



Southeast Minnesota Wastewater Initiative



Clean Water Funds: 2012

Clean Water Grant	\$221,790
Leveraged Funds*	\$63,000
Total Project Budget	\$284,790

* Leveraged Funds include required 25% local match

Project Sponsor:

Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board

Grant Period:

January 2012 — December 2014

Project Contact:

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C12-13 - Accelerated Implementation

Project Narrative

The lack of sewage treatment in some small communities in Southeast Minnesota is causing surface water and groundwater pollution. Fourteen of these communities will be the target of the technical assistance provided by this project. These communities have community or individual straight pipes discharging raw sewage directly into the environment; surfacing sewage or have sewage contaminating groundwater.

Working closely with county staff and local elected officials, technical assistance will be provided on the steps needed to upgrade sewage treatment systems. These steps include identifying sewage treatment system options and funding, forming sewer districts, preparing ordinances, and developing operation and management plans.



With the assistance provided by this project, eight communities will construct new community sewage treatment systems, which will eliminate 330,950 gallons of untreated sewage per day from entering the Lower Mississippi River and Cedar River Basins (120 million gallons per year). An additional six communities will receive technical assistance to start projects to upgrade their sewage treatment systems. These projects will make significant progress towards the achievement of the Lower Mississippi River Basin TMDL for Fecal Coliform Bacteria.

Proposed Outcomes:

Completed sewage treatment systems in eight communities

Six communities working towards constructing a new sewage treatment system

Actual Outcomes:

Project in Progress

