

Dakota

Soil and Water Conservation District

4100 220th St W 102
 Farmington, MN 55024
 PHONE: (651) 480-7784
 FAX: (651) 480-7775

www.dakotaswcd.org

SWCD Board Meeting:
 1st Thursday of Month at 5:30 p.m.



Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

1. Improving and protecting surface waters
2. Reducing agricultural runoff from cropland and feedlots
3. Reducing stormwater runoff volumes in urban areas
4. Protecting and enhancing natural areas, buffers, and greenway corridors
5. Promoting the use of effective standards and criteria in watershed management

2008 Revenue by Category	
Monitoring / Research	\$162,390
Education / Outreach	\$94,556
Wetland Conservation Act	\$60,158
Cost Share / project construction, implementation and maintenance	\$65,200
Planning / other local water management duties	\$115,473
Conservation easement funding / assistance	\$45,125
Programs and Operations	\$551,862
Total	\$1,094,764

Recent Projects

A shoreland stabilization project was completed in a residential neighborhood within the City of Inver Grove Heights. The waterbody is referred to as Bohrer Pond, a DNR protected lake and the project covered 1,300 linear feet of shoreline. Reconstruction work was completed on the eroded and unstable portions of the shoreline and bank. Native grasses and forbs were seeded throughout the project area and were supplemented with live seedlings and shrubs.

Before:



After:



Twelve agricultural best management practices were installed within Trout Brook located within the Cannon River Watershed. These conservation practices included water and sediment control structures, grassed waterways, filter strips, grade stabilization structures, and grassed terraces.

New Filter Strip Installed:



These practices will help to reduce sediment, bacteria, nutrients and other pollutants from entering Trout Brook and the Cannon River.

Recent Projects (continued)

Blue Thumb Planting for Clean Water Workshops are coordinated by the

Dakota County SWCD in communities throughout the county. This program is a collaborative effort, created by the Rice Creek Watershed



District, which allows partnering organizations to join forces and train homeowners how to “plant for clean water” and reduce the negative effects that can occur from storm water runoff. From 2007 to 2009, the SWCD conducted 15 introductory workshops, 32 project design workshops, and provided on-site technical assistance to landowners



during project installations. A total of 792 residents attended Blue Thumb introductory classes during the 2007 to 2009 events and 70 projects

were installed. Projects consisted of native gardens, raingardens, and native shorelines.

A new GIS mapping tool was developed that provides better education and outreach opportunities by connecting to the web. This new GIS project links the location of where conservation projects are installed to a Fact Sheet used to highlight the activity completed. An electronic database also allows staff to efficiently and accurately track project details over time, generate statistics, and then place that information on GIS mapping sources. The map layer and Fact Sheet are then linked through the web and available for public access. You can experiment with this new mapping tool by going to www.dakotaswcd.org and from our home

Future Projects

Thermal Reduction Conservation and Comparison Study will be completed

through a partnership with the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO). The Dakota County SWCD is assisting the VRWJPO in the implementation of a Clean Water Act 319 Demonstration, Education, and Research Grant. The goal of the study is to model, install and measure stream cooling conservation practices on the Vermillion River, a designated trout stream. Beginning in 2010 and continuing through 2012 the Dakota County SWCD will work within the upper Vermillion River watershed to identify and install demonstration sites and identify cost-effective methods to maintain cool stream temperatures within stream reaches known to reproduce or inhabit trout.

Cannon River Bacteria Reduction Project is also a Clean Water Act Section 319

grant project that will seek to establish vegetated filter strips and other conservation practices on private lands. This project is being completed with assistance from the North Cannon River Watershed Management Organization and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. The conservation measures will address bacteria impairment within the Lower Mississippi River and the project will run from 2010 to 2013.

Vermillion River Watershed

Inventory and Assessment the Dakota County SWCD is creating an inventory and assessing erosion control, filter strip, and wetland restoration opportunities on private lands within the Vermillion River Watershed. This effort is being done in cooperation with the VRWJPO. The SWCD provides outreach to landowners and serves as their point of contact to identifying acceptable conservation practices and cost share opportunities.

Board Members

Kevin Chamberlain	PR&I	(651) 437-9135	9620 132nd St E, Hastings, MN 55033
Scott Norstad	Secretary	(952) 431-3081	6815 135th Street West, Apple Valley, MN 55124
Scott Holm	Chair	(651) 688-2407	3745 Drexel Court, Eagan, MN 55123
Joseph Meyers	Treasurer	(651) 437-1746	11502 240th St, Hampton, MN 55031
Chris Nielsen	Vice-Chair	(651) 463-7116	25756 Galaxie Ave W, Farmington, MN 55024