLE CAPS** (in 2.5 hours of collection)
These 678 clear bottle caps were selected specifically because they come exclusively from plastic water bottles. Single use water is being purchased and consumed in huge quantities within our city. Conversely, Minneapolis has safe tap water. It seems indicative of a community distrust of our municipal water supply and water treatment. We feel the City needs to communicate more clearly about the safety of our water supply and that it is not necessary to purchase bottled water.
1,135 straws removed in 2.5 hours from Lake Hiawatha. Fast food trash is ubiquitous and problematic. We support the implementation of plastic bag and straw ordinances to eliminate these items from our waters with exceptions for disabled persons who need them.

TRASH ACCOUNTABILITY

We talked about the triad of responsibility for the trash in Lake Hiawatha. It lies with three major groups: The Consumer, The Producer, and our Municipalities. If we are to successfully address the pollution problem, each group will need to accept their role in the problem and make changes. We have sought assistance from the top four corporations (Producer) identified in the trash at Lake Hiawatha. We are asking for support for the MPRB and City to complete this work. Consumers, or community members, need to make different choices and dispose of trash and recycling properly. Community has already borne a large portion of responsibility with hundreds of community volunteers who have removed more than three tons of plastic and styrofoam trash from Hiawatha since 2015. Our Municipalities include the MPRB and The City, neither removes any trash from Lake Hiawatha. We are asking for this to change.
I presented a drawing to the Mayor which highlights our hopes for the upcoming reconfiguration of Hiawatha Golf Course (HGC). The way that stormwater treatment has been tied to the community debate over golf is problematic because of repeated and ongoing delays. We see the north pipe as necessary infrastructure which is currently malfunctioning. The north pipe, beyond 43rd Street, has not been changed or maintained since its construction in 1935. Necessary and long overdue infrastructure changes include the comprehensive mitigation of the north pipe. Already it has been four years that we have been asking for mitigation. In 2015 we collected and submitted the signatures of more than 800 community members asking for the timely mitigation of the north pipe at Lake Hiawatha. We feel that the stormwater treatment should be a priority going forward and should be the first change that is
implemented. We support the MPRB plan for reductions in pumping and the restoration of a wetland complex around Lake Hiawatha if it is done in a way that preserves existing habitat. In order to adequately treat polluted stormwater it will be necessary to mechanically capture trash and create a wetland complex to drop out sediment and filter pollutants before they get to Lake Hiawatha. We are also asking for a temporary solution at the end of the north pipe. A net could be placed at the Lake to capture trash and debris. This could be done immediately.

Photo: Drawing, 44x60 in., gouache on paper, Sean Connaughty, 2019

CLIMATE AND FLOOD RESILIENCE

Kyle Samejima

Kyle talked about how our changing climate is impacting Lake Hiawatha and downstream communities. Restoring wetland function will lessen the impact of future floods by increasing water absorption and flood storage capacity. This will also result in a reduction in the dramatic
bounce that the Lake currently experiences with each rainfall. Restoring wetland function will build wildlife connectivity and revitalize the wildlife corridor to the Mississippi River.

GOLF, COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS, AND COMPROMISE
John Schuerman
As a neighbor, John talked about the need for a compromise between community members who want golf and those who don’t. He also talked about the unsafe conditions for recreation at Lake Hiawatha due to trash pollution.

Thank You!
Sean Connaughty and Friends of Lake Hiawatha
www.friendsoflakehiawatha.org

In attendance:
1. Kyle Samejima - Mpls Climate Action
2. John Schuerman - resident Standish Ericsson neighborhood
3. Matthew Fistler - UofM intern to Sean Connaughty
4. Sean Connaughty - Friends of Lake Hiawatha
5. Mayor Jacob Frey
6. Marcus Singleton - Mayor’s assistant
7. Mayor’s intern

FOLLOW UP LETTER sent 8/7/2019
Hello Mayor Frey and Marcus,
Thank you so much for the excellent meeting on August 1st! We are deeply appreciative that the Mayor took time out of his busy day to meet with us. During our conversation, we mentioned some asks that we would like to get a response to. Much was answered in the meeting but these questions remain unresolved:
1. Is it possible for the comprehensive pollution mitigation system for the north pipe to be implemented without it being tied to, or delayed by, the overall Lake Hiawatha redesign?
2. Will the City hire a person to clean trash at Lake Hiawatha?
3. Will Public Works monitor trash output from the north pipe and trash accumulations at Lake Hiawatha?
4. Will the City set a timeline/deadline for the completion of a comprehensive mitigation system for Lake Hiawatha?
4. Will the City install a temporary solution for capturing trash at the north pipe until the stormwater mitigation system can be implemented?
Thank You!
Sean Connaughty and Friends of Lake Hiawatha
Photo: At City Hall (left to right) Kyle Samejima, Sean Connaughty, John Schuerman, and Matthew Fistler, 8/1/2019

Photo: Lake Hiawatha resid