

# Stevens

## Soil and Water Conservation District

---

12 Hwy 28 E Ste 2  
Morris, MN 56267-9505  
PHONE: (320) 589-4886 ext. 3  
FAX: (320) 589-8836

[www.stevensswcd.org](http://www.stevensswcd.org)

*SWCD board meetings: 3rd Tuesday of month  
at 9:30 am*



### Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

1. Improve and protect water quality
2. Reduce wind and water erosion
3. Increase education and awareness of natural resources conservation
4. Promote wildlife habitat enhancement
5. Promote energy conservation

### 2008 Revenue

The Stevens SWCD had total revenue of \$385,374 for 2008. Revenue generated through state and local grant funding and district sales is spent on things such as watershed project coordination, monitoring and research; education and outreach; Wetland Conservation Act administration; cost share to landowners for construction, implementation and maintenance of conservation practices; conservation easement funding; and general administration. Our most current audited financial statements are available from our web site.

## Recent Project Highlights

- Assisted with the enrollment of 43 contracts totaling almost 800 acres of new CRP, additional CRP re-enrollments, and over 230 new WRP/RIM acres
- Planted 19 shelterbelts and one living snow fence for a total of about 40 acres, and installed about 53,000 feet of fabric mulch
- Planted approximately 530 acres of native grasses
- Co-coordinated the Area II Envirothon and Jr Envirothon for high school and junior high students in a 12-county area
- Co-coordinated the Pope & Stevens Conservation Day at SWELL for 5<sup>th</sup> graders
- Co-coordinated the Pope & Stevens Water Fest for 6th graders
- Distributed Soil Stewardship materials to area churches and organizations to promote responsible use of our water and soil resources
- Administered State Cost Share program in Stevens County, disbursing over \$13,000 to landowners who installed conservation projects such as farmstead windbreaks and sediment dams
- Acted as fiscal agent for the Pomme de Terre Association Joint Powers Board and assisted with the activities of the Watershed Project Coordinator housed in this office, including the completion of a turbidity TMDL implementation plan and other ongoing watershed projects
- Monitored wells, lakes and rivers for ground water quantity and quality
- Completed construction of a rain garden demonstration plot to educate community members about the importance of filtering urban runoff



## Future Projects

### *Watershed Projects*

In recent years, a Watershed Project Coordinator, housed out of the Stevens SWCD Office, has been overseeing work on TMDL studies and the protection of water quality in the Pomme de Terre Watershed. Funding has been secured to cost share practices put in along priority areas within a stretch of the watershed that is impaired with excess fecal coliform bacteria. The completion of a turbidity (water clarity) TMDL is also pending. Work will begin in 2010 on a third, multi-faceted TMDL assessment that will address many different biological and other impairments within the watershed.

### *Continued Efforts*

Work will continue on several projects. The SWCD is working with the City of Morris on several sites, including a rain garden and a riparian buffer along a retention pond.

Plant identification cards will be placed in the demonstration rain garden site at the SWCD office so that interested landowners can see what the different varieties look like and how they grow.

Educational efforts continue, including maintenance of a shoreline restoration in the Pomme de Terre City Park. The SWCD works together with other area SWCDs to offer several events per year that give area youth the opportunity to learn in an outdoor environmental setting.

## 2010 Board Members

Don Huntley	Secretary	(320) 765-2491	40402 230th St, Cyrus, MN 56323
Jim Krosch	Vice Chair	(320) 324-2520	56407 320th St, Alberta, MN 56207
George Libbon	Reporter	(320) 677-2777	62574 130th St, Chokio, MN 56221
Dave Lonergan	Treasurer	(320) 589-4559	14802 470th Ave, Donnelly, MN 56235
Mary Ann Scharf	Chair	(320) 589-4688	17733 US Hwy 59, Morris, MN 56267