

# Chippewa

Soil and Water Conservation District

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www.chippewaswcd.org

SWCD Board Meeting: 1st Monday of Month,  
3:00 pm



## Recent Projects



## Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

6. Improve Water Quality
7. Reduce soil erosion from wind/water
8. Reduce sedimentation entering the county's rivers, lakes, and streams
9. Protect and restore wetlands
10. Reduce agricultural runoff from cropland and feedlots

## 2008 Revenue

County	\$85,000
State	\$73,000
Federal	\$4,000
Charges for Services	\$94,898
Interest	\$5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$261,898</b>

In 2009 a rain garden was installed adjacent to the Chippewa County Courthouse parking lot in Montevideo. The project was completed through a partnership with the Chippewa SWCD, Chippewa County Extension, the Local Resource Management Office and the Chippewa County Master Gardeners. The rain garden was planted with native wildflowers and other plants that would soak up rain water or melted snow from the parking lot.

## Local Water Management Plan

The Local Water Management Plan for Chippewa County is in its third generation, and the Chippewa SWCD has been involved with the planning and implementation process since it began in 1991. SWCD staff and supervisors have always been active on the county's Local Water Plan Committee. The committee has continued to develop, approve, and implement new programs that are locally driven. The local water plan has given financial assistance to best management practices, administered through the SWCD to local landowners.

## Future Projects

### **Rock outcrop easements**

Chippewa is one of several counties that has received state funds to protect granite rock outcrops. The source of funding is the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR). Minnesota River Valley that host a number of rare plant and animal species and even small wetland complexes found nowhere else in the state.



Two of these easements are in Chippewa County. Other counties that are participating in this effort are Renville, Redwood, Lac Qui Parle, and Yellow Medicine. Permanent easements will protect these geological rarities and enhance the native vegetation on and around the outcrops.

### **Maintenance of the Shakopee Creek structure**

Chippewa County in the late 1950s and early 60s had a pilot watershed project. Shakopee Creek, a subwatershed of the Chippewa River Watershed Project, had a retention dam to store high flows of runoff. The structure is in need of repair along with the downstream discharge area. The ditch below the structure has major erosion and needs to be stabilized. The flood control of this structure still remains a vital part of this project and needs to be maintained. Planning and obtaining necessary funds are underway.

## **Board Members**

Larry Kittelson	Chair	(320) 734-4645	8020 150th Ave NW, Milan, MN 56262
Robert Dirksen	PR&I	(320) 847-2384	7080 160th Ave SE, Clara City, MN 56222
Steve Nokelby	Treasurer	(320) 269-6669	3035 Hwy 40 NW, Montevideo, MN 56265
Dawn Schuler	V-Chair	(320) 269-7861	10070 Palmer Creek Road, Granite Falls, MN 56241
Steve Sunderland	Secretary	(320) 269-9618	2030 20th Avenue SE, Montevideo, MN 56265