



Sand Creek & Prior Lake Spring Lake Wetland Restoration Project



Clean Water Funds: 2011

Clean Water Grant	\$80,000
Leveraged Funds*	\$23,285
Total Project Budget	\$103,285

* Leveraged Funds include required 25% local match

Targeted Water:

Sand Creek Watershed & Prior Lake, Spring Lake

Project Sponsor:

Scott Watershed Management Organization

Partners:

Scott Watershed Management Organization, Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District, Scott SWCD, NRCS

Grant Period:

January 2011 - December 2012

Project Contact:

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Project Narrative

This goal of this project is improving water quality and expanding critical wildlife habitat by permanently restoring and enhancing wetlands in the Sand Creek and Prior/Spring Lake Watersheds. By making sign-up payments available through this grant, this project will restore or enhance 400 to 500 acres of wetlands moderating flows and improving water quality. The NRCS has committed \$2.5 million through the Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program (WREP), the Scott WMO \$314,000, the PLSLWD \$145,000, Rice SWCD \$40,000, Le Sueur SWCD \$40,000, and the Scott SWCD \$75,000. Additional leveraged dollars are expected from landowners and a USEPA 319 grant.

Clean Water Funds together with match from the Scott SWCD and USEPA 319 grant funds will be used to offer a bonus for early enrollment. The goal is to get 60% of the sign-ups in the first two years of the project. The early bonus is \$600 to \$800 per cropped acre. This makes the program competitive, and similar to the RIM/WREP program where land owners are paid for a perpetual easement and then also receive additional funds to compensate for continuing tax liability and the loss of production. The bonus will be offered the first two years to correspond with the CWF funding cycle.

