



Cedar/Farm Island Lakes



Clean Water Funds: 2011

Clean Water Grant	\$108,011
Leveraged Funds*	\$36,000
Total Project Budget	\$144,011

* Leveraged Funds include required 25% local match

Targeted Water:

Cedar and Farm Island Lakes

Project Sponsor:

Aitkin SWCD

Partners:

Multiple landowners, Cedar and Farm Island lake associations, NRCS

Grant Period:

January 2011 - December 2012

Project Contact:

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Project Narrative

Cedar and Farm Island are large recreational lakes located in the Aitkin/Brainerd Lakes area. Both lakes are showing significant downward trends in water clarity. The trend coincides with watershed development that increases water runoff. This project seeks to reverse that trend before these lakes degrade further and become impaired. Changing land uses now through incentives is a very cost-effective way to manage these lakes. The consequence of delaying funding for these lakes is a much higher future cost and the possibility that some of their environmental and social values will be lost forever.

This project funds the design and installation of rain gardens, shoreland revegetation, and water diversions. These projects all reduce the rate of runoff to lakes and streams. Reducing the runoff will lower the amount of nutrients, especially phosphorus, that increases algae growth. Some additional forest stewardship assistance in the watersheds further slow runoff and nutrient transport.

Actual Outcomes

We have installed 15 shoreland revegetation projects and 1 rain garden. We have three additional projects in the planning stages for installation in the spring of 2012.

