

East Polk

Soil and Water Conservation District

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www.nwmnswcd.org

SWCD Board Meeting: Second Thursday of Month at 8:00 a.m.



Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

1. Reduce wind and water erosion.
2. Focus on surface water quality specifically as it pertains to the human impact on the lake region.
3. Focus on the quantity of water passing through the County.
4. Assist feedlot owners to comply with the feedlot requirements.
5. Assist landowners with wetland issues.

2008 Revenue

Comprehensive Water Plan	\$ 12,941
Wetland Conservation Act	\$24,655
Feedlots	\$6302
Cost share/owner assistance	\$62841
Program/Operational	\$75142
Total	\$181,881

Recent Projects

Minnesota Recovers

The SWCD applied for and received funding for projects through the Minnesota Recovers Task Force State Disaster Assistance Program. Funds requested were through the Sedimentation/Soil Erosion/Water Quality section. District projects included: repairing field washouts on private land and a local golf course had overland flooding from the Sand Hill River causing parts of the golf course to erode away, also causing huge sediment deposits on the freeways. Funding was received in the amount of \$160,000.



East Polk County Cooperative Weed Management

The East Polk SWCD received funds to assist the local townships to control invasive species along the township road right –a-way's. Species of concern were leafy spurge, spotted knapweed, and canada thistle. The goal of the program is to: a) Develop a map of invasive/noxious weeds within the townships. This map would be used to identify critical areas for future reference. b) Contract with a license chemical applicator to spray the sites identified by the township. The sites controlled

Recent projects (continued)

would be GPS and put into the County data base. Treated area's would need to be controlled in a timely manner with the correct chemical used and proper application rate.

Educational activities include the District Rydell Conservation Day's for 7th grade, Envirothon, Northwest MN Water Festival, booth at the Polk County Fair, and Lake Leader Newsletter.

Effects of Rolling Bean Ground

The District along with the MN Dept of AG and the UM Extension conducted a research project to see the effects of rock rolling beans from runoff after heavy rainfall. While rollers leave the surface smooth and exposed, does this practice foster soil erosion and nutrient runoff? A rain simulator was set up that would equal a 2" rain. Runoff was collected and measured. A portion of the sample will be analyzed for sediment loading and phosphorus runoff.

Practices will compare: planting followed by rolling, roll then plant, rolling after emergence of beans at three different stages of growth and not rolling beans at all.

Future Projects

Many of the projects that have been done in the past are still on-going.

Sand Hill Watershed Partnership – The Sand Hill Watershed District cost-shares with landowners to install BPM's with the District on projects within the Sand Hill Watershed District. The SWCD has a list of landowners waiting for assistance.

Continue to work with the Townships on the Cooperative Weed Management Grant.

Complete the remaining projects that were funded through the Minnesota Recovers program.

The East Polk SWCD applied for funding through the Clean Waters Assistance Grant. This request is to assist 8 landowners install 25 sediment basins within the Sand Hill Watershed area.

Continue doing MPCA citizen stream monitoring on 5 rivers and recording DNR lake levels on 13 lakes monthly.

Board Members

Al Bauer	Chair	(218) 687-5356	22118 - 370th St SE, Erskine, MN 56535
Scott Balstad	Member	(218) 435-6311	33393 420th St SE, Fosston, MN 56542
Bruce Grundyson	Secretary	(218) 563-4353	27258 - 330th St SE, Mcintosh, MN 56556
Kenneth Pederson	Treasurer	(218) 574-2476	11574 - 380th St SE, Fertile, MN 56540
Lawrence Vettleson	Treasurer	(218) 268-4079	39391 - 270th St SE, Gully, MN 56646