

# Watonwan

## Soil and Water Conservation District

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[www.watonwanswcd.org](http://www.watonwanswcd.org) or  
[www.co.watonwan.mn.us](http://www.co.watonwan.mn.us)

*SWCD Board Meeting: 3rd Monday of Month  
at 9:00 am; if holiday 3rd Tuesday*



### Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

1. Wind and water erosion on crop land – reduce erosion by using more conservation tillage
2. Surface water protection – increase water quality by implementing BMP's and buffers along streams and ditches
3. Implement more water storage projects
4. Tree planting – living snow fence and field windbreaks
5. Youth and adult education

### 2008 Revenue

Intergovernmental Revenues	\$139,495
Charges for Services	\$24,600
Other Income	\$8,636
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$172,731</b>

Included under other income is 2 pieces of equipment sold that no longer was used. \$1,625 of these funds needs to be used for a specific project.

## Recent Projects



### A series of 4 Sediment Basins

were installed along the Perch Creek in Antrim Township to help reduce sediment and phosphorus from entering the Perch Creek. The 4 sediment basins are a total of 1,850 feet in length and range from 400-500 feet long. These are farmable basins that have made this farmland more valuable and the landowner is very happy with how the project turned out.

### The Minnesota Board of Water

and Soil Resources (BWSR) and the Watonwan SWCD recently completed a wetland restoration in Madelia Township under the BWSR Road Replacement Wetland Restoration Program. The project is a 51-acre site with 20 acres of wetland and 31 acres of upland. There were many tile blocks and hundreds of feet of tile reroutes. There are three tile outlets that drain into the wetland basin. The outlet for the wetland basin consists of an earthen dike with an inline water control structure.

### The SWCD worked with NRCS

on a WHIP tree planting in Odin Township that included 1,400 evergreen and hardwood trees and shrubs. All trees and shrubs were matted with weed control fabric. This planting will make a great wildlife habitat area as well as protect a township road.

## A Streambank Stabilization

project was recently installed on the Butterfield Creek in Nelson Township. The project will protect 135 feet of streambank from continuing to erode and also protect three tile outlets that enter the creek. The project will also prevent any future problems of erosion to the township road.



**NRCS Staff presenting information on soils at Environmental Awareness Day**

The staff continues to bring educational opportunities to the adults and youth of the community. The habitat workshop had an attendance of approximately 100 landowners where information on NRCS and FSA programs, pollinators, and managing predation of upland birds was presented. A program on rain gardens was presented by Metro Blooms.

Plans are in the process for our Green Saturday program which will be held in April, 2010. We again held an Environmental Awareness Program for 6<sup>th</sup> graders and an Arbor Day program for 1<sup>st</sup> graders.



**A Watonwan County Windbreak**

## Future Projects

**Sediment and Erosion Control:** Sediment and erosion control continue to be a high priority with the SWCD. There are several waterways, sediment basins and streambank stabilization projects in the works. Also working on the Riparian Buffer program.

Work is in progress on a large cattle feedlot improvement project that will be completed in 2010 that includes a new feeding floor with concrete side walls to divert runoff to a concrete reception pit. This project also led to the sealing of an unused well and a septic upgrade.

Continue with the rain gauge monitoring, obwell monitoring, well sealing and tree programs

## Board Members

Noren Durheim	Chair	(507) 642-8455	31041 790th Ave, Madelia, MN 56062
Mark Anderson	PR&I	(507) 642-8645	302 Drew Ave SE, Madelia, MN 56062
Ronald Bay	Secretary	(507) 435-4611	79605 405th St, Truman, MN 56088
Dean Karau	Vice Chair	(507) 375-7670	36524 720th Ave, Saint James, MN 56081
Jason Penner	Treasurer	(507) 956-2148	35069 630th Ave, Butterfield, MN 56120