



# Blue Earth County Ravine and Stream Stabilization



## Clean Water Funds: 2011

Clean Water Grant	\$57,895
Leveraged Funds*	\$75,000
Total Project Budget	\$132,895

\* Leveraged Funds include required 25% local match

**Targeted Water:**  
County/Watershed Wide

**Project Sponsor:**  
Blue Earth County SWCD

**Partners:**  
The main partners will be the SWCD, Blue Earth County and other local government units involved with the Blue Earth County Hazard Mitigation Plan

**Grant Period:**  
January 2011 - December 2012

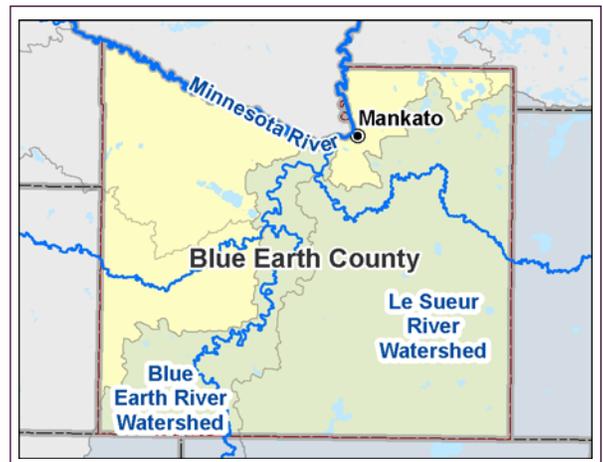
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## Project Narrative

Ravine, stream bank and bluff erosion contribute significant amounts of sediment to rivers and streams. The MPCA report, "Identifying sediment sources in the Minnesota River Basin," found the Blue Earth and Le Sueur watersheds contribute as much as half of the sediment to the Minnesota River, even though they account for only one-fifth of its drainage area. These watersheds contain the majority of the bluffs in the basin as well as many large ravines.

Within Blue Earth County there are hundreds of eroding ravines and bluffs along its 368 miles of rivers and streams and 186 miles of unnamed and intermittent streams. Erosion from these areas is a water quality concern as well as a potential threat to dwellings, roadways and infrastructure. Blue Earth County is updating its "Hazard Mitigation Plan" to include a special risk assessment of ravine, stream bank and bluff erosion. The ability of local government to address these problems is limited due to the scale, magnitude and complexity of problems and solutions, lack of enough qualified, technical local staff, and lack of financial resources. With technical guidance, a committee, including representatives from affected townships and municipalities, will work on assessing these risks. Clean Water Funds will be used for preliminary site investigations to support prioritization and categorization of problem areas and final design of at least five ravine and bluff stabilization projects to reduce erosion and provide ecological benefits.



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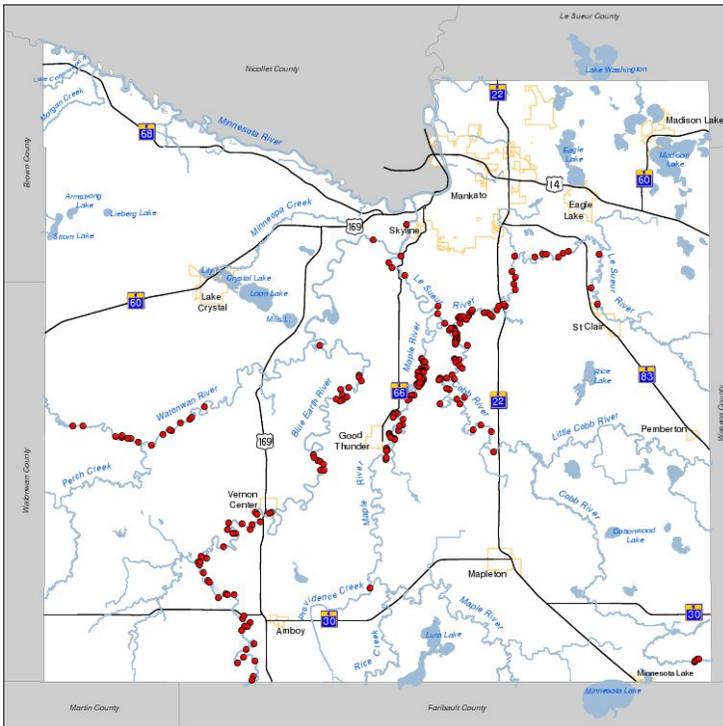


Ravine in need of stabilization



Severe erosion in Blue Earth County

## Potential Stream Channel Stabilization Design Projects



Potential sites designated by red dots