

Scott

Soil and Water Conservation District



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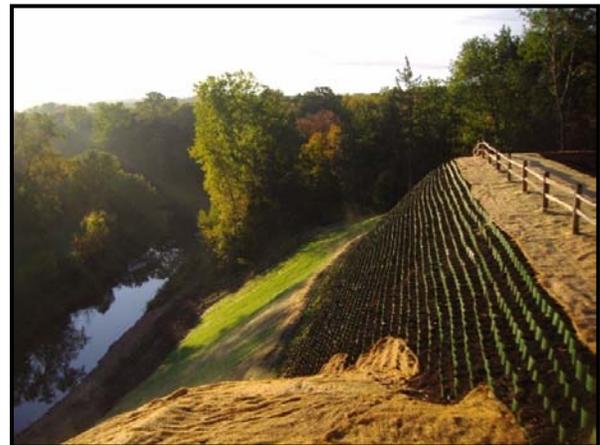
www.scottswcd.org

*SWCD Board Meeting:
2nd Wednesday of
Month at 8:00 a.m.*

Recent Projects



Landslides in 2006 and 2007 deposited an estimated 560 tons of sediment directly into Sand Creek. The primary cause for the slope failure was underground seeps. Construction took place in 2008 and included the use of cellular confinement systems to hold soil in place and allow vegetation to establish.



Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

1. Surface Water Quality Management – Improve and protect the water quality of area lakes and streams
2. Agricultural Land Management – Reduce soil erosion on agricultural land
3. Urban Land Management – Encourage sustainable planning for urban development and the use of erosion and sediment control practices during construction
4. Wetland Management – Preserve, protect and restore wetland areas to prevent flooding, improve water quality, reduce erosion, enhance wildlife habitat and promote groundwater recharge
5. Education – inform, educate, and involve stakeholders in the protection and restoration of the county's natural resources

2008 Revenue (from Work Plan)

State Grant	\$24,321
RIM	\$2,000
Interest	\$33,000
Tree Program	\$15,000
Scott County WMO	\$323,607
Scott County Funds	\$110,000
Construction Inspection Program	\$90,000
NRBG – Feedlot Program	\$20,000
NRBG – Wetland Conservation	\$47,337
NRBG – Shoreland Program	\$1,490
NRBG – ISTS Program	\$1,500
Vermillion River Wtshd JPO	\$25,000
Prior Lake Spring Lake WD	\$15,000
Lower MN River WD	\$18,000
Met Council	\$8,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$39,312
Total	\$773,567

Streambank stabilization

A streambank stabilization project was constructed on a DNR public watercourse in Belle Plaine Township that outlets directly into the Minnesota River. The site was unstable and hazardous to farming equipment; the banks were a vertical drop ranging up to 20 feet. This was causing a soil loss of about 255 tons per year and 400 pounds of phosphorus per year. The stream channel was stabilized through a series of six weir dams and rock chutes. The banks were reshaped, mulched, seeded to grasses to stabilize the side slopes.

The contractor who completed the project was Jeff Klehr Construction, and the total project cost was \$79,400. Cost-Share Funds were provided by a Metropolitan Environmental Partnership Grant and the Environmental Quality Incentive Program.



Before (top) and After pictures of the streambank stabilization project

Biomass Conservation Technician

Scott SWCD has hired a Biomass Conservation Technician this past year, who is currently shared with Carver, Dakota, and Rice SWCDs. This technician deals with bioenergy opportunities in the area, as well as markets programs that assist with the establishment of bioenergy crops, specifically native grasses.

Having a bioenergy facility nearby has the potential to increase the profitability of lands in conservation. Since native grass areas need to be managed by means such as periodic clipping, the resulting biomass which is removed can be sold for a profit. With having additional income on conservation lands, it is hoped that native grass plantings will become more competitive with agricultural crops, and the presence of prairies will be more prevalent across the landscape. The treatment and removal of woody species, which encroach on historic prairies, may also be conducted at a lower cost due to the opportunity to sell the biomass.

Future Projects

Picha Creek Stabilization – A feasibility study has been completed and designs are underway to stabilize the banks and prevent sediment pollution from 2,650 feet of Picha Creek, a tributary of Sand Creek. The channel is currently in an active state of widening and will continue to dump sediment into the stream until a stable cross section is achieved. The newly constructed channel will include buried grade controls (rock weirs or step pools) and exposed cobble and gravel riffle features. Both will contribute to long term bed stabilization by preventing bed sediment loss and headcutting.

Board Members

Ewald Gruetzmacher	Chair	(952) 873-2918	12775 Belle Plaine Trail, Belle Plaine, MN 56011
Paul Krueger	Vice Chair	(952) 447-9412	17746 Fairlawn Ave, Prior Lake, MN 55372
James Schwingler	Secretary/Treasurer	(612) 718-4651	PO Box 237, Jordan, MN 55352
James Fitzsimmons	Supervisor	(612) 867-0706	14704 Glendale Ave SE, Prior Lake, MN 55372
Linda Brown	Supervisor	(952) 461-3634	11537 270th St E, Elko, MN 55020