

SAINT PAUL RIVER CONNECTORS

2021

A snapshot of government agencies, non-profits, education institutions and businesses, that connect people to the Mississippi River in Saint Paul. Information collected reflects annual river programs (events, activities, education, or hospitality business offerings) happening here in Saint Paul.

- 9** Government Agencies
- 10** Non-Profits
- 3** Businesses
- 3** Education Institutions

25 entities
offering public programs
(events, activities, education, or
hospitality business offerings)

connecting

893,394+

people to the Saint Paul stretch of the river annually.

Of that **268,019** people participate in direct programs (site-based river experiences).

625,375 people receive indirect programs (education and/or communication).

They employ:
35 part time staff
40 full time staff

They spend approximately:
≈ \$1,000,000
annually on river-related
events, activities,
education, or hospitality
business offerings.

Budget for river programming:

- 2** No budget
- 10** Under \$5,000
- 2** \$5,000-20,000
- 4** \$20,000-50,000
- 3** \$50,000-100,000
- 2** \$100,000+

Preliminary funding source:

- 11** Grants
- 7** General operating
- 6** Direct program revenue
- 5** Volunteer time

Their audiences:

- General public
- Children and families
- Youth
- Artists
- Teachers
- Boaters
- Bird lovers
- Volunteers
- Tourists and travelers
- River enthusiasts
- People new to our community
- BIPOC community
- College students

Program locations:

Some programs cover two or more locations

9
on the
river

22
at the river

10
about
the river

14 deliver programs only in Saint Paul
11 deliver programs in Saint Paul and other locations

Program types:

Some programs cover two or more types

19 Education	14 Recreation
17 Ecological	8 Historic
12 Social/Event	9 Health/Wellness
9 Cultural	2 Commerce/Business

Timeline (number of years offering river programming)



RIVER CONNECTORS: BUILDING OUR RIVER COMMUNITY

In the Fall of 2021, the Great River Passage Initiative convened a gathering, *Common Water: Building our River Community*. Partners delivered brief presentations about their public programs, events, education or hospitality business offerings. The intent was to create a shared base line of all activities currently happening at, on, or about the river.

From this shared base we have a refreshed understanding of one another's work, we can identify potential connections and gaps, and will collectively work to build and broaden our Saint Paul river community.

The River Connectors Convening is a biennial gathering originated in 2019.

Photo courtesy of Mississippi Park Connection

2021 PARTICIPANTS

Freshwater Society

Friends of the Mississippi River

Fort Snelling State Park

Great River Passage Initiative

Lower Phalen Creek Project

Macalester College – Environmental Studies

Metropolitan Council

MN Humanities Center

Mississippi Park Connection

National Park Service

Public Art Saint Paul

REI

Saint Paul Audubon Society

Saint Paul Park and Recreation – BIPOC Outdoors

Saint Paul Park and Recreation – Special Events

Saint Paul Park and Recreation – Natural Resources

Saint Paul Park and Recreation – Rec in Motion

Saint Paul Yacht Club

University of Minnesota – Adaptive Silviculture for Climate Change

University of Minnesota – Open Rivers

Urban Bird Collective

Urban Roots

USDA Forest Service

Your Boat Club

Wilderness Inquiry

44 total identified entities provide public river programs.

25 participated in the snapshot 2021 convening and data snapshot.

Participation was diminished as organizations continue to struggle with Covid and the impact it has on programming and funding.

If you know others who should be included in this list, please contact: angie.tillges@ci.stpaul.mn.us.