



LWV UMRR Program for Action 2023-24

LWV UMRR is uniquely positioned - we are a multi-state Inter-League Organization focused on protecting and enhancing the Mississippi River. The Board and members of UMRR are active, engaged, and passionate, and are also involved in other organizations, giving us a broad base of knowledge about what's happening around us.

Now it's time to take advantage of our unique position to lead our member Leagues in advocating for the Mississippi as big federal bills like the Farm Bill, MRRRI and SMRT boil through Congress. This program for action takes the work we've done together and points us toward our work for the future.

To do this, LWV UMRR will:

Build upon the affiliations LWV UMRR members have in other LWV's and other organizations focused on the Mississippi to seek opportunities to advocate for the river in a broad, national context.

Lead LWV in supporting federal legislation to protect the Mississippi River's quality and quantity:

- Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative – introduced, but stalled
- Safeguarding our Mississippi River Together – introduced, but stalled
- 2023 Farm Bill – hearings happening now, reauthorized every five years

Work with our member state Leagues and LWV US to build effective advocacy based on LWV positions, and partner with organizations actively working on these bills.

Research and assess the possibility of an Upper Midwest Compact to protect the Mississippi from water diversion.

Approved May 21, 2022 at the LWV UMRR Annual Meeting
Reaffirmed at May 22, 2023 Annual Meeting