



House Environment and Natural Resources Finance

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02-19-19

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

Board of Water and Soil Resources
Appointed Member Location Map (July 2018)

Board Members

ID	Member	Yr. Appt.	Ends
1	Harvey Kruger	2022	
2	Steve Sunderland	2020	
3	Tom Schulz	2021	
4	Kathryn Kelly	2022	
5	Rich Sve	2022	
6	Gerald Van Amburg (Chair)	2019	
7	Nell Peterson	2019	
8	Paige Winebarger	2021	
9	Tom Loveall	2021	
10	Jack Diltmore	2020	
11	Joseph Collins	2020	
12	Jill Crafton	2019	
13	Nathan Redalen	2020	
14	Patty Acomb	2021	
15	Duane Willenbring	2019	

Agency Seats

16	Susan Stokes	MDA
17	Chris Eivrum	MDH
18	Tom Landwehr	DNR
19	Joel Larson	UME
20	Shannon Lothammer	MPCA

Governor Appointed
20 member board

Local govts

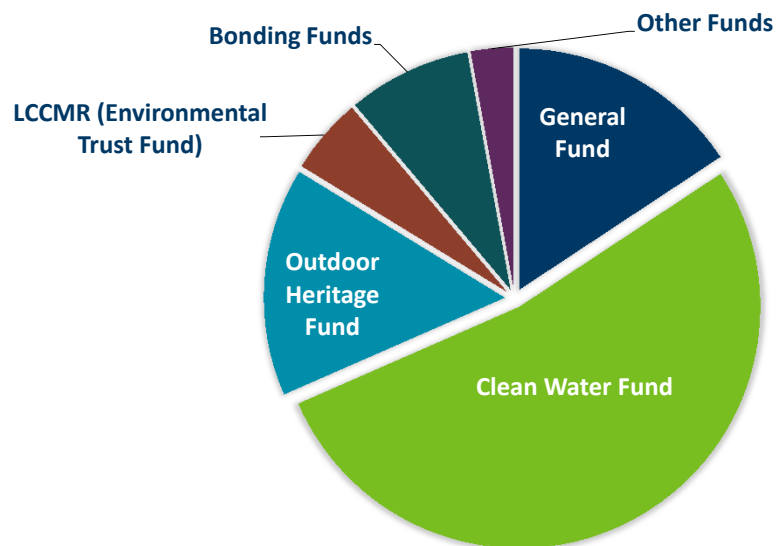
Citizens

State Agencies

Statutory Authority

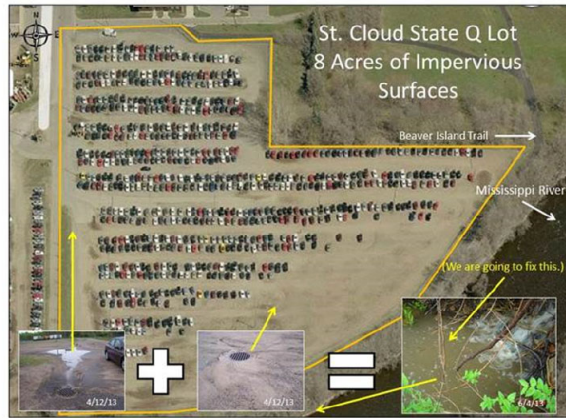
- 12A – Natural Disaster, State Assistance
- 103A – Water Policy and Information
- 103B – Water Planning and Project Implementation
- 103C – Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- 103D – Watershed Districts
- 103E – Drainage
- 103F – Protection of Water Resources
- 103G – Waters of the State
- 103H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

Budget Sources



Accomplish Our Mission:

Address State and Local Resource Concerns



Accomplish Our Mission:



Accomplish Our Mission:

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

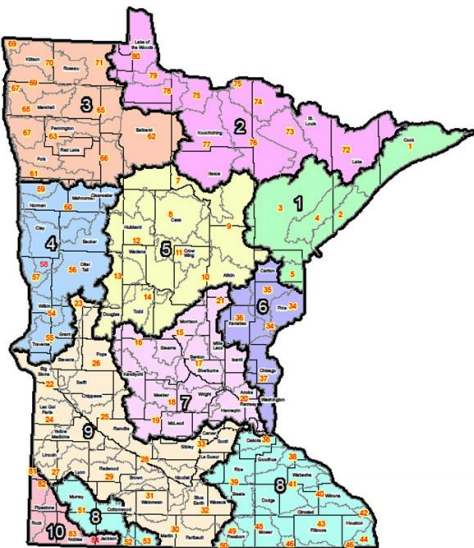


- No Net Loss of wetlands
- Coordinated implementation
 - BWSR
 - Local governments
 - DNR
 - Federal agencies
- 404 Assumption Study
- Local Roads Wetland Replacement Program

Local Roads Wetland Replacement Program



Local Roads Wetland Replacement Program



Bank Service Area	Available Credits
1	17.65
2	3.37
3	53.17
4	0
5	34.63
6	0
7	3.53
8	18.59
9	6.73

Drainage

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

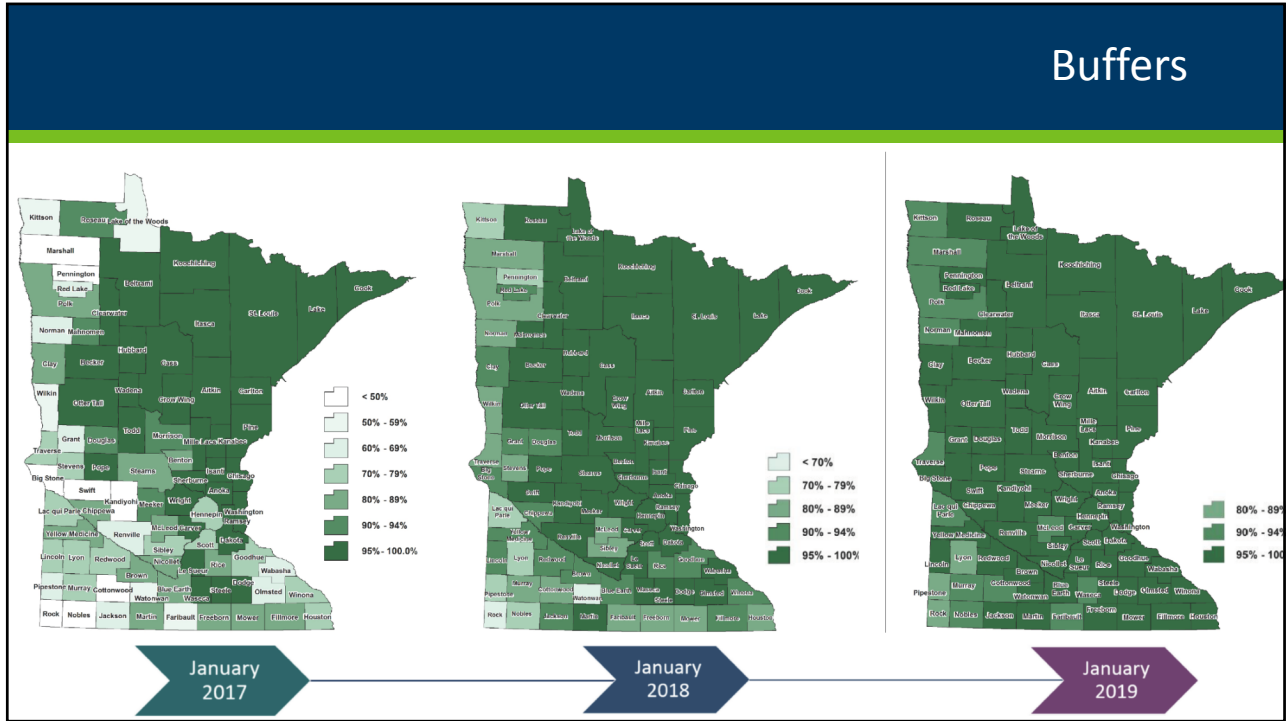
Minn. Stat. 103



Buffers



Minn. Stat. 103

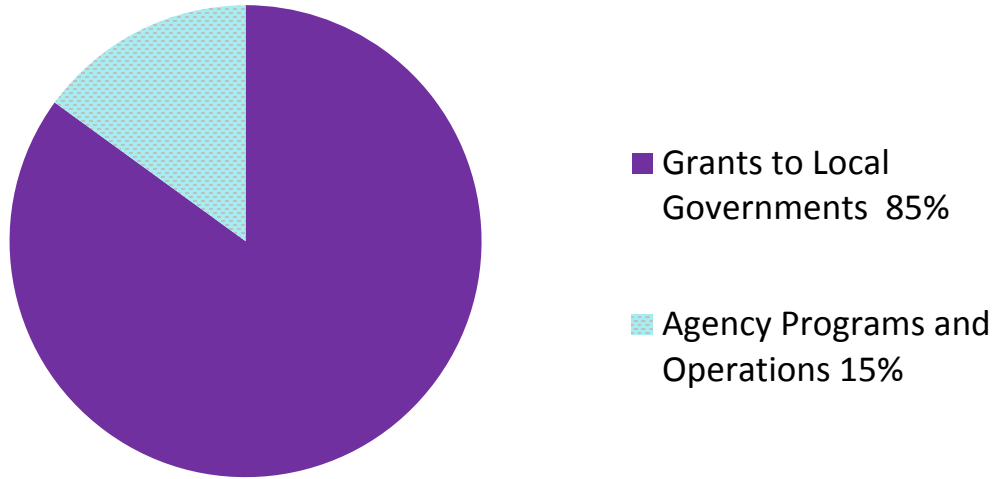


Conservation Delivery

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

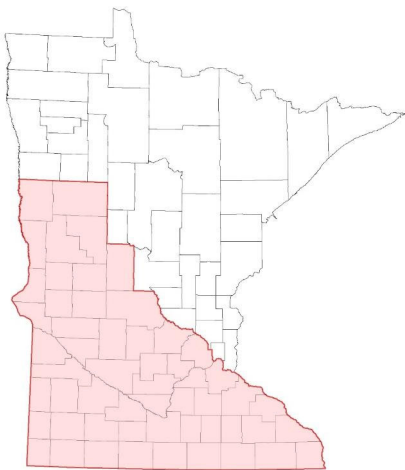


Voluntary Resource Protection



Minn. Stat. 103

CREP Scope



- 60,000 acres
- Voluntary approach
 - + env sensitive land
 - + permanent
- Targeted:
 - buffers,
 - wetlands,
 - wellhead protection for drinking water

The Minnesota CREP

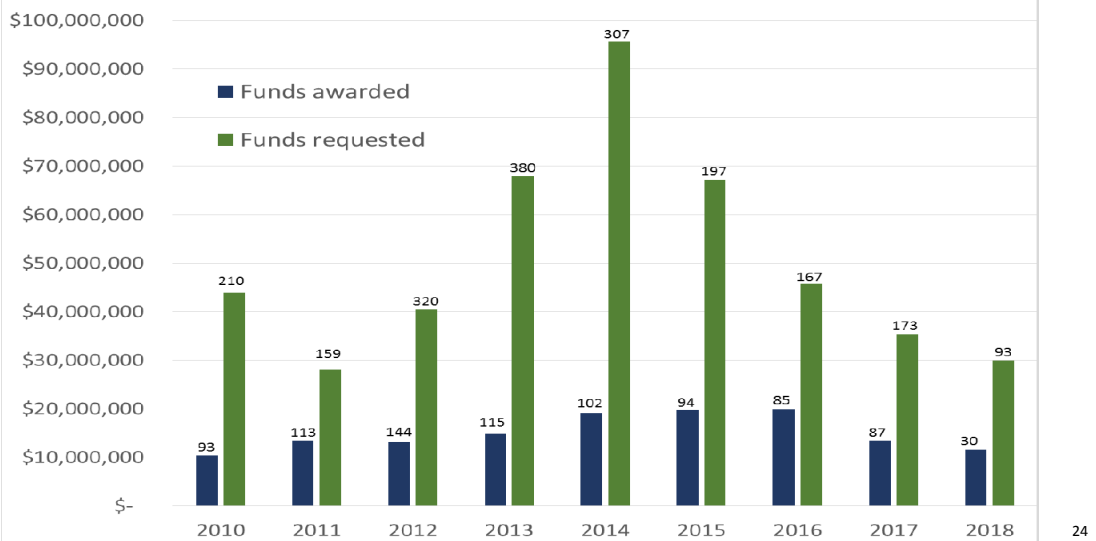


“It’s a good opportunity to get a fair payment on ground that would be idle and to do your part for resource protection.”

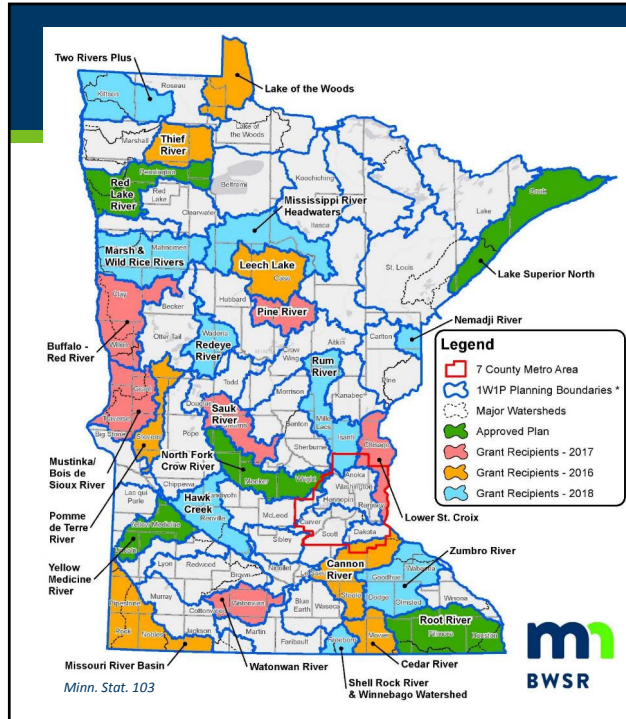
2017 Applicant



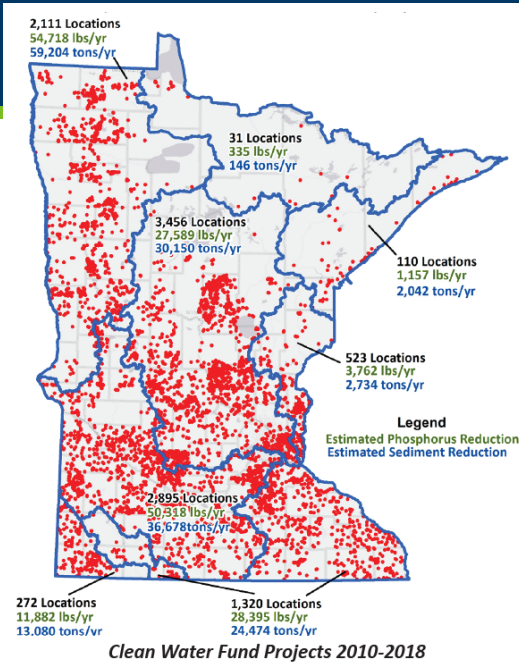
CWF Competitive Grants



Watershed Governance

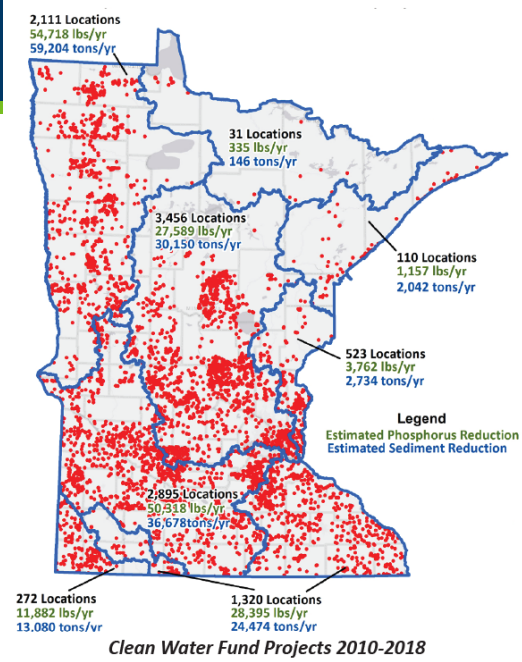


Conservation Implementation



1,615 Clean Water Fund grants
7,000 conservation practices.

Implementation Outcomes



168,500 tons of sediment annually
178,150 pounds of phosphorus annually

Woodchip-enhanced wetland in Dakota County



CWF curbs erosion in Roseau County



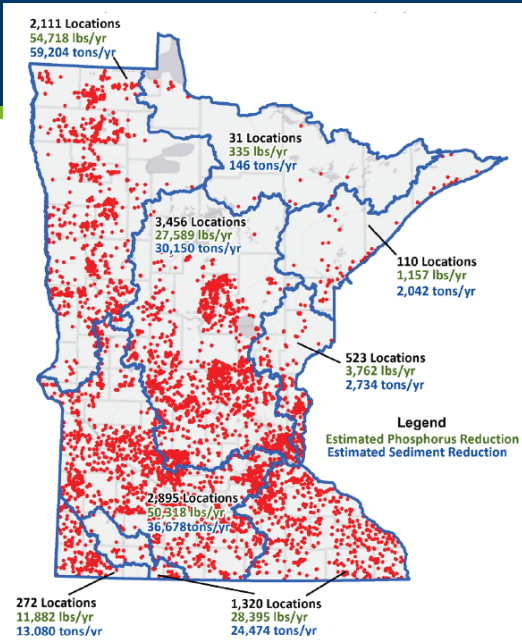
“

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.

”

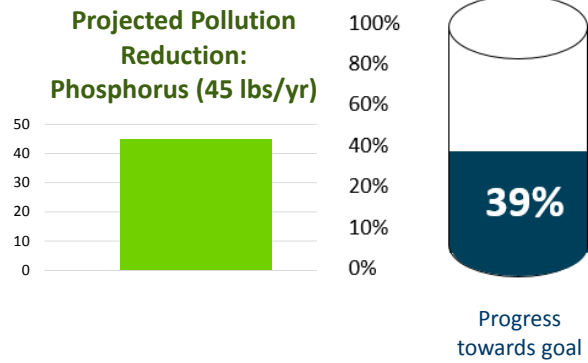
– Tracy Halstengard,
Roseau River Watershed District administrator

Implementation Outcomes



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.

100%
80%
60%
40%
20%
10%
0%



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.

”

— Curt Peterson, landowner

“

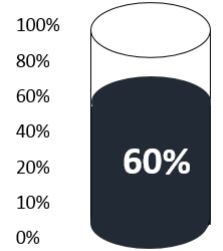
It’s in the prairie grass. You don’t have to spray. No fertilizer. No nitrates in the water will seep through. The land is just back to nature.

”

— Rich Enger, Watonwan SWCD Board chairman

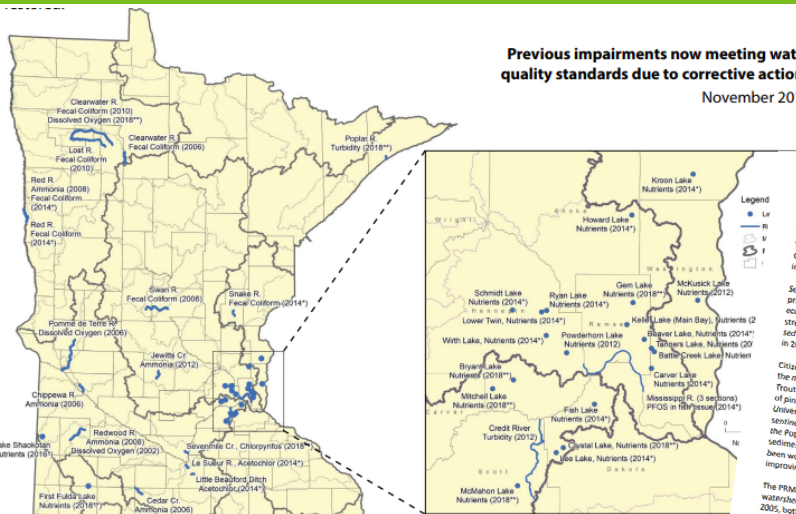


Moody Lake Wetland Rehabilitation



Progress towards goal

Waterbody De-listings



Previous impairments now meeting water quality standards due to corrective actions
November 2017

A Delisting "Wirth" Celebrating
October 2014 Snapshots

Public Private Partnership Benefits the Poplar River
April 2017 Snapshot

Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) received an \$820,000 Clean Water Fund Targeted Watershed Program grant from DWR in 2015 to reduce sediment to the Poplar River and ultimately Lake Superior. The quality is known, the actions needed to achieve results are identified, and a majority of those actions can be implemented within a four year time period.

Set among Lake Superior's unique mountain-like topography, the high economic engine for the North Shore. Erosion along the Poplar River's stream banks and main tributaries are major contributors to its sediment issues, and the watershed was listed as impaired for turbidity in 2004.

Citizen interest in the river health is high with primary concerns about Trout Stream that supports a spring run of rainbow trout and a fall run of pink Chiswick, Coho salmon, and coarcted trout. In addition, the University of Minnesota has listed the Poplar River watershed as a sediment watershed. In 2005, landowners within the watershed organized the Poplar River Management Board (PRMB) in response to the sediment impairment. For over a decade, the Cook County SWCD has been working in partnership with the PRMB and others toward the goal of improving the water quality of the river.

The PRMB members represent over 90% of the private land in the lower watershed, which ensures landowner cooperation with projects. Since 2005, both public and private dollars have helped to leverage multiple watersheds. Thus far, this implementation work has reduced sediment by approximately 35% of the 60% sediment reduction goal. The Targeted Watershed grant represents 50% of the total project cost.

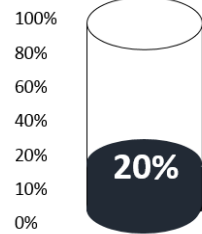
*Waters proposed for delisting in the 2014 and 2016 listing cycles are currently under review for EPA approval.
**Waters proposed for delisting in the 2018 listing cycle are subject to public comment and EPA approval.

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**



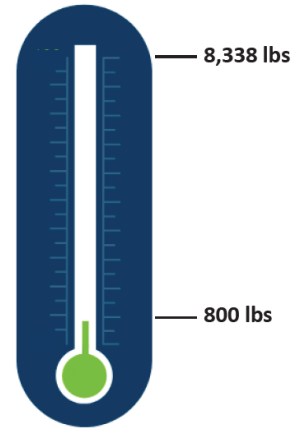
Watershed-based funding: Yellow Medicine



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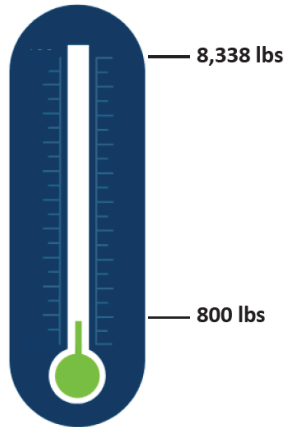
Yellow Medicine Planning Partnership Goals			
	Phosphorus Reduction (%)	Phosphorus Reduction (lbs)	Water Storage (acre ft/year)
Watershed-based Grant Goals	~1%	800	100
10-Year Plan Goals	10%	8,338	1,000

Progress toward 10-year plan phosphorus goal

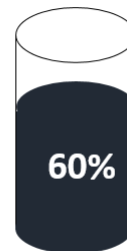


Progress toward goal - Scale

Progress toward 10-year plan phosphorus goal



100%
80%
60%
40%
20%
10%
0%



On-the-ground conservation



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

”



Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

