

Pope

Soil and Water Conservation District

1680 Franklin St N
Glenwood, MN 56334
PHONE: (320) 634-5327
FAX: (320) 634-4278

www.popeswcd.org

SWCD Board Meeting: 3rd Tuesday of the
Month @ 7:00 am



Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

1. To improve water quality in our lakes, streams and water bodies
2. Help reduce water, soil, and wind erosion to improve water quality
3. Reduce non-point source pollution from agricultural runoff
4. Reduce point source point source pollution
5. Continue to promote and control invasive species through education, treatment, and monitoring.

2008 Revenue

Total \$404,198

2008 Expenditures by Category

Monitoring/research	\$3,454
Education/Outreach	\$5,256
Wetland Conservation Act	\$35,502
Cost Share/Project Construction and Management	\$57,678
Conservation Easement Funding and Assistance	\$31,125
Planning / Other Local Water Management Duties	\$27,539
Programs and Operations	\$143,391
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$303,946</u>

Recent Projects

Rain Garden Installation and Workshop



Pope Soil and Water Conservation District, Farm Service Agency and Land & Resource Management partnered to design a rain garden at the Pope County Fair grounds. With funding from the Chippewa River Watershed and plants from Glacial ridge Growers, a rain garden was installed between the sidewalk and industrial building at the fair grounds. Volunteers from the fair board, Master Gardeners, and 4-H youth prepared the site, completed planting, and installed ground cover. The site is very visible and accessible to the general public.



Working Land Initiative Project

Pope Soil & Water Conservation District worked with several producers and agencies on a cooperative demonstration project to compare similarities and differences in grassland management techniques funded by the Working Land Initiative Project. Through cooperation, the demonstration project compared the similarities and differences in grassland management techniques including prescribed burning, haying, grazing, and idling of various different sites in the county.



Demonstration site included 3-5 acres so that management tools could be compared. Treatment options during 2008 were controlled burn, graze, bale or lay idle. The sites were monitored for vegetation, soil analysis, and the nutritional value of grasses. The sites were tested again in 2009 for vegetation, and soil analysis. Tours were conducted August 19 and 20, 2009 to release the results of the Working Lands Initiative Project.

Total Maximum Daily Load Study

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency initiated a project entitled the "Pope County 8 Lake TMDL Study". Over fifty (50) people attended the public meeting In May 2009 to discuss this study. During the meeting, consultants presented a summary of the available data, review assessments of the existing water quality of each lake, and answer questions regarding TMDL testing. A test known as 'Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)' is used to identify impaired water for excessive nutrients, usually phosphorus. The study will identify sources of pollutants in a body of water, determine the reductions in nutrient loads for the lake to meet State standards for water quality and develop a strategy to restore the lakes.

The lakes identified in this project are: Ann, Emily, Gilcrest, Leven, Malmedahl, Pelican, Reno, and Strandness. Pope SWCD is acting as the administrator for this project.

Future Projects

Complete cost share projects for three (3) manure handling facilities.

Complete invasive species treatments for eight landowners.

Secure additional funding to implement best management practices.

Board Members

Keith Nygaard	Chairman	27378 180t Street, Starbuck	320-239-4279
D. Gary Reents	Vice-Chair	15821 County Road 21, Villard	320-554-3328
Ralph Peterson	Secretary	960 East Minnesota Avenue, Glenwood	320-634-3328
Randy Anderson	Treasurer	27458 County Road 13, Starbuck	320-239-2579
Mark Halls	Public Relations	30523 State Highway 102, Brooten	320-278-3285