



Please note: The Chippewa SWCD phone number has changed. The SWCD can be reached at 320-269-2696.

USDA NRCS can be reached by dialing 320-269-2139 ext. 3.

The purpose of the Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District is to use available resources to meet the local natural resource needs.

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Chippewa SWCD Presents Ron and Pam Schultz as
2022 Conservationists of the Year



Nominated by the Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors, Ron and Pam Schultz of Montevideo were named 2022 Conservationists of the Year. The Schultz's are involved in a diverse array of conservation practices. They own 600 tillable and non-tillable acres and have been farming for 46 years. Ron is a 5th generation farmer of this land. They

operate a corn, soybean, and wheat rotation as well as raise beef cattle. The pasture and wild hay field have never been tilled. Across their land they have implemented and maintained field windbreak tree plantings, CRP acres, pasture, remnant prairie, wildlife food plots, buffer strips along waterways, and waterfowl nesting boxes. Recently, the Schultz's installed a 3.1 acre sediment pond on their farm. Ron and Pam were recognized for their works on December 14, 2022 at the Minnesota Association

of Soil and Water Conservation District's Annual Meeting and Trade Show in Bloomington, MN. The district has enjoyed working with the Schultz's as they have made conservation improvements on their land. As a thank you for their hard work and dedication to conservation, District Board Chair Steve Jacobson presented Ron with "The Conservationist" print by Terry Redlin at the December 19, 2022 board meeting (pictured above).

Find us on Facebook!

629 N. 11th Street, Montevideo, MN 56265 · 320-269-2696 · www.chippewaswcd.org

Chippewa Soil & Water Conservation District Projects

In 2022, Chippewa SWCD, together with their partners, cost shared on two construction projects and numerous vegetative practices. Total cost share paid out by Chippewa SWCD was \$71,044.56. We are currently working with engineering staff and landowners on several erosion control projects for the 2023 construction season.

The Chippewa SWCD works with the West Central Technical Service Area engineers to survey and design projects. They also work with the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Chippewa County Land & Resource Management and Hawk Creek Watershed Project to allow more funding opportunities for landowners.

The Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District has cost share dollars available to landowners for installing or fixing conservation practices on private land in Chippewa County. Cost share dollars could offset 75% of the cost of qualifying conservation practices. Some examples of projects that would qualify include but are not limited to; water and sediment control basins, grade stabilizations, grassed waterways, terraces, critical area plantings, side inlets, field windbreaks, unused well sealing, and stream bank erosion, restoration, and protection. Call or stop by the office for more information.

Cost share will be available at a first come, first served basis, depending on SWCD board approval. When all cost share funds are encumbered for projects, any new projects may be put on a wait list for funding. Landowners with erosion problems on their property, big or small, are encouraged to stop in our office to discuss any erosion issues. We can review available cost share programs, explore options, determine how to make a conservation practice work with your farming operation, and set up an appointment to do a site visit and do some preliminary surveying. Give us a call at 320-269-2696 or stop by the office located in the Chippewa County Courthouse.



Water & Sediment Control Basin



Water and Sediment Basin/Terrace
Repair



Water & Sediment Control Basin
Water Control Structure



Water and Sediment Control Structure Outlet



Multi Row Field Windbreak

Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program is a voluntary opportunity for farmers and agricultural landowners to take the lead in implementing conservation practices that protect our water. Those who implement and maintain approved farm management practices will be certified and in turn obtain regulatory certainty for a period of ten years.

Through this program, certified producers receive:

- Regulatory certainty: certified producers are deemed to be in compliance with any new water quality rules or laws during the period of certification
- Recognition: certified producers may use their status to promote their business as protective of water quality
- Priority for technical assistance: producers seeking certification can obtain specially designated technical and financial assistance to implement practices that promote water quality

There are extra endorsements available to water quality certified producers for soil health, integrated pest management, and wildlife. These endorsements celebrate farms and landowners who are going above and beyond to implement conservation efforts on their land.

For more information call the SWCD at 320-269-2696.



Wetland Conservation Act

What should landowners do before starting a drainage, excavation, or maintenance project that may impact a wetland?

1. If enrolled in the USDA Farm Program, complete an "AD1026" form with your local USDA office.
2. Stop by the SWCD office to discuss your project. If you filled out an AD1026 form, bring a copy with to aid discussion.

The SWCD can advise you if your project is allowed under the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA), or if you need to submit an application to the local government, DNR, or the US Army Corps of Engineers. *Involving your local SWCD early on is the easiest and best way to avoid problems!*

****Request a site review or field visit by the SWCD.*** This can help identify wetlands on your property along with any regulation that could affect your project. Communication is key! Compliance with USDA does not mean compliance with other wetland laws such as the state WCA law, DNR, or the US Army Corps of Engineers. A quick call or stop at the Chippewa SWCD office prior to beginning your project will help you comply with the law and save a project from potential additional cost and delays.

The Wetland Conservation Act promotes a no-net-loss of wetlands and protects the benefits that wetlands provide. The Act moves toward its no-net-loss goal by requiring a person proposing to drain or fill a wetland to:

- 1) *Try to avoid disturbing the wetland.*
- 2) *Try to minimize any impact on the wetland.*
- 3) *Replace any lost wetland functions and values.*


Contact Tom Warner or Zach Bothun with any questions regarding WCA at 320-269-2696

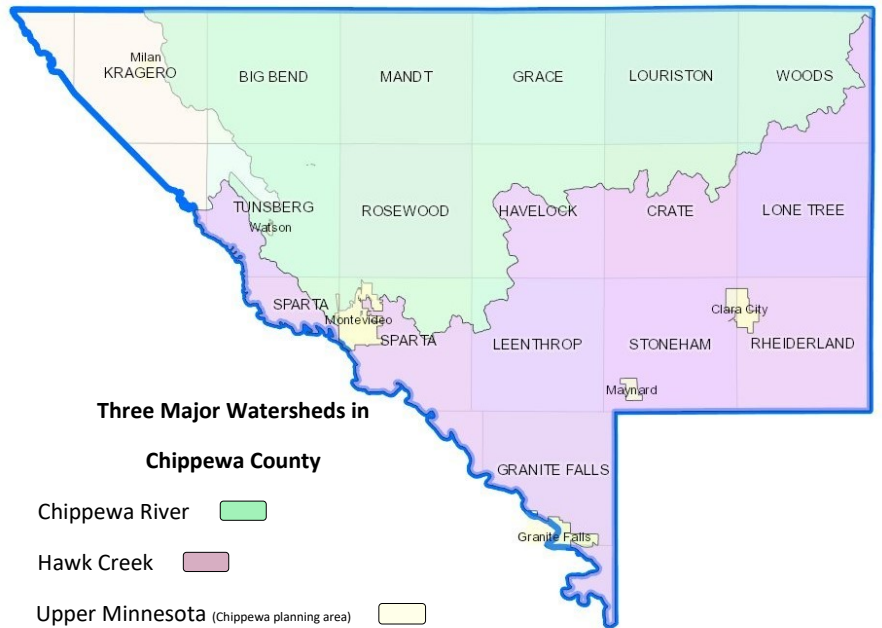


One Watershed One Plan and Watershed Based Implementation Funding Update

Chippewa County continues to be involved in the statewide effort to move conservation planning and implementation dollars to a watershed-based approach rather than a county boundary approach. Water doesn't care about jurisdictional boundaries, therefore planning, seeking out, and funding projects that solve water quality issues in the right locations will be the goal moving forward. Doing so will help us meet important water quality goals while getting the biggest bang for our buck in the name of clean water.

Chippewa County is comprised of 3 major watersheds: the Chippewa River, Hawk Creek, and Upper Minnesota River watersheds. The planning area for the Chippewa River Watershed was amended to include the Upper Minnesota River Watershed portion that falls within Chippewa County due to it being a small area of the county with no direct impact to the Upper MN River Watershed. With that modification, we only have 2 planning regions for our county to participate in One Watershed One Plan (1W1P).

 Our first 1W1P effort was with the Hawk Creek-Middle Minnesota Watershed. The planning process was completed by the Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Renville County and SWCD boards and staff members and approved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) in January 2021. When creating the new joint powers board, the 1W1P planning partnership was named *Central Minnesota River Watershed Partnership* (CMRWP). The partners received the first round of funding for the 10-year plan shortly after. Over the next decade the partners will work to spend almost 5 million dollars of Watershed Based Implementation Funds (WBIF) on projects and practices that meet the goals and implementation activities that were spelled out in the Plan. These funds can also leverage other non-state funds such as federal and private funds, all of which will go towards funding conservation projects.



The second 1W1P effort is with the Chippewa River Watershed. The multi-year planning process has begun with planning partners from Chippewa, Swift, Kandiyohi, Pope, Stevens, Grant, Douglas, and Otter Tail counties and SWCDs. This group of entities is working under a joint powers agreement and is called the Chippewa River Watershed Association (CRWA). We are on the front side of the planning phase where establishing measurable goals and implementation activities is our focus. We will use modeling, past watershed studies and plans, and local knowledge from conservation professionals as we work our way to a final plan. All the steps of the planning process are vetted by elected officials from the watershed as well as from multiple opportunities for citizens and landowners to provide feedback through formal review and a public hearing. The Plan is set to be completed by March of 2024. Upon an approved plan by BWSR, the Chippewa River planning area will have around one million dollars biennially to spend on projects that address water quality goals set forth in the Plan.

For more information about One Watershed One Plan, Watershed Based Implementation Funding, and what may be available to you in your watershed, please contact Zach Bothun with the Chippewa SWCD at 320-269-2695 or JoAnn Blomme at Chippewa County at 320-269-6231.



Walk-In Access 2023

Walk-In Access (WIA) provides public hunting on private land in Minnesota and pays landowners to allow that access. Through WIA, nearly 27,000 acres of private land is open for public hunting from Sept. 1 to May 31. An atlas of hunting parcels is available online at www.mndnr.gov/walkin, at retailers within the WIA area, or by calling the MN DNR at 888-646-6367.



- ◆ Purchasing a \$3.00 WIA validation with another hunting license, allows hunting on WIA parcels from Sept. 1 to May 31, one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. WIA validations are available at any DNR license vendor.
- ◆ Landowner participation is crucial to this program, so be respectful and ethical while hunting WIA parcels. No target practice, trapping, dog training, or walking, camping, horseback riding, hiking, fires, or similar activities are allowed by the public.
- ◆ All hunting regulations apply on WIAs and will be enforced by DNR conservation officers.
- ◆ WIA parcels are for walk-in traffic only. Motorized vehicles of any kind are not allowed on WIAs. Parking is along roads or in designated parking areas.
- ◆ WIA seeks landowners with parcels of 40 acres or more with high quality natural cover. This may include, but is not limited to, parcels already in a conservation program. Only small inclusions of crop or hay land may be present.
- ◆ Local Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) enroll landowners in WIA. WIA agreements are voluntary and include an opt-out clause.
- ◆ WIA allows landowners to carry out habitat management according to an approved conservation plan. Therefore, some sites may not have high quality habitat. Site updates are available at www.mndnr.gov/walkin.

The Walk-In Access program is funded by:

- ◆ A grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under number 69-3A75-16-509.
- ◆ A one-time appropriation from the State Legislature in 2012.
- ◆ A \$5.00 surcharge on nonresident hunting licenses.
- ◆ Donations of \$1, \$3 or \$5 made by hunters when purchasing deer and small game licenses.



Minnesota Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program



The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a combination of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), the country's largest private-land conservation program and the Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) program. Administered by the USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA), and the Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR), CREP targets high-priority conservation issues identified by local, state, or tribal governments or non-governmental organizations. The proposed federal, state, and local partnership permanently retires environmentally sensitive land using the nationally-recognized RIM program. This is accomplished by establishing conservation practices via payments to farmers, ranchers, and agricultural land owners.

Sign-up and "batching periods" will continue to be used throughout the duration of the MN CREP until the total 60,000-acre goal is met. Contact the Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District for the next sign-up date. When landowners enroll land into CREP they will receive Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) payments for up to 15 years followed by a perpetual Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) easement. The MN CREP targets four voluntary perpetual conservation practices:

- ◆ CP2 Wellhead Protection
- ◆ CP21 Filter Strips
- ◆ CP23 100-year Floodplain Wetlands
- ◆ CP23A Non-100-year Floodplain Wetlands

Due to the Minnesota State Buffer Law, land that is required to be established in a perennial buffer may not qualify for a new CREP application. The land that is required to be in a buffer by law, (16.5 along ditches and 30-50 feet along protected water) may have to be donated depending on the new farmbill.

The filter strips can range from 30' to 350' in width and will meet NRCS standard 393 criteria for water quality, wildlife habitat, flooding and farm ability. CP21 filter strips can be utilized to square up fields where ditches run at an angle and where tile intakes are too hard to farm around along ditch systems.

Land may also be enrolled into a RIM only contract. RIM contracts will be perpetual easements using the RIM only rates and will not include 15 years of CRP payments like in the CREP program.

If you have any questions about CREP or RIM, or to discuss potential eligibility of your land, please contact Tom Sletta by stopping in the office or calling 320-269-2693.

Chippewa SWCD Native Grass Seed & Seeding Program

Chippewa SWCD sells native grass seed and continues to provide native grass seeding services. To ensure a spot on the schedule, contact SWCD staff early to be considered for the service.

In 2022, the district seeded 21 sites for a total of 159 acres. Seeding sites consisted of CRP, buffers, pollinator plots, and other non-program related acres.

Seed drill service includes an operator, tractor, and seed drill. The price for seeding is charged by the number of acres planted plus a mobilization fee:

\$125 flat rate mobilization fee within Chippewa County (add \$1.00 per mile for out of County projects)

\$25/acre planting fee (\$100 minimum planting fee for 4 acres and less)

\$75/hour for broadcast seeding

Spring seeding of warm season grass and forbs is typically done between May 15th and June 30th. Dormant seeding is typically done after November 1st.

To discuss your seeding needs, order seed, or get on the seeding schedule, please contact Zach Bothun or Tom Sletta at:

320-269-2695 – Zach Bothun

320-269-2693 – Tom Sletta



Chippewa County Buffer Law Update

Chippewa County buffer compliance for the Minnesota State Buffer Law is at 99%. Parcels that have been deemed non-compliant have received a corrective action notice from the county. When the requirements of a corrective action notice have been met, the landowner shall notify the county that they are compliant. The county and/or SWCD will need to conduct a site inspection to confirm compliance. Once deemed compliant, landowners will receive a validation of compliance. If you receive a corrective action notice but believe that you are in compliance, please contact Chippewa County Drainage Inspector Josh Macziewski at 320-269-7447 or Chippewa SWCD staff at 320-269-2696 to go over buffer evaluation and to set up a site visit to check buffer compliance. Buffers will continue to be monitored for

compliance each year.

As buffers become established, proper site maintenance is essential to ensure successful growth and function of the buffer. Mowing can be used as an important tool in the establishment/maintenance of a buffer. Mowing should be done at least twice in the first season and once in the second season. Mowing is used to decrease competition and allow sunlight to get to the newly seeded grass. Mowing can also be used to control annual and biennial weeds.

After the third or fourth year of establishment, prescribed burning is a good tool to use to remove thatch, control weeds and woody plants, and maintain diversity in the buffer.



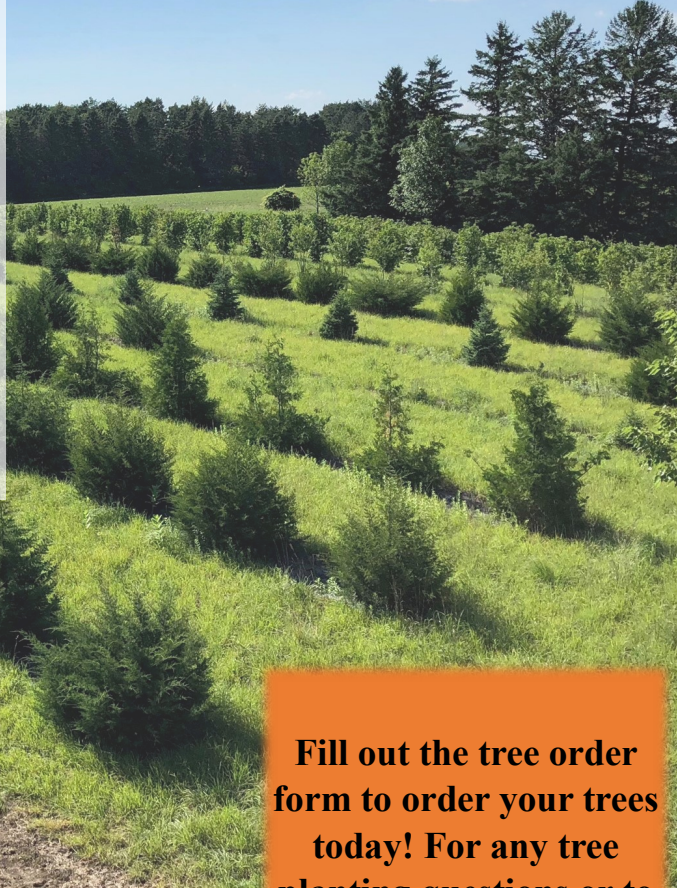
2022 Tree Planting Report

The 2022 tree planting season was similar to many previous successful seasons for the District. There were roughly 4,700 trees planted on 22.7 acres of new farmstead shelterbelt and wildlife plantings, and 12,245 feet of field windbreaks. There were 29 individual plantings in all.

There was also 31,145 feet of weed barrier fabric installed to control weeds, conserve moisture, and accelerate tree growth. The fabric is a 6 foot wide geo-textile material that allows moisture to pass through it but does not allow weed growth to occur. Light disking or planting cool season grasses and mowing periodically between the trees is still recommended to control weeds between the tree rows.

Cost share was available to landowners with the qualifying practices and was used to offset the cost of the trees and fabric.

Landowners who are thinking about planting trees this spring should stop in ASAP to develop a tree plan, discuss site prep needs, and order the trees while supplies are available.



Fill out the tree order form to order your trees today! For any tree planting questions or to place an order, contact Tom Sletta at 320-269-2693.



Tree Order Pick-Up Day

Chippewa SWCD will again be having a small tree order pick-up day for those who order trees to plant on their own. The trees are usually delivered in mid to late April. The district will send out notification to all who submitted tree orders with an exact day and time frame to pick their trees up. The location for pick-up will be at the district's storage building located on the north side of the Chippewa County Highway Department garage. Chippewa SWCD asks that if you cannot pick up your trees that you find someone who can pick them up for you. Customers will be asked to pay for their trees at the time they are picked up. If you have any questions, please contact Chippewa SWCD at 320-269-2696.

Conservation Education

In 2022, the SWCD partnered with other conservation agencies to bring Women’s Field Day, a booth at the Chippewa County fair, and a conservation tour to fruition. This year’s Women’s Field Day focused on “Ladies Lovin Local Goods”, the evening began with guest speaker Suzanne Fairchild of Fairchild Farm & Mercantile. Suzanne shared how her family’s journey in making and selling local goods such as goats milk soaps, felting kits, and wool boot liners. Following Suzanne’s presentation, guests boarded a bus and were brought to the Simple Living farmsite, owned by Travis and Jeanne Anderson. Here, the Anderson’s shared their local food operation involving all natural beef, pork, eggs, produce and herbs. Simple Living sells their products at local farmer’s markets as well as delivery to some area towns. The group then traveled to PK Farms to visit Pauline Stranlund and learn more about the Montevideo Farmer’s Market. Pauline has been running our local farmer’s market for years and grows and sells her own produce there, she also provides many baked goods at the market. Overall, it was great to see these local food operations and to learn about some of the local food and goods options we have available in our area.



In June, the SWCD joined up with Chippewa County Drainage Authority and Land & Resource, as well as USDA NRCS and FSA, to bring our Chippewa County and SWCD elected officials, our area’s state senators and legislators, as well as USDA Assistant State Conservationist and FSA CED on a tour highlighting practices and projects in Chippewa County. Our purpose of this tour was to show what we do and why it is important. The group took a bus tour to approximately 35 sites showcasing things like water

and sediment control basins, parcels in the Conservation Reserve Program or Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, calcareous fens, solar and wind sites, grassed waterways, DNR protected water courses, lined waterways, terraces, shelterbelts, ReInvest in Minnesota wetland restoration, Chippewa County park, Chippewa County ditches going through redetermination of benefits, and ditch sloughing and FEMA sites. The group also learned about a few local landmarks and other programs offered through these entities.

In July, the SWCD partnered with USDA NRCS and Chippewa County Land & Resource to showcase wind erosion. We focused on how far you are protected from wind erosion by different trees, shrubs, crops and grasses as well as what services and programs are available to help after the spring of 2022 storm damage.



2022 Rain Gauge Report

*Snow on ground, in inches	Kriste Erickson 119-41-02 April-October	Dan Benson 119-38-05 April-November	Richard Huber 117-40-06 January-December	Marvin Timmons 119-37-19 May-September
Total in Inches	15.58	18.84	19.59/53.125*	16.21

Our rain gauge monitor volunteers partner with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources State Climatology Office. We are thankful to have dedicated rain gauge monitors in our county to provide accurate precipitation records. This climate data is used to explain past events and to assist planners in defining future climate scenarios. It can also be used to address questions involving the impact of climate on Minnesota and it’s citizens.

Low-Interest Loan Programs for Well and Septic Improvements

Seal of Approval



21 wells sealed in 2022

Contractors continue sealing old or unused wells with cost-share assistance. Abandoned wells or damaged wells are a direct source for underground water pollution.

Property owners in Chippewa County can apply for cost-share assistance of up to 50 percent of the cost for sealing a well. Cost-share payments are capped at \$500 per project.

Chippewa County Land and Resource office administers low-interest loan programs to assist property owners with upgrading or replacing a failing septic system and/or for repairing or replacing a damaged or contaminated well. Loan terms are for 5 or 10 years with an interest rate of 1% for septic improvements and 3% for wells. This loan amount is added to property taxes as a special assessment with payment due twice a year along with property taxes or as your escrow is set up.

Income-Based Septic System Grants

The county also administers an income-based grant program that is available to property owners in Chippewa County that have an existing noncompliant septic system. Funds are intended to fix septic systems that are currently failing codes or functionality.

Minimum Grant Qualifications:

- Funding must be for a homesteaded single-family home with an existing, failing subsurface sewage treatment system (SSTS) in Chippewa County
- The applicant must be the owner of the property
- Taxes must be current
- Income guidelines must be met



Septic Progress Continues in Chippewa

Chippewa County had another busy year installing septic systems. Human health and the environment are threatened by poorly functioning septic systems. All our efforts at the county are aimed at fixing septic systems that likely are not removing pathogens, nutrients and other chemicals from wastewater before it enters our groundwater, lakes and streams. Protecting local waterways and underground drinking water sources is everyone's responsibility.

- 40 permits were issued for new subsurface sewage treatment systems (SSTS)
- 25 of those systems were completed to bring properties into compliance
- 15 systems were for new construction.

RURAL HOMEOWNERS AND LANDOWNERS

Take advantage of the 3% Low Interest Loans available for ANY Practice that Improves Water Quality! Funds can be paired with some cost-shared practices.

For criteria and eligibility guidelines, contact Chippewa County Land & Resource Management Office at 320-269-6231.

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|--|
| • CONSERVATION TILLAGE | • CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT | • SEPTIC SYSTEMS |
| • EROSION CONTROL | • FEEDLOT IMPROVEMENTS | • WELL RELOCATION, SEALING OR DRILLING |
| • WETLAND RESTORATION | • MANURE MANAGEMENT | • FIELD WINDBREAKS |

For more information about the AgBMP Loan Program eligible practices visit www.mda.state.mn.us/agbmploans



Chippewa County Local Water Plan...Locally driven programs to protect your soil & water resources!

For more information on wells and SSTS please contact Land & Resource Management at 320-269-6231.

Manage your Household Hazardous Waste Safely



FREE Service for Households

Please bring your household hazardous waste products year round to:

Kandiyohi County Regional Household Hazardous Waste Facility
1404 SW 22nd Street
Willmar, MN 56201
Monday—Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

NOTE: If you have an unusually large amount of waste, please call ahead so they are prepared for you: Phone: 320-231-3587



CLEAN SHOP PROGRAM

for Businesses or Ag Pesticide Disposal Program

NOTE: Businesses and Farmers with ag chemicals **MUST CALL** for an appointment at 320-231-3587.



The hazardous materials below are required to be recycled by Minnesota State Law:

- **USED MOTOR OIL & OIL FILTERS:** Recycle oil and oil filters any place in the State of MN that provides oil change services.
- **VEHICLE BATTERIES:** Recycle auto batteries at any business that sells auto batteries.
- **RECHARGABLE BATTERIES, SMALL SEALED LEAD ACID (often labeled "PB-acid" or "lead acid"), NICKEL CADMIUM (often labeled "Ni-Cad"), LITHIUM (often labeled "Li", "CR", or "BR"):** Drop off FREE at Land & Resource Management or check with local lumber yards.
- **TIRES:** most tire dealers accept tires for recycling (for a fee) as does the Chippewa County Recycling Center.
- **FLUORESCENT or HIGH INTENSITY DISCHARGE LAMPS:** These are accepted for recycling at the HHW Facility in Willmar for a fee. *Note: watch for annual county collections when homeowners can dispose of bulbs for free and businesses for a discounted charge.*
- **MERCURY:** Any products containing mercury such as thermostats, thermometers, electric switches, medical or scientific instruments or any other devices from which the mercury has not been removed for reuse or recycling. Drop off FREE at Land & Resource Mgmt. or bring to HHW Facility.

Sponsored by the Chippewa County Land & Resource Management Department, Kandiyohi County Regional Hazardous Waste Program and the MN Pollution Control Agency. Questions? Call 320-269-6231 or go to WWW.CO.CHIPPEWA.MN.US.

A FREE & SAFE disposal option for PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE

Wastewater treatment and individual septic treatment systems cannot remove most medications. Proper disposal of medication helps protect our environment.

Rules:

- **YES!** Only deposit unneeded and/or expired prescriptions, over-the-counter medication for both humans and animals, and illegal drugs.
- **NO!** Radioactive chemo drugs or IV bags, needles or syringes, garbage or trash.

Locations: Montevideo Police Department, Chippewa Co. Sheriff's Department and CCM Health

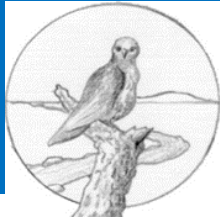
Questions? Please call Chippewa County Land & Resource Management at 320-269-6231

AVAILABLE FOR ALL CHIPPEWA COUNTY RESIDENTS

Don't flush medications!



Take it to THE BOX!



Hawk Creek Watershed Project

Heidi Rauenhorst

Project Coordinator

Dean Dambrotten

Planner/Field Technician

Jordan Austin

Water Quality/Outreach Technician

The Hawk Creek Watershed Project (HCWP) has been helping landowners and watershed residents for 20+ years and is a separate joint powers entity formed by Chippewa, Kandiyohi, and Renville Counties. HCWP collaborates with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), and Discovery Farms Minnesota on water quality monitoring projects. In 2022, the HCWP continued sampling three MDA pesticide sites within the Hawk Creek, Yellow Medicine River, and Crow River Watersheds, a Discovery Farms intensive monitoring site in McLeod County, and six MPCA Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network sites located in the Hawk Creek and Yellow Medicine River Watersheds.

A collaborative effort between HCWP and Renville County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), led to the planting of over 2,000 acres of cover crops through a cover crop and reduced tillage cost-share assistance program. The cover crop and reduced tillage cost-share programs will be offered again in 2023; contact the HCWP for more information if you would like to sign up. The HCWP, along with the Renville County SWCD, will be hosting a “Business of Soil Health: Profitability and Weather Resiliency” meeting on March 1, 2023. More information on the meeting and soil health is available on the HCWP website www.hawkcreekwatershed.org.

Since its inception in 1999, HCWP has provided financial assistance to landowners for Best Management Practices (BMPs) and septic loans that have improved water quality and reduced erosion. HCWP, along with its tri-county watershed partners, continues to promote soil and water stewardship and offer cost-share funds for installation of BMPs aimed at improving water quality. HCWP works with area landowners and federal, state, county, and local staff to install a variety of projects. Spring planting this past year was later due to wet conditions. But fortunately, fall harvest was favorable for many producers. A second consecutive dry growing season did have an impact on crops throughout the watershed, but these dry conditions did allow for multiple BMPs to be completed that may not have been during a wetter year. HCWP cost-share funds went to several projects in 2022, including lakeshore restorations, water and sediment control structures, streambank and grade stabilizations, and cover crops. In addition to those projects, HCWP also provides cost-share funds for many types of BMPs that improve water quality and reduce erosion, such as:

- * alternative intakes
- * terraces
- * wetland restorations
- * ag waste/livestock exclusions
- * grassed waterways
- * other qualifying projects - just ask!

If you would like additional information about BMP projects, how to get assistance to install any of the above listed practices, how to get involved, or to receive meeting notices and agendas of upcoming HCWP events, please contact the HCWP office at (320) 523-3666 or visit www.hawkcreekwatershed.org.

Conservation Reserve Program in Chippewa County

By: Daniel Lussenhop, USDA-FSA

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) allows participants to enroll acreage in conservations practices that will reduce soil erosion, improve water and soil quality, and provide habitat for wildlife.

CRP participation is a voluntary program for landowners or operators. Eligible landowners or operators enter into a contract with the federal government that typically ranges from 10 to 15 years in length. In return, contract holders receive annual rental payments, incentive payments, and cost share for establishment of the practice.

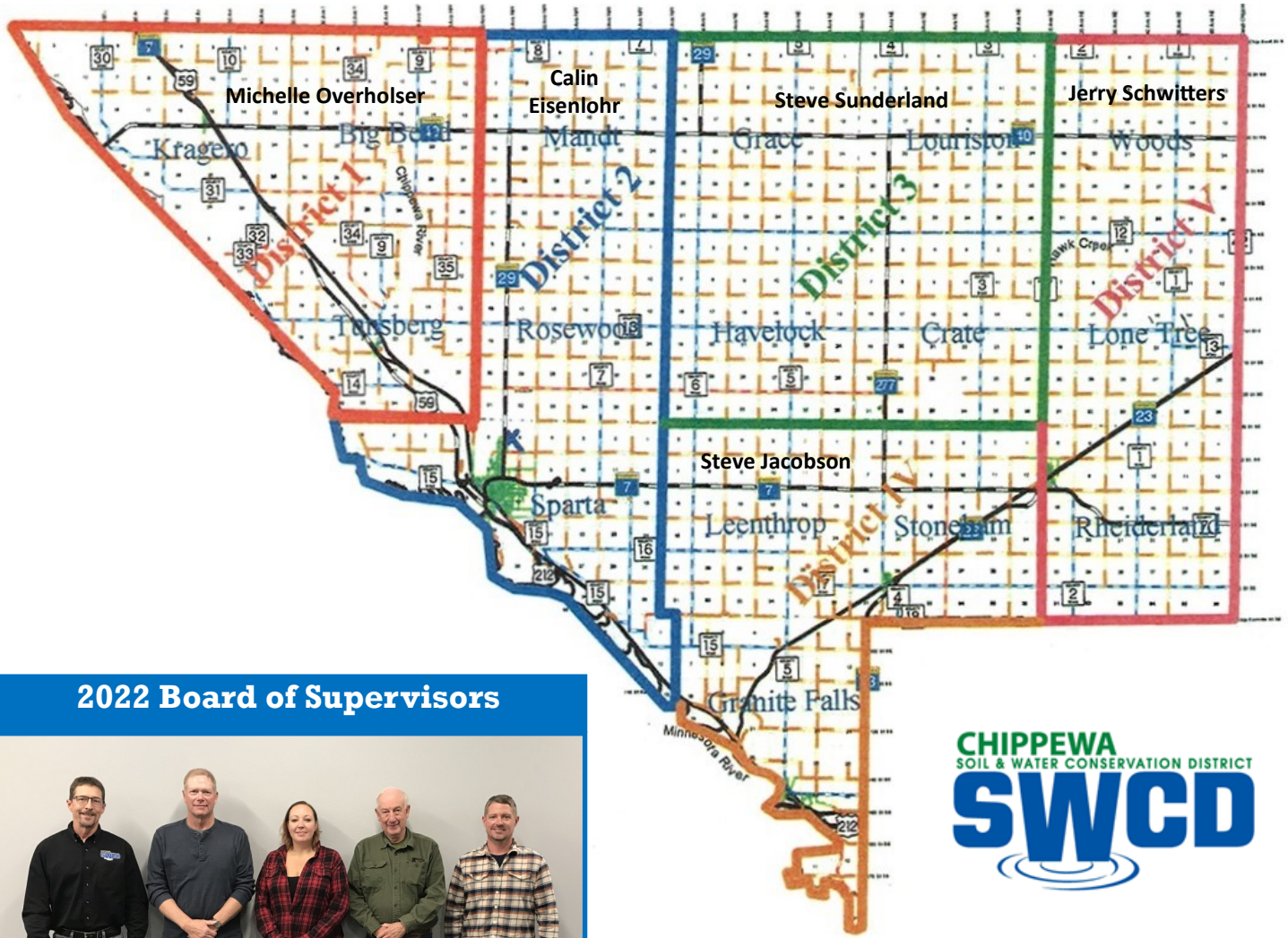
December 2022 ended with 1,113 active contracts in Chippewa County covering 9,860 total acres.

The table shown is a breakdown of the land currently enrolled in CRP, in various practices.

Chippewa County Land in CRP	
CRP Practice Type	Acres
Wetland Restoration with Buffers	5059
Grass Filter Strips	2604
Grassland	1643
Trees	342
Miscellaneous	213

If you have land that you feel would benefit from a conservation purpose, please contact our office to discover the eligibility requirements or visit ConservationResourcesforFarmersandLandowners-Farmers.gov. We will help you any way that we can!

Chippewa SWCD Districts



2022 Board of Supervisors



Board of Supervisors L-R: Jerry Schwitters, Steve Jacobson, Michelle Overholser, Steve Sunderland, and Calin Eisenlohr

Contact us!

Office: 320-269-2696

Staff Direct Line:

Email:

Tom Warner: 320-269-2694 tom.warner@swcd.chippewa.mn
 Zach Bothun: 320-269-2695 zach.bothun@swcd.chippewa.mn
 Desirae Jarett: 320-269-2692 desirae.jarett@swcd.chippewa.mn
 Tom Sletta: 320-269-2693 tom.sletta@swcd.chippewa.mn

District Staff



Tom Sletta-District Technician, Desirae Jarett-Office & Financial Coordinator, Tom Warner-District Manager, Zach Bothun-Co-District Manager



www.chippewaswcd.org
www.facebook.com/chipswcd



629 N. 11th St., Suite 7
 Montevideo, MN 56265
 Phone: 320-269-2696

Name:

Address:

Phone:

DECIDUOUS TREES	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Ash, Green	\$ 2.10		
Aspen, Quaking	\$ 2.10		
Birch, Paper	\$ 2.10		
Cottonwood	\$ 2.10		
Crabapple, Red Splendor	\$ 2.10		
Hackberry	\$ 2.10		
Linden, Little Leaf	\$ 4.10		
Linden, American	\$ 4.10		
Maple, Autumn Blaze			
3-4'	\$ 27.00		
4-5'	\$ 29.00		
5-6'	\$ 33.00		
6-8'	\$ 36.00		
Maple, Silver	\$ 2.10		
Maple, Sugar	\$ 3.10		
Oak, Bur	\$ 2.10		
Oak, Red	\$ 2.10		
Oak, White	\$ 2.10		
Oak, Swamp White	\$ 2.10		
Walnut, Black	\$ 2.10		
Willow, Hybrid	\$ 2.10		
Willow, Peach Leaf	\$ 2.10		
SUBTOTAL			

SHRUBS	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Buffaloberry, Silver	\$ 2.10		
Chokecherry, Common	\$ 2.10		
Cotoneaster	\$ 2.10		
Cranberry, Highbush	\$ 2.10		
Dogwood, Redosier	\$ 2.10		
Hazelnut, American	\$ 2.10		
Lilac, Common Purple	\$ 2.10		
Nannyberry	\$ 2.10		
Plum, American	\$ 2.10		
Serviceberry, (Juneberry)	\$ 2.10		
Willow, Flame	\$ 2.10		

CONIFERS	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Cedar, Eastern Red	\$ 2.10		
Cedar, Northern White	\$ 2.10		
Pine, Austrian	\$ 2.10		
Pine, Ponderosa	\$ 2.10		
Spruce, Black Hills	\$ 2.10		
Spruce, Colorado	\$ 2.10		
SUBTOTAL			

POTTED TREES	SIZE	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
15-18" 1 gal./\$11 · 18-24" 2 gal./\$16 · 24-30" 2 gal./\$18				
Cedar, Eastern Red				
Cedar, Northern White				
Pine, Austrian				
Pine, Ponderosa				
Spruce, Black Hills				
Spruce, Colorado				
SUBTOTAL				

OTHER		QTY	TOTAL
Fabric Installed	\$.60 / ft		
Fabric Uninstalled	\$.50 / ft		
Staples	\$.10 / pc.		
Tree Tubes	\$ 4.00 /ea.		
Machine Planted bareroot	\$.25/tree		
Hand Planting			
1 gallon/small bareroots	\$ 1 / tree		
2 gallon/large bareroots	\$ 2 / tree		
SUBTOTAL			

ALL PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.			
Sales Tax		6.875%	
TOTAL			

All bareroot trees are 18-24" unless otherwise specified. Larger sized bareroot prices depend on nursery pricing and availability as well as quantity order. Contact staff for special orders. Special orders are sold by the bundle.

The Chippewa SWCD guarantees that the trees planted by district staff are alive and will grow. Trees that fail to take hold may be replaced at cost the following year per tree policy. We cannot guarantee that trees will survive drought, rodent/insect damage, winter kill, mechanical or chemical destruction, or improper planting. Trees planted in sod will not be guaranteed.

Minimum planting charge of \$75 per planting.

NOTES:

Signature:
 Date: