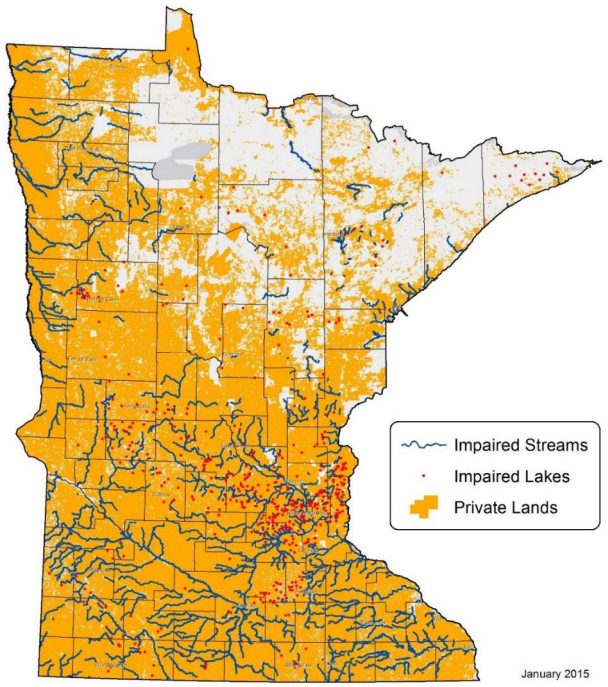
BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

# House Environment and Natural Resources Finance

John Jaschke | Executive Director
Angie Becker Kudelka| Assistant Director
1-14-21

## BWSR's mission

Improve and protect Minnesota's water and soil resources by working in partnership with local organizations and private landowners.




# Business model

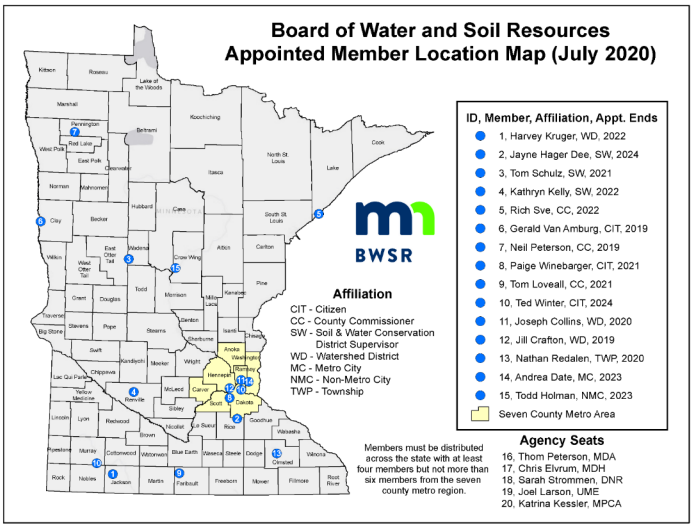
Private lands

Small agency conservation professionals

Local government delivery system

On-the-ground results

# BWSR Structure



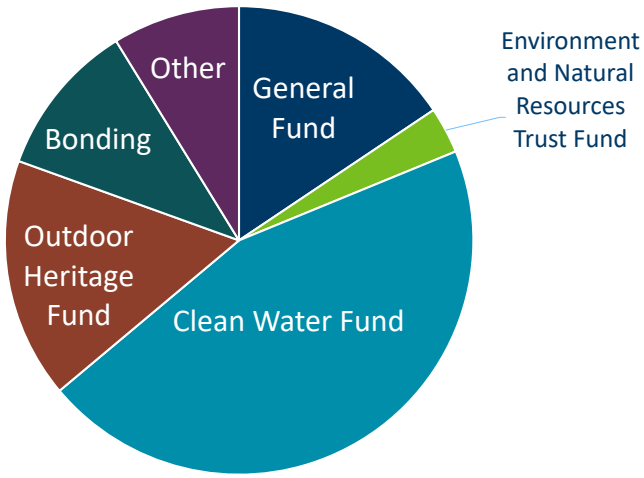

Governor Appointed 20 member board

- Local govts
- Citizens
- State Agencies

## Statutory Authority

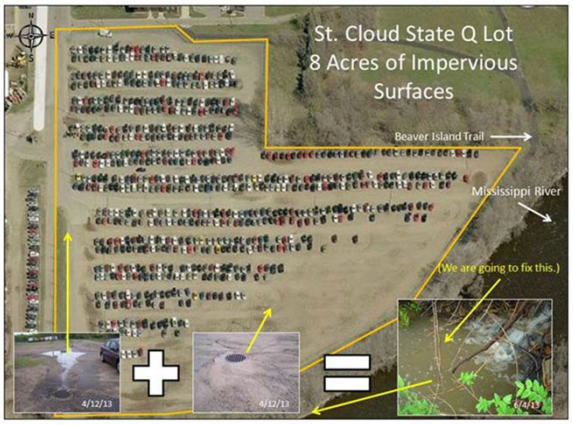
12A – Natural Disaster, State Assistance
103A – Water Policy and Information
103B – Water Planning and Project Implementation
103C – Soil and Water Conservation Districts
103D – Watershed Districts
103E – Drainage
103F – Protection of Water Resources
103G – Waters of the State
103H – Groundwater Protection
114D – Clean Water Legacy Act

## Budget Sources



## Accomplish Our Mission:

**Address State and Local Resource Concerns**




## Accomplish Our Mission:

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**Provide for**

- **targeted planning, delivery implementation, and assessment**

## Accomplish Our Mission:

**State laws and rules**

## Key Programs

**Regulatory**

Wetland Conservation Act

Drainage

Buffers

*Minn. Stat. 103*

## Wetland Conservation Act

- No Net Loss of wetlands
- Coordinated implementation
  - BWSR
  - Local governments
  - DNR
  - Federal agencies
- 404 Assumption Study
- Local Roads Wetland Replacement Program

## Local Roads Wetland Replacement Program

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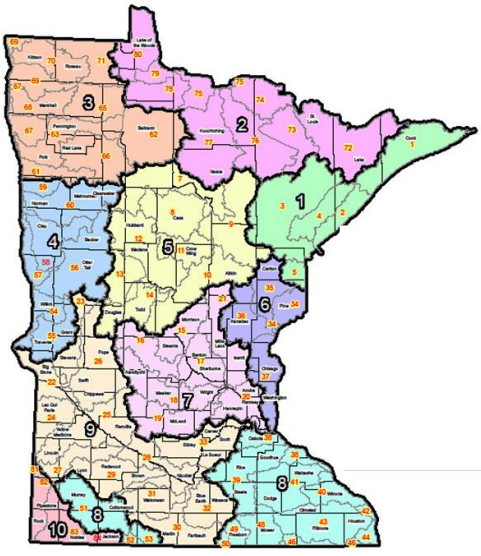
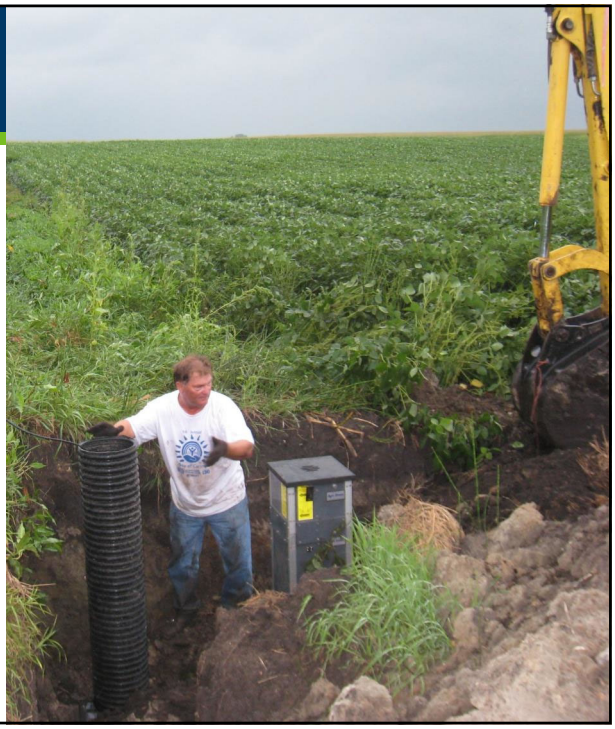


| Bank Service Area | Available Credits (12-10-20) |
|---|---|
| 1 | 8.7 |
| 2 | 0 |
| 3 | 25.2 |
| 4 | 0 |
| 5 | 0 |
| 6 | 0 |
| 7 | 0.7 |
| 8 | 0.7 |
| 9 | 9.6 |
| 10 | 0.3 |

## Drainage

- Public Drainage Manual
- Facilitate Drainage policy
  - Work group
  - Mgt Team



*Minn. Stat. 103*

## Buffers

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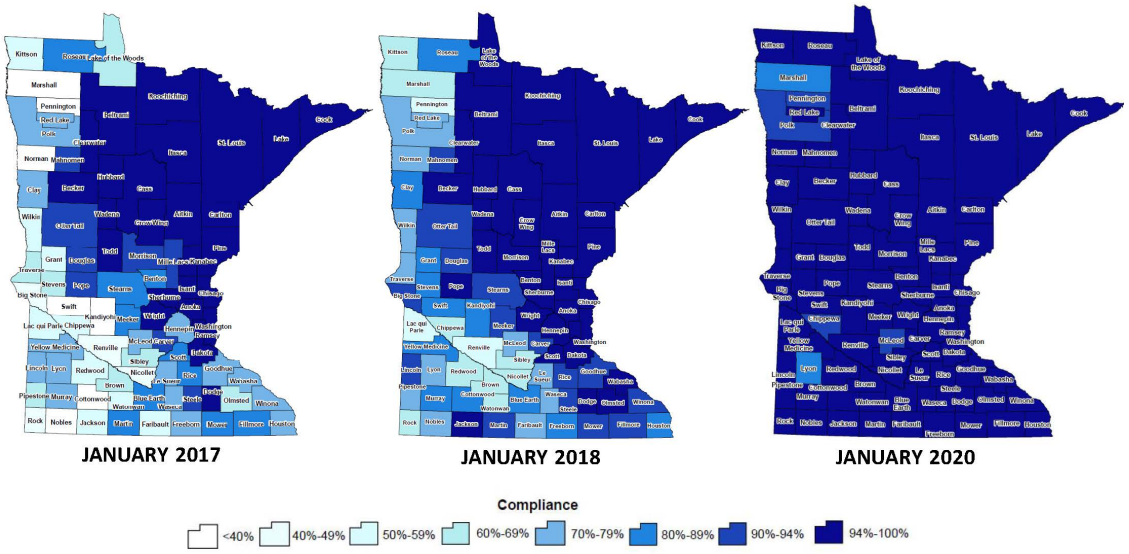
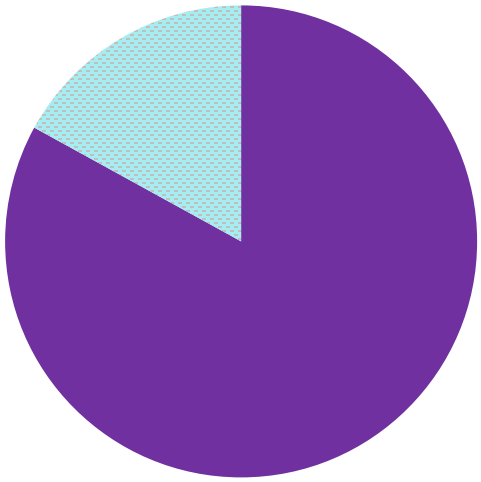
## Buffers




## Conservation Delivery

*Deliver land and water conservation programs and projects through local governments*

## Minnesota's approach to conservation delivery




## The Conservation Continuum

Landowner choices:

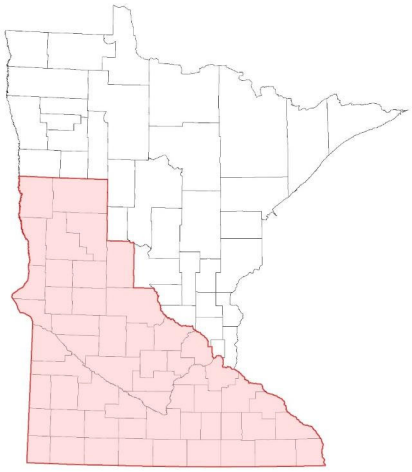
No outside support | Technical Assistance | Contracts | Short-term land retirement | Perpetual land retirement

## Voluntary Resource Protection

MN CREP


*Minn. Stat. 103*

## CREP Scope



- Voluntary approach

  + env sensitive land

  + permanent

- Targeted:

  buffers,
  wetlands,
  wellhead protection for drinking water

## CREP Status

- 31,100 acres enrolled to date
- 575 landowners

## CREP Status

| State funding for MN CREP (,000s) | Appropriated in past sessions | Remaining need |
|---|---|---|
| Env. and Natural Resources Trust Fund (LCCMR) | $19,500 | - |
| Clean Water Fund | *$62,043 | $1,207 |
| Outdoor Heritage Fund | $55,790 | - |
| Capital Investment | **$21,000 | $15,500 |
| **Total** | **$158,333** | |

* Includes $1.207 million returned CWF in 2020
** Includes up to $1 million for working lands easements

State contribution of $175 million makes $350 million in federal matching funds available to direct payments to landowners.

## The Minnesota CREP

***"It's a good opportunity to get a fair payment on ground that would be idle and to do your part for resource protection."***

***2017 Applicant***

MN CREP

## CWF Competitive Grants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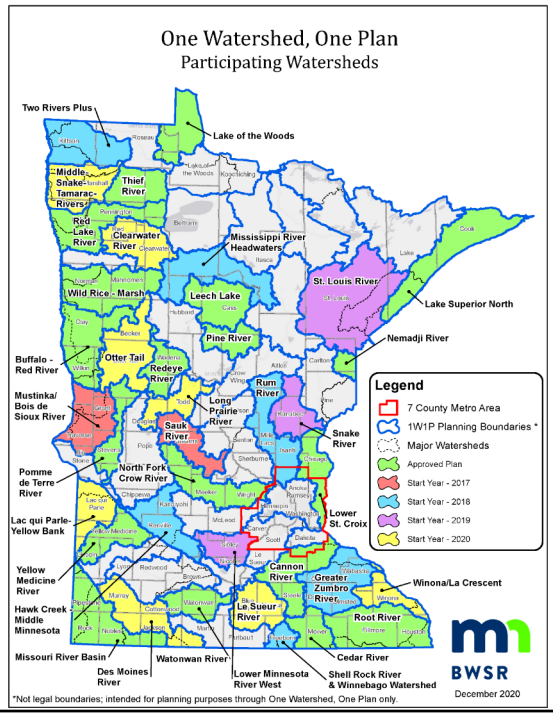
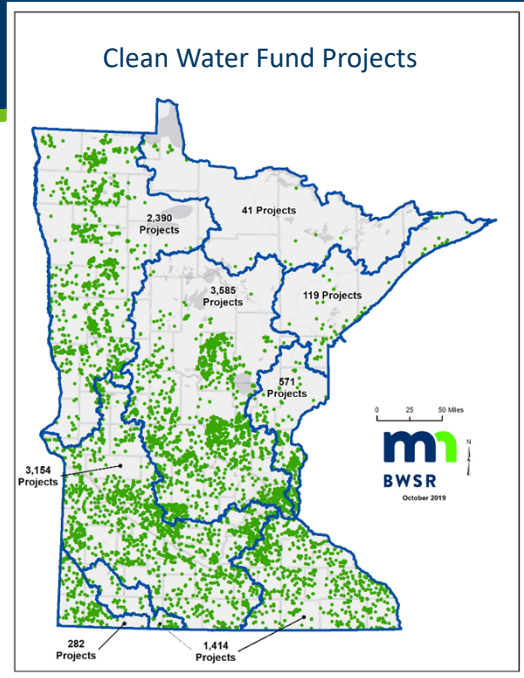



# Watershed Governance

One Watershed One Plan

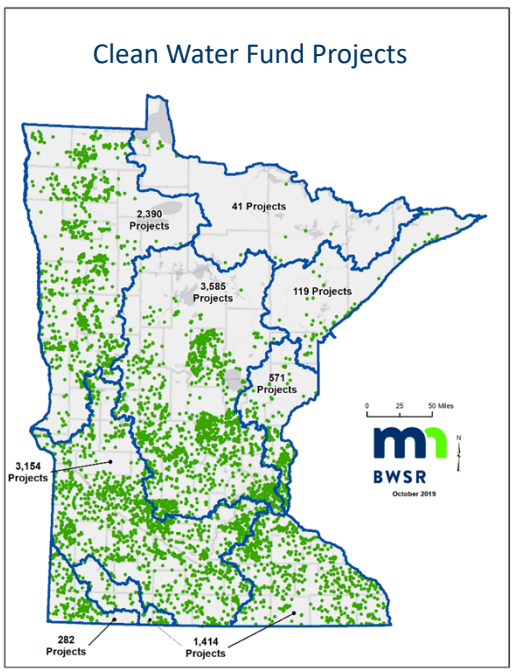




# Conservation Implementation

**2,364** Clean Water Fund grants

**15,218** conservation practices

## Implementation Outcomes




Outcomes calculated by project

**177,000 tons** of sediment annually

**189,000 pounds** of phosphorus annually

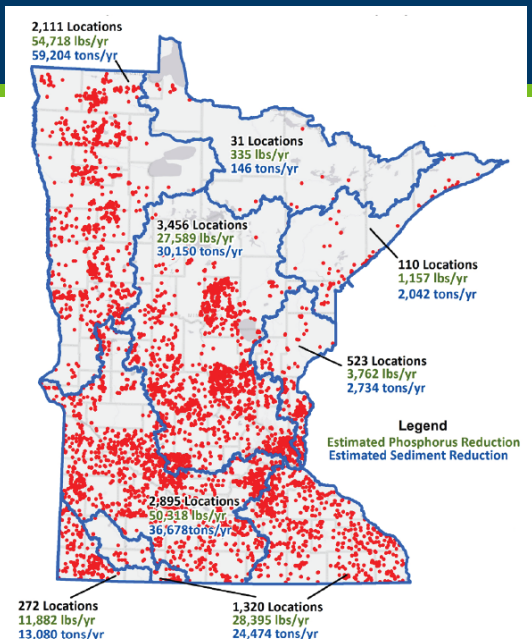
## Woodchip-enhanced wetland in Dakota County

## CWF curbs erosion in Roseau County

**Instead of just putting tax money into cleaning, we can work with (landowners) and do programs like side-inlets, buffers, to keep that topsoil on the landscape vs. in the water.**

– Tracy Halstensgard,
Roseau River Watershed District administrator

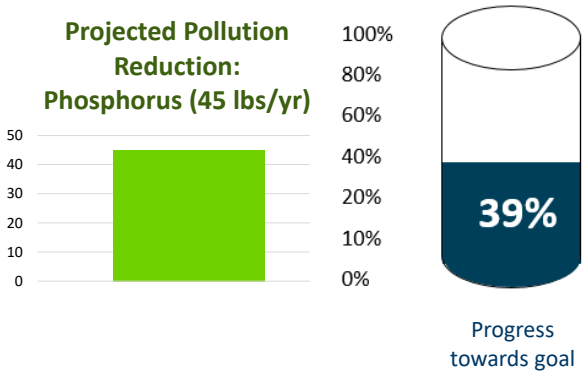
## Implementation Outcomes




Outcomes calculated as contributions to progress towards a watershed goal

**Progress towards Goal**

## Lake McCarron Protection: Upper Villa Park Volume Reduction and Stormwater Reuse

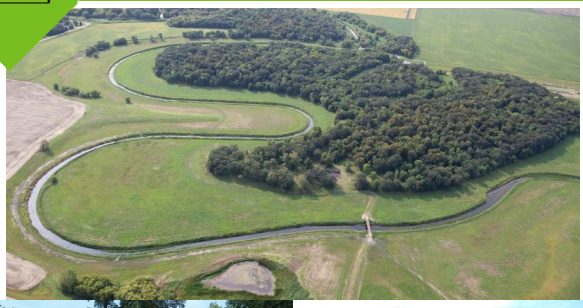


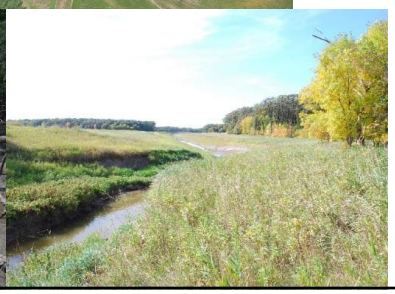

## Clearing up Serpent Lake

**Serpent Lake hasn't been this clear since 1991.**

With two of three phosphorus-reducing projects complete and runoff-regulating ordinances adopted, the lake is poised for a rebound.

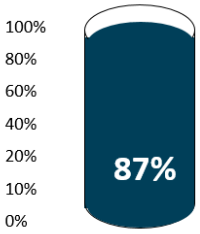
## Grand Marais Outlet Project and Cut Channel Stabilization





*"The amendment was the catalyst we needed to move forward. This is our legacy."*

637 tons of sediment annually kept from entering the Red River.




Progress towards goal

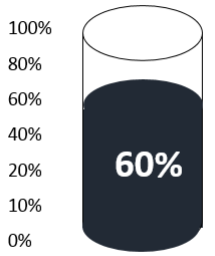
## Safeguarding St. James' drinking water

**"I just thought it was the right thing to do for the land, being it was marginal land, to put it in a program like this so it helps protect our water."**

**"It's in the prairie grass. You don't have to spray. No fertilizer. No nitrates in the water will seep through. The land is just back to nature."**

— Rich Enger, Watonwan SWCD Board chairman

# Moody Lake Wetland Rehabilitation




Progress towards goal

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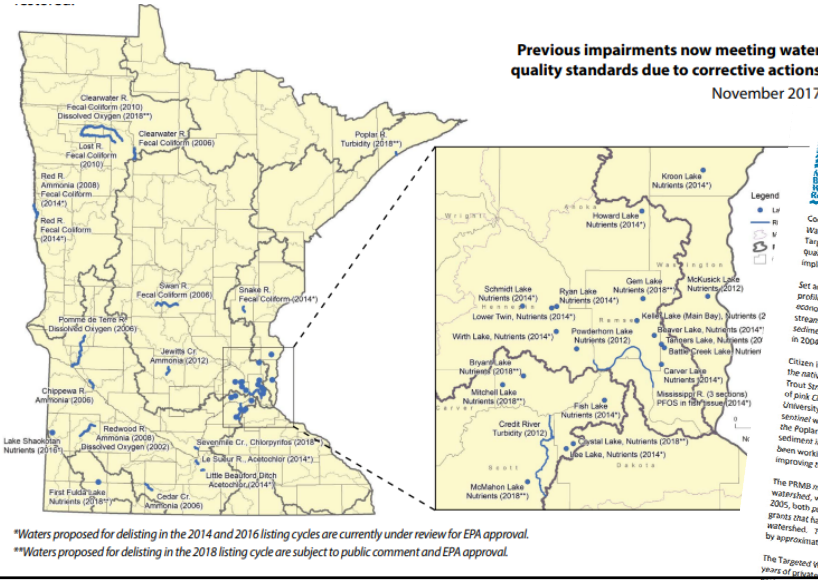
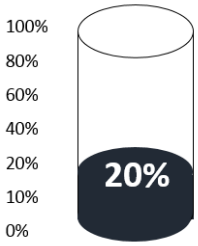
# Waterbody De-listings



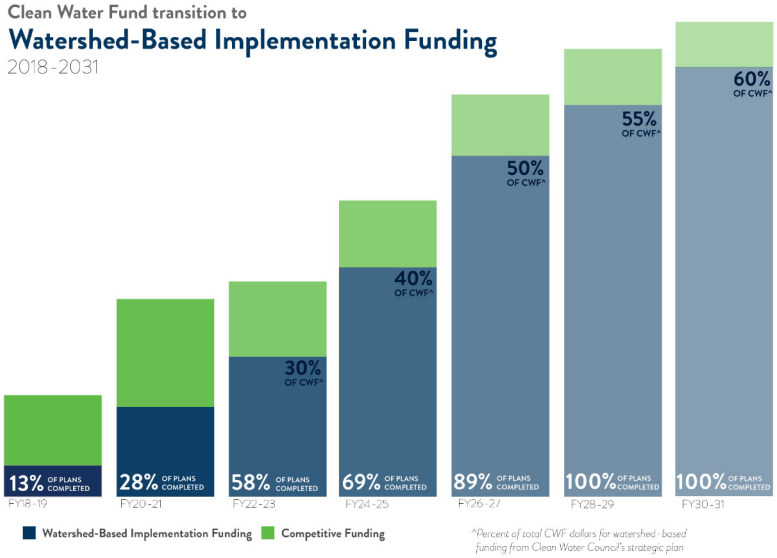
# Targeting conservation: Sand Creek

**Results to date:**

- Streambank stabilization: **300 feet**
- Shoreline protection: **405 feet**
- Buffered waterways: **3,840 feet**
- Cover crops: **595 acres**
- Native grass plantings: **53 acres**
- Grade-control structures: **16**
- Restored wetlands: **4.3 acres**




# Watershed-Based Implementation Funding Trajectory



## Watershed-based funding: Yellow Medicine

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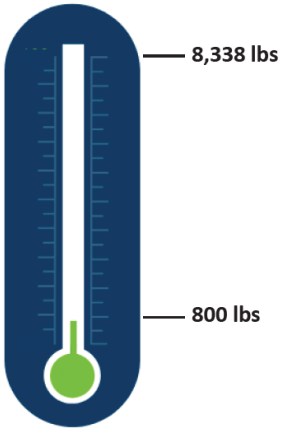
**Yellow Medicine Planning Partnership Goals**

| | Phosphorus Reduction (%) | Phosphorus Reduction (lbs) | Water Storage (acre ft/year) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Watershed-based Grant Goals | ~1% | 800 | 100 |
| 10-Year Plan Goals | 10% | 8,338 | 1,000 |

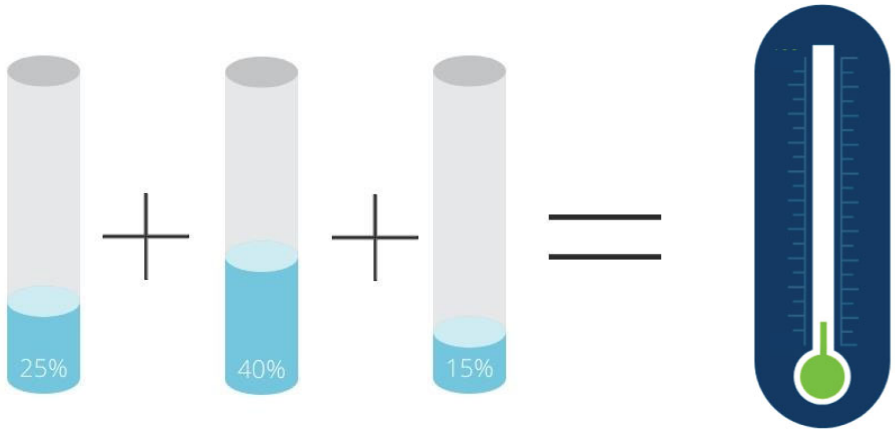
**Progress toward 10-year plan phosphorus goal**



## Progress toward goal - Scale

Individual Project Outcomes

Progress towards 10-year plan

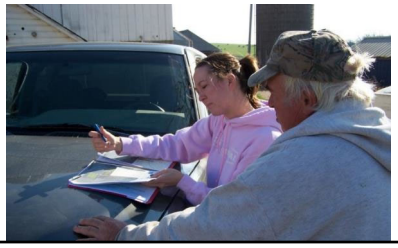



## Local Water Management

**This is how you have to think, as a watershed, not as 'I'm part of this county,' or 'I'm part of this district.' The watershed isn't just isolated to our county. As projects are being done upstream, it's ultimately going to help us downstream.**

— Ron Antony, Yellow Medicine County Commissioner

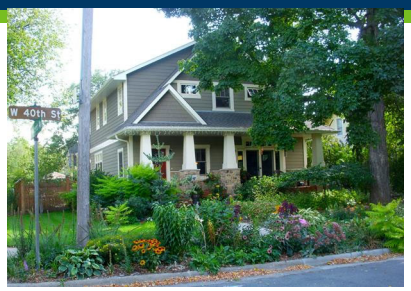
## On-the-ground conservation



## Lawns to Legumes

your yard CAN BEE the CHANGE
#Lawns2Legumes

- 7,500 applications in Phase I
- Funding available to support 1 in 10 applications




BWSR · Metro Blooms · Blue Thumb Planting for Clean Water · Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

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## Disaster Recovery

## Climate Adaptation and Mitigation

Water Storage

Tree and Shrub Planting

Soil Health & Cover Crops

# Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources