

# Lake

## Soil and Water Conservation District

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www.co.lake.mn.us  
(see "County Departments" and "Soil and Water")

*SWCD Board Meeting: Second Thursday of Month at 7:00 pm*



### Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

1. Improving stormwater management
2. Improving erosion and sediment control on construction sites
3. Protecting surface water quality
4. Assist Lake County with enforcement of existing landuse laws and use of BMPs in development activities and forest management activities
5. Natural resources education on land and water issues

### 2008 Revenue

Total \$194,621

## Recent Projects

An award-winning education program implemented by the Lake SWCD includes:

- Natural Resources Field Day for 6th graders,
- Making Paper Activity for 6th graders,
- Participation in the Lake County Fair,
- Administered Envirothon natural resources competition for high school students for 15 years,
- Lake County Demonstration forest for eight years, and Erosion Control Workshops for contractors for three years.

### ***Streambank Restoration Project on Beaver River***



### ***Rock waterway inlet to storm water detention basin***



## Demonstration Forest



### New half-mile multi-purpose trail completed at Demonstration Forest

The Lake County Demonstration Forest was established in 2001 by the Lake County Board. The board designated 400 acres of tax-forfeited property for the demonstration forest to increase awareness and understanding of sound forest management practices. The forest is located eight miles northwest of Two Harbors and is situated in the headwaters of the Knife and Stewart rivers. The forest contains a broad mix of forest types, a variety of wetlands, and has a colorful history including railroading, gravel mining, logging, a railroad camp, and an old homestead. Thanks to the efforts of a 12-member committee and grant support from Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program, the forest now has over 5 miles of hiking trails, two interpretive brochures, two rest rooms, an informational KIOSK, trail signage, a restored gravel pit for parking, and a Forest Management Plan. Partners include: Lake SWCD, Lake County Forestry, Lake County Highway, Minnesota Conservation Corps, Louisiana Pacific Corp., Hedstrom Lumber, Minnesota DNR, Superior Hiking Trail, and University of Minnesota Extension.

## Kawishiwi Watershed Protection Project

Lake County SWCD is partnering with the White Iron Chain of Lakes Association (WICOLA) to assist them in implementing the Kawishiwi Watershed Clean Water Protection Project. WICOLA was awarded \$225,000 in Clean Water Legacy Funds and Lake SWCD will administer the project by serving as the Project Sponsor. The project will gather historical and current water quality data to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan. Specific project activities will include expanding the current water quality monitoring program, coordinating existing water monitoring activities, assessing the presence and status of aquatic invasive species, studying the effects of SSTS on surface water, conducting public outreach and education, and developing an implementation plan.

## Land-Use Ordinance

'Property Owner's Resource Guide ... A Place in Lake County' is an award-winning booklet that was developed to help property owners understand the Lake County Land-Use Ordinance. It contains helpful information on purchasing property, building a home, installing and maintaining sewage treatment systems, managing stormwater runoff, building a driveway, protecting your home from wildfire, and protecting water quality. Through the use of checklists, helpful hints, and commonly asked questions, readers can get answers to real-life questions to help them make good land-use decisions. Residents and out-of-area property owners are using the guide because it contains practical information and is arranged in a format that is easy to read.

## Future Projects

Lake County Demonstration Forest -- The SWCD's vision is to assist in developing a comprehensive natural resources education program for elementary and secondary students from the Lake Superior School District. In addition to the current facilities at the site, a pavilion for classroom and recreational activities is being planned to promote year-round use.

## Board Members

Phillip Goutermont	Chair	(218) 226-3015	4651 Hwy 3, Silver Bay, MN 55614
David Falk	Secretary	(218) 834-7021	842 Larsmont Rd, Two Harbors, MN 55616
Thomas Gelineau	Vice Chair	(218) 834-4432	110 South Ave, Two Harbors, MN 55616
Thomas Martinson	Member	(218) 353-7719	6129 Hwy 1, Silver Bay, MN 55614
Don Warner	Treasurer	(218) 226-4858	4760 Hwy 3, Silver Bay, MN 55614