



January 1 through December 31 - 2018



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Our Commitment

As your local Soil and Water Resource Conservation District (SWCD), we are committed to you, the citizens of Todd County, in the “conservation, protection, and enhancement of Todd County’s natural resources”.

Founded in 1965, Todd SWCD provides conservation leadership and educational, technical, and financial assistance to landowners, businesses, and local governments to proactively encourage a steady improvement in the use of natural resources. While housing what have been typically called “regulatory programs” under our roof, we are not a regulatory agency— instead,

we model and fully believe in accomplishment through voluntary collaboration with you, the citizens of Todd County.

Todd SWCD provides ongoing staff and supervisor training to maintain technical skills and the most up to date science based knowledge. This provides and maximizes trust and credibility with landowners and agencies, alike, ensuring the continued success of our collective on-the-ground efforts. At the same time, we listen to and highly regard your knowledge, skills, and input as owners and descendants of the land. We understand that all which is accomplished is because of you, the landowner,

and your willingness to install, implement, and experiment with best management practices on your property.

Along with our commitment to property owners, we continue to seek strategic partnerships with local committees, associations, and agencies to develop conservation on a broader scale. Through grant applications, state cost-share, and other funding initiatives, we can achieve affordable conservation. Contact us today with your plans for a stronger Todd County.

320-732-2644

**Todd Co. Historic Courthouse
1st Ave. S. Long Prairie, MN**



2018 Todd SWCD Board Supervisors
(L-R):

Tom Williamson
Dale Katterhagen
Kenny Pesta
Norm Krause
Lee Buchholz

SWCD Organizational Values

- Clean water is vital for the future of Todd County.
- Healthy soils are life-sustaining, nonreplicable natural resources essential to Todd County’s economy and impactful to its water supply and water quality.
- Wildlife and natural ecosystems (i.e. wetlands and forests) are valuable to the people of Todd County and act as indirect benefactors to water and soil resource quality.
- Educated and informed citizens generally make good land and resource decisions; therefore Todd SWCD is dedicated to providing the best customer service and educational opportunities to ALL members of the public.
- Animal agriculture is necessary to Todd County and is important in sustaining natural resources.



Initiative 1: Leadership:

*Public Involvement; Outreach; Planning;
Partnership; Customer Service & Funding*

Public Involvement & Outreach:

Every year Todd County SWCD, in collaboration with Minnesota Credit Union, Unity Bank, First International Bank, Central Minnesota Credit Union, Compeer Financial, American Heritage Bank, Todd Livestock Advisory Council, and other local sponsors and businesses host what has come to be known as the Annual Feedlot Meeting and Producer Appreciation. This event has drawn crowds numbering 180 in attendance and is found to be both informational and fun. The 2018 meeting, titled "Hashtags Hit the Fan!" was held at the Clarissa Ballroom. 160 attendees came to learn about responsible manure application and record keeping, Nitrogen Fertilizer Rule updates and well nitrate testing; AgBMP loans, carcass management, farm biology and animal illnesses, invasive weed identification and winter grazing on cover crops. This is Todd SWCD's top, most attended event in the area of public involvement / adult outreach. We look forward to the 2019 Feedlot Meeting, entitled, "Teats Up!" on Wednesday, March 20, 2019. More information to follow in coming months.

Annual Feedlot Meeting



Enviro-Fest 2018



2019 will mark the 25th Anniversary of the Todd County Enviro-Fest hosted at the farm of Marie and Dale Katterhagen, Todd SWCD Supervisor.



Public Involvement and Outreach: 383 students attended the 2018 Todd County Enviro-Fest on September 20. Students learned about farm life, topography, soils, pollinators, erosion, furs, trees, birds, hydroponics & more. This event was sponsored in part by the Cities of Clarissa, Staples, Browerville, Hewitt, Bertha, Gray Eagle; MN Credit Union, Compeer Financial, Dan's Prize, Pro-Ag, Todd Wadena Electrical Co-op, American Food Group, -Long Prairie, and Todd County Corn and Soybean Growers.



Planning and Partnership: August 1, 2018 USDA Local Workshop; St. Cloud. Pictured: Kenny Pesta, Todd SWCD Board Supervisor, Russell Kleinschmidt, Long Prairie NRCS, and Tim Stieber, SWCD Director.



Public Involvement, Outreach & Partnership: Breakfast on the Farm (BOTF) 2018. Partnering with BOTF, a wind-blown Todd SWCD technician explains the workings of a manure handling system at Rinde Farms to farm visitors.

Todd County Ag BMP Loan Program

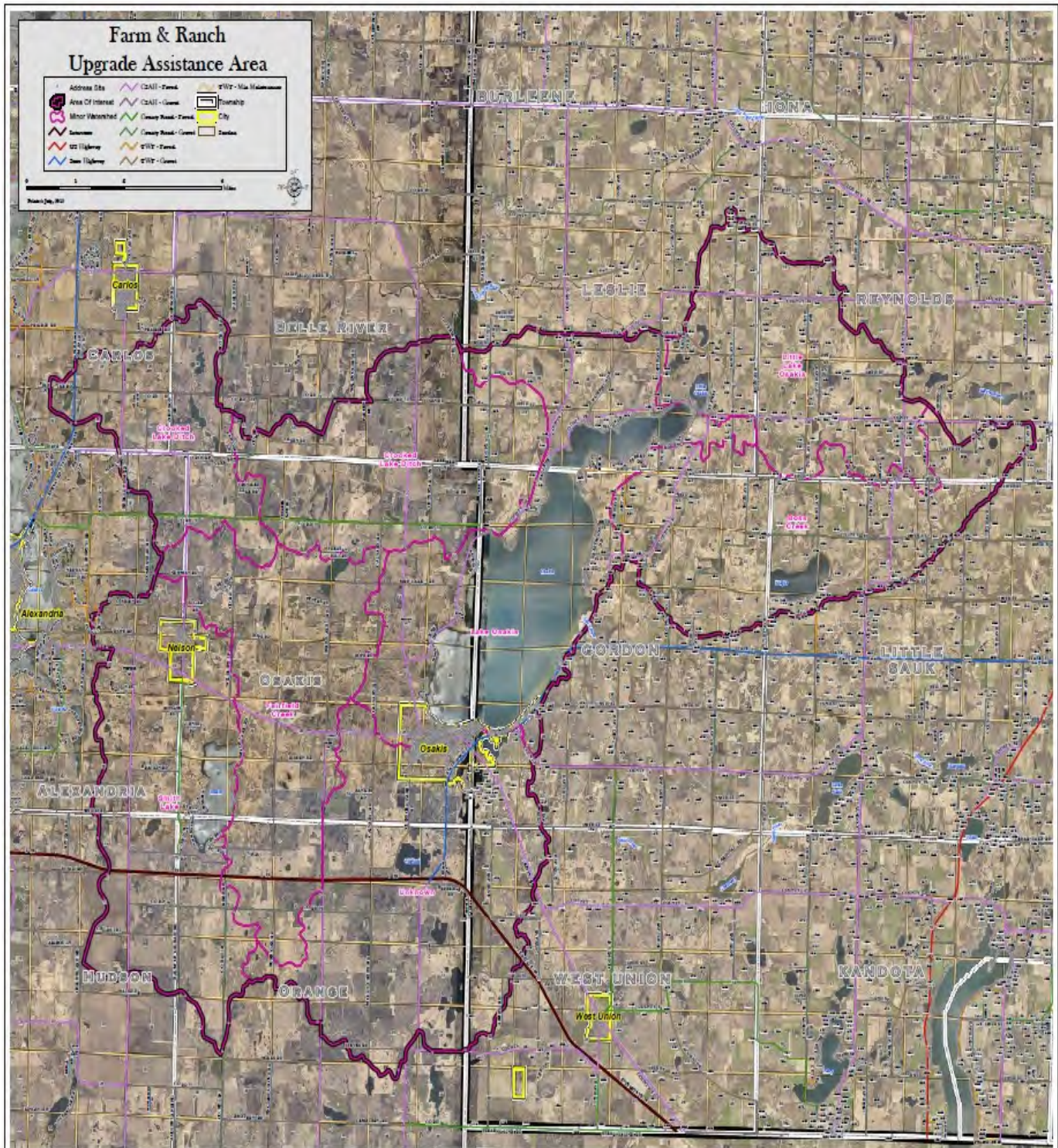
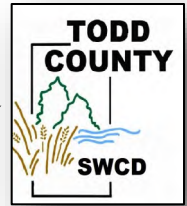
Partnership and Customer Service: Todd SWCD is proud to partner with the Minnesota Department of Ag to offer low interest (3%) loans for rural landowners and farmers implementing practices that protect water quality. In 2018, a total of *eleven* loans were processed: two for septic/sewage practices; one for conservation tillage practices, and eight for ag waste practices. The purpose of the program is to encourage Best Management Practices that prevent or reduce runoff or groundwater contamination from feedlots, farm fields, septic systems, or other potential pollutions. Private and cluster septic system installations, upgrades, or repairs within Todd County are eligible for AgBMP funding. Examples of approved projects include: bedding management equipment, buffer strips, clean water diversions, composting structures, diet management and control, feedlot improvements, livestock paddocks or exclusions, manure handling equipment- loading, transfer, agitation, pumping, or spreading, manure storage facilities, pit closures, milk house treatments or storages, nutrient management plans, odor controls, soil testing, water conservation or reuse systems, and equipment reducing herbicide use.

Ag BMP Practice	Amount Loaned
Septic / Sewage	\$ 15942.55
Conservation Tillage	\$ 79000.00
Ag Waste	\$546505.43
Total 2018 Loans:	\$641448.08

Initiative 1: Leadership (cont'd)

Partnership and Funding: Do you have a

livestock farm located within the outlined areas on this map of the Lake Osakis Watershed? Todd SWCD has funding available for manure pit closures, feedlot upgrades, clean water diversions, roof gutters, intakes, stacking slabs, and more. The purpose of this grant is to protect this area from nutrient loading in the form of runoff. This minor water shed is currently contaminated for high nutrient loading, primarily phosphorous. So far in 2018, 133 lbs. of nitrogen and 78 lbs. of phosphorous are reduced ANNUALLY from projects. This grant provides 75% cost share for all qualified best management practices. Call 320-732-2644 for information.



Todd SWCD Honors JCP Farms with 2018 Conservation Award

Leadership

Todd Soil and Water Board of Supervisors recognized the John and Christine Petron Family of JCP Farms as 2018 Conservationist of the Year at their August Board meeting. The farm has been a part of Todd County agriculture for over 40 years and continues to be a successful and sustaining farm operation.

John Petron, pictured right with four of their seven children, has been working on the farm since 1977. The farm was started by his father Richard Petron in 1967. John, his wife Christine, and 7 children ranging from 8 to 24 years old manage close to 4000 acres of land around the county.

Fresh market potatoes is the primary crop grown in rotation with corn, soybeans, small grains, and cover crops. In addition, a small herd of Black Angus cattle is kept for beef production. The farm markets close to 30 million pounds of fresh market potatoes annually and these are distributed across the United States and as exports to other countries. The farm has had a sustained positive impact on the local economy here in Todd County. An average of 15 full-time employees are maintained with close to 100 employed during harvest and subsequent potato grading, packing, and shipping.

Conservation practices implemented include extensive use of cover crops—mainly rye but other crops have been tested such as rape or mustard—the most colorful example of a cover which reduces the need for fungicide. The Petrons have found cover crops to reduce erosion (both water and wind), to reduce reliance on pesticides and improve soil microbes. They have not sprayed their red potatoes in ten years as they found they have not had the need. Other conservation practices include wind erosion practices—trees, integrated pest management (IPM), and planting of buffers along water ways. Nutrients are incorporated quickly into the soil. The farm is experimenting with organic potato production and the associated production challenges from growing a crop without chemical inputs. JCP Farms worked with Todd SWCD to install stream barbs in the Long Prairie River along their property to address bank erosion and sedimentation that was occurring. The project was successful and erosion is no longer a problem in that area. A natural result of this project is a significant reduction of phosphorus contributions to the Long Prairie River.

The Petrons face the same challenges as other Todd County farmers including fluctuating crop prices, constantly changing pest pressures, and climate and weather variations from year to year. Due to the sandy soil make up of many of their fields, irrigation is necessary. Dry years in the past made irrigating from the Long Prairie River risky and resulted in the farm drilling deep wells away from the river for irrigation. Modern irrigation scheduling practices have been implemented and pivots can be turned on and off remotely using a cell phone to prevent un-needed irrigation or well withdrawals. Monitoring of these wells occurs often.

When not farming, the Petron's support local communities and charities, fish, hunt, XC ski, and travel as a family.

Todd SWCD thanks the Petron Family for their contribution to agriculture in Todd County and encourages their ever-growing conservation achievements.



Cover crops are an integral part of JCP Farms field management. Above, the Petrons stand in fields of mustard.



*Irrigated Potatoes Grown
for Fresh Markets*

By the Petron Family of Long Prairie

Initiative 1: Leadership (cont'd)



*Todd SWCD Stewards of the Year Award—Jim and Becky Pratt,
owners of the Clarissa Ballroom; Community Supporters and Leadership*



Jim and Becky Pratt own and operate the Clarissa Ballroom. The number of community events they have supported are too many to count, and if you haven't attended a wedding reception at the ballroom, you must be new to the area. The Todd SWCD Annual Feedlot Meeting (northern event) has been hosted at the Ballroom, most recently in March of 2018. Becky always cooks up the best buffet dishes attracting many hungry farmers! Jim and Becky are very accommodating – making last minute adjustments up to the event day to ensure the best possible outcome. Over the years, the Pratts have made donations of equipment and their time to the SWCD Enviro-fest – the district's

annual outdoor education venue put on for 6th graders.

Other meetings hosted by the Pratts include irrigation meetings, Pheasant's Forever, and other wildlife club events.

Local farm groups and businesses also use the venue extensively throughout the year. The Pratts are active in their community in other ways. Jim is on the Todd County Board of Adjustment, and the family has been involved in 4H for years. They raise cattle and sheep on their farm in Germania Township.

The Clarissa Ballroom is a historic venue—the building having been physically moved from Bertha to its current location in Clarissa in 1948. A main hall was added in 1956, and a kitchen was added in 1986. A beautiful 30 x 40 foot outdoor

porch was built in the summer of 2016.

You may recall many years ago Whoopee John, a musician originating from New Ulm, played at the Ballroom- songs such as "Clarinet Polka" which was played in ballrooms across the nation in the 1940s and 1950s. The Clarissa Ballroom is busy year-round. Santa visits the ballroom every December. The Polka Fest has been held every Memorial Day weekend for the past 29 years. The four-day event features loads of dancing, food, and daily drawings for prizes and fun. Todd SWCD is thankful to receive support from the Clarissa Ballroom for its education and outreach events. It is our honor to award the Todd County 2018 Stewardship award to Becky and Jim Pratt.



Partnerships: West Central Technical Service Area (WCTSA)

- *16 Site Visits*
- *11 Site Surveys*
- *18 Preliminary Projects Designs*
- *8 Final Project Designs*
- *Construction Oversight on 5 Projects*

Todd SWCD Mission Statement:

Conservation, Protection, and Enhancement of Todd County's Natural Resources

West Central Technician, Gary Borash, launches a survey boat on the Long Prairie River.

Funding provided by:



Todd SWCD 2018 Funding

2018 Todd SWCD Cost Share Projects

2015-2018 CWP Swan River	Rain Garden	\$ 5,416.00
Buffer Cost Share	Buffer Planting	\$ 192.00
Buffer Cost Share	Buffer Planting	\$ 251.29
Buffer Cost Share	Buffer Planting	\$ 645.00
County Riparian AID	Access Control Project	\$ 43,583.00
Local Capacity Funds	Pit Closure	\$ 8,593.92
Local Capacity Funds	Ag Waste Phase I	\$ 21,957.55
Local Capacity Funds	Pit Closure	\$ 16,502.50
Local Capacity Funds	Ag Waste	\$ 11,193.53
MPCA 319 FY17-21 Lake Osakis	Ag Waste Phase I	\$ 87,835.82
Performance Credit Funds	Soil Borings	\$ 1,338.75
State Cost Share Projects	Well Sealing	\$ 240.00
State Cost Share Projects	Pit Closure	\$ 362.50
State Cost Share Projects	Field Windbreak	\$ 2,590.23
State Cost Share Projects	Well Sealing	\$ 337.50
State Cost Share Projects	Ag Waste	\$ 12,116.76
State Cost Share Projects	Field Windbreak	\$ 1,377.83
2018 Cost Share Project		\$214,534.18

Type of Projects	
Quantity	
1	Access Control
2	Ag Waste
3	Buffer Planting
2	Field Windbreak
2	Pit Closure
1	Rain Garden
1	Soil Borings
2	Well Sealing
14	



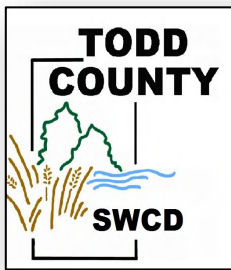
Shoreland planting to prevent erosion to prevent sedimentation to lake using CWP Swan River funds.



Above Photo credit: Shannon Wettstein



Not all projects are SWCD funded in Todd County, but SWCD technical expertise is still offered at no cost.. Above is one example of a partially installed bark bed treatment system for milk house wastes, the only one of its kind in Todd County. The system, now complete, is functioning well, as reported by the owner.



Initiative 2: Conservation, Protection, & Enhancement of Surface Waters

Buffers; Wetlands; Feedlots & Farm Conservation

****Buffer Cost Share Available 2018– May 2019**

on DNR Protected Waters and Public Ditches**

Most Todd County landowners know vegetative buffers were required on public waterways by November 1, 2017 and on county ditches by November 1, 2018. This is very important considering Todd County spans out over almost 1,000 square miles, has 123 public lakes, 380 miles of public streams, and 379 miles of county ditches.

Todd County SWCD has completed a county wide buffer inventory on all public waters and public ditches. Many landowners have already contacted the SWCD and have installed compliant buffers.

If buffer compliance is not observed, Todd County has informed Todd SWCD that the County will assess fees to the property owner.

Todd County SWCD recognizes that in 2018 cold temperatures and early snowfall are to be considered when requiring buffer compliance. Due to this, the SWCD is offering funding for those who were unable to install buffers in the fall of 2018. A payment of \$300 per acre of required buffer installed is available to landowners who are currently non-compliant. The deadline to sign up for buffer funding is **May 1st, 2019**.

Todd County is making excellent progress reaching compliance with the state buffer initiative, but there is still some work to be done. If you feel buffers on your property may be affected or if you have any questions regarding buffers in Todd County, please contact the SWCD at 320-732-2644.

For more information about the Governor's buffer law, please visit:

bwsr.state.mn.us/buffers/

2018 Todd SWCD Buffer Report:

11 Site Visits

50 Buffer Related Calls/Contacts

Wetlands Conservation Report:

- 20 Exemption Decisions
- 6 No Loss Decisions
- 7 Satisfactory Violation Restorations
- 1 Boundary/Type Decision
- 5 Local Road Replacement Replacements
- 94 Site Visits
- 371 Wetland Related Questions/Contacts
- Hosted Monthly TEP Meetings



Feedlot and Farm Conservation



Meet our newest technician,
Kevin Brown



Feedlot Program Mission Statement:

The Program strives to offer an equitable and consistent, customer-oriented program. Reasonable solutions are found to overcome the economic, seasonal, and operational barriers that impact individual farms in their quest to meet water quality rules and other required measures to protect Todd County's natural resources.

Feedlot and Farm Conservation Program

- 330 Feedlot Registrations Processed
- 2 Construction Short Forms (new buildings or expansions)
- 4 Interim Permits
- 394 Site Visits and 30 In-Office Meetings with Individual Producers
- 485 Feedlot Related Questions
- 4 Pit Closures
- 11 Air Quality Exemptions
- 18 Complaint Responses
- Livestock Investment Grant Assistance Requests



Todd County has set aside Riparian Funds to promote best management practices in areas adjacent to streams, lakes, and other direct conduits to surface waters. To the right, you can see a fencing project to protect Moran Creek. Over 100 acres (1400 linear feet) of Moran Creek shoreline and wetland buffer are now protected with livestock access control fencing. Alternative watering systems like the ones shown below will keep animals well watered- no longer needing access to the creek for drinking water. This project alone reduced nitrogen, phosphorous and bacterial contributions to Moran Creek- already impaired for E. coli. Do you have an area where you would like to keep livestock out of surface waters?. Contact Todd SWCD for fencing plans, alternative watering devices, and 75% cost- share opportunities. **320-732-2644**



Sturdy summer tire waterer on protective pad



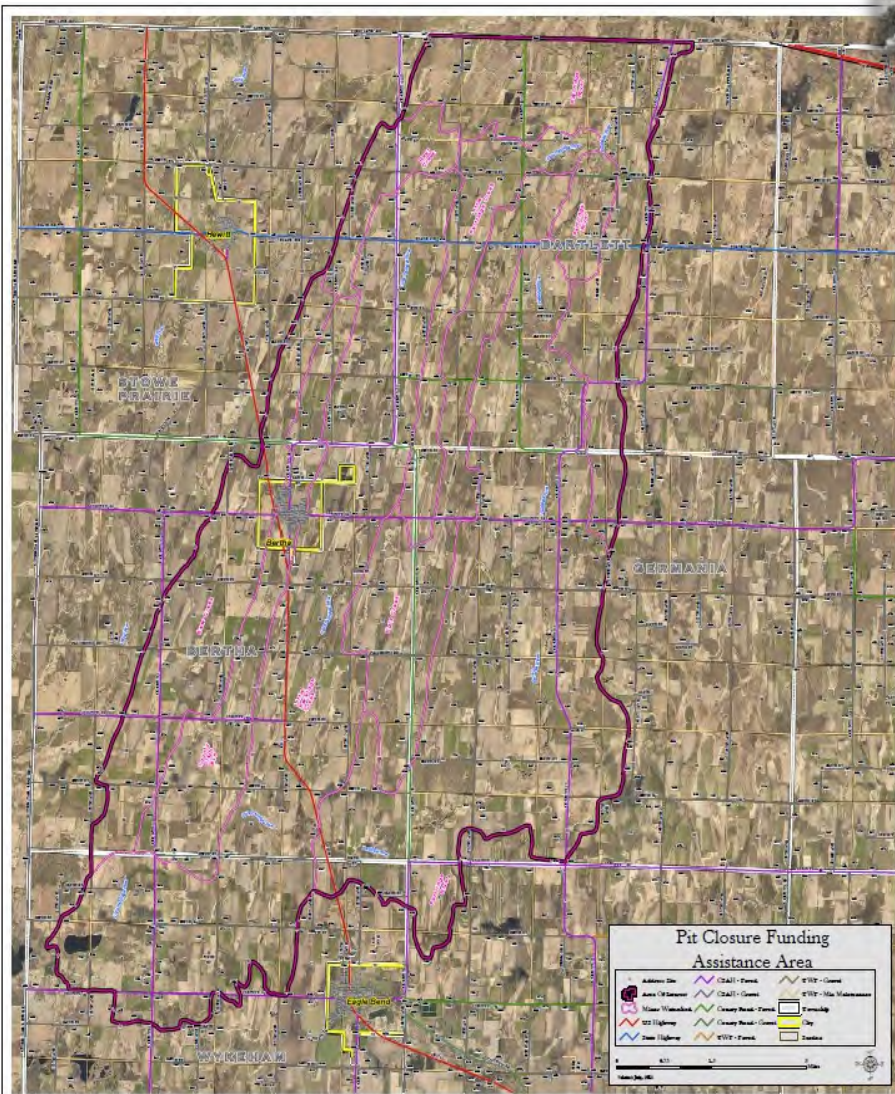
Winter water installation

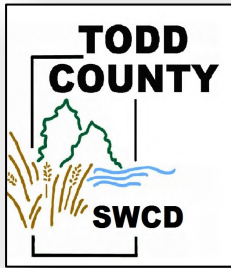


A photograph showing a large, muddy debris flow or landslide that has covered a road and surrounding area. In the background, there are bare trees and a small building.

A large, dark, muddy field with a barn and trees in the background. The field is covered in deep, dark brown mud with visible tire tracks and ruts. In the background, there is a large, dark-colored barn with a light-colored roof. To the left of the barn is a smaller, light-colored structure. Behind the barn is a dense line of green trees. The sky is overcast and grey.

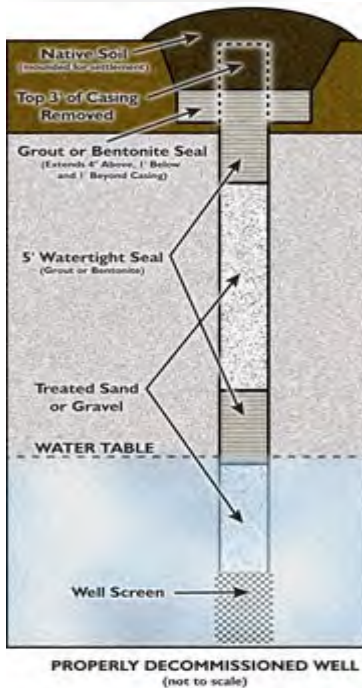
Above: Same pit, immediately after back-fill. What was once wasted space is now converted to usable ground.





Initiative 3: Conservation, Protection, & Enhancement of Groundwater

Well Sealing



Todd SWCD Provides Cost Share for Sealing Abandoned Wells



The term “well sealing” references the act of permanently closing a well that is no longer in use or is deemed unsafe. State law requires abandoned wells in Minnesota to be sealed. Well sealing involves clearing debris from the well and filling it with grout. This must be done by a licensed contractor.

An unsealed well can act as a drain, allowing surface runoff, polluted water and improperly disposed of solid wastes to contaminate groundwater, especially in sandy or gravelly soils. Sealing abandoned wells protects groundwater quality. It can also protect surface water quality in areas with spring fed streams or with other connections to groundwater.

Well sealing is especially important in wellhead protection areas (areas that supply water to public wells that receive special attention from state and local agencies to prevent contamination of drinking water). Many areas surrounding or adjacent to Cities in Todd County have wellhead protection areas or Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMA).

In 2018, Todd SWCD assisted in funding two well sealings. Todd SWCD looks forward to increasing the number of decommissioned wells in 2019. Please contact our office to join us in this conservation effort. **320-732-2644.**

Initiative 4: Soil and Farm Sustainability

Partnership with NRCS &

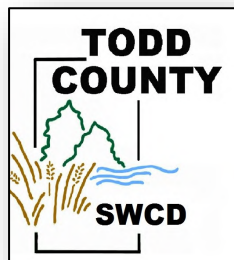
Minnesota Department of Ag – MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program

NRCS 2018

2077.7 Acres Continuous CRP in 81 Contracts
184.1 Acres Honey Bee Habitat in 2 Contracts
6 CStwP Contracts
11 EQIP Contracts
6 Nutrient Management Plan
2 Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans
618.4 Acres of Nutrient Management
14397 Feet Livestock Pipeline

5.6 acres Wildlife Tree Plantings
68.2 Cover Crop Acres
125.1 acres Pasture Plantings
7979 feet Windbreaks
1 Water and Sediment Control Basin
577.8 acres Grazing Incentives
2687 feet Grazing System Fences

*Data is unofficial
and has not been
reviewed by
State NRCS*



Initiative 4: Soil and Farm Sustainability (Cont'd)

*Partnership with NRCS &
Minnesota Department of Ag –MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program*

Todd SWCD Signs on 6 New Ag Water Quality Certified Farms for 2018

Todd SWCD proudly congratulates the following landowners, and one other requesting anonymity, in meeting certification status in 2018. This brings the total number of certified farms in the county to 24:



Richard Nelson

Curt Richter

Kevin Kyar

Jacob May

Harold Freyholtz



Becoming Ag Water Quality Certified is strictly voluntary. It is open to farms of all sizes and types. Farmers are intrigued with the holistic information provided about their farming operation, even if they opt not to become certified. Insight is given to crop, field, livestock management and farm sustainability. New ideas are discussed as are methods to improve soil health and stabilization, often with less input costs. Some farmers are pleased to hear they can change little to nothing about their farm operation and still receive certification. It's a nice feeling to hear you are doing a great job, as most farmers are, in Todd County. Becoming certified costs nothing; nothing is forced, farms can market goods labeled as being produced by an "Ag Water Quality Certified Farm"—encouraging the ever conscientious consumer, and it opens certified farms to an exclusive pool of funding to make further small improvements to their farms. Todd SWCD encourages all farms to explore Ag Water Certification. Contact Todd SWCD to join us in this conservation effort. **320-732-2644**



Richard Nelson— West Union



Curt Richter— Long Prairie



Kevin Kyar— Stowe Prairie



Jacob May— Hartford TWP



Harold Freyholtz— Stowe Prairie



Initiative 5: Forest and Natural Ecosystems

Pheasants Forever; Todd SWCD Tree Program

Todd SWCD 2018 Tree and Plant Sales

- 15,775 Trees
- 250 One Gallon Potted Stock
- 16 Native Plant Kits



Todd SWCD technicians flag the location of trees designed in a windbreak for a field in West Union. Only two windbreak designs were implemented in 2018.

Todd County Farm Biologist Report for 2018

14 CRP Status Reviews
1 CRP Contract Modification
143 contacts/ assistance calls/ visits



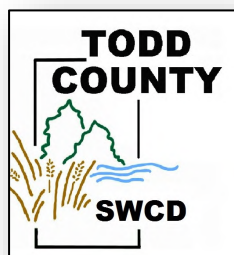
91 new CRP Contracts covering 2,263.82 acres in Todd County

CRP stands for Conservation Reserve Program— a voluntary program setting aside previously farmed acres (marginal, sensitive areas) in exchange for payment to keep the land environmentally protected for a contracted number of years. The program is funded through USDA.

The Purpose of Field Windbreaks

Todd SWCD designs windbreaks for landowners who have cultivated acres. Every spring and fall, tons of good Minnesota top soil is lost before and after crops are on the field. This topsoil will never be regained and typically lands in ditches and other flowing conduits to our rivers and lakes. Leaving behind crop residue is one way to control soil erosion. But for those fields chopped or tilled in the fall and left open, one of the main ways to keep soils out of the ditch and on the field is to slow down the wind or catch water through carefully designed field windbreaks. The direction of wind flow and topography is taken into consideration in the design. The right location, the right tree species for the soils and the right spacing are part of the design process. Save your soils and buy some trees by contacting Todd County SWCD design technicians for assistance this winter.

320-732-2644.



Initiative 6: Public Lands and Waters

*Aquatic Invasive Species Program; Walk-In Access;
Streambank Stabilization*

Todd SWCD in Collaboration with Todd County LGU and Lake Associations End Another Successful Program Year for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in 2018

Program Accomplishments

- * 29,053 boat inspections
- * Up to 30 lakes inspected annually
- * Signage at all DNR landings
- * Monitoring for Zebra Mussels
- * Outreach and Education included articles, radio, presentations, and at outdoor science events



AIS are Commonly Transported by Boats and Trailers

Findings: Watercraft moving between lakes poses a risk to Todd County lakes. An estimated 85,000 boat launches or landings occur at public landings annually within Todd County. Watercraft identified as unclean by AIS inspectors an average 523 times each year. Inspectors only covered about 10% of all launches so this equates to an estimated 5,230 unclean launches occurring annually posing a very real AIS risk to county waters. This is very evident when reviewing AIS inspection data showing where boats are coming from—often lakes and rivers with AIS problems.

Boat inspection data revealed that boaters from an average of 21 different states launch boats in Todd County each year. An estimated 1890 boat launches are made annually from out-of-state craft.

New Threat - Starry Stonewort, a grass like macro-algae first found in Lake Koronis, near Paynesville in Stearns County, 2015, is now confirmed in a dozen MN lakes. The algae grows so thickly it can block boats or swimmers and crowd out native plants.

Todd SWCD Promotes the Walk-In Access Program in 2018

Minnesota DNR's Walk-In Access (WIA) program provides new hunting opportunities on private land. The WIA program is entirely voluntary for landowners and was started in 2011 in 31 southwestern Minnesota Counties. Enrollments have reached over 26,700 acres in Minnesota.

Walk-In Access is a tool to generate additional income of \$10-\$13/acre for landowners who have parcels of >40 acres in high quality natural cover. (Some exceptions apply)

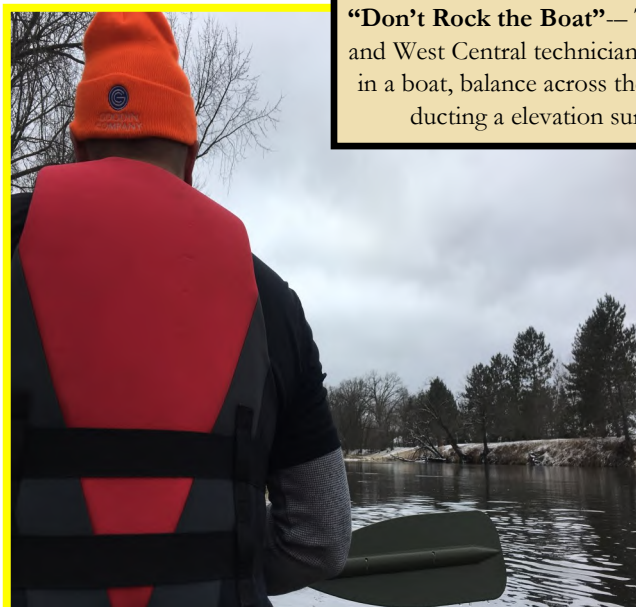
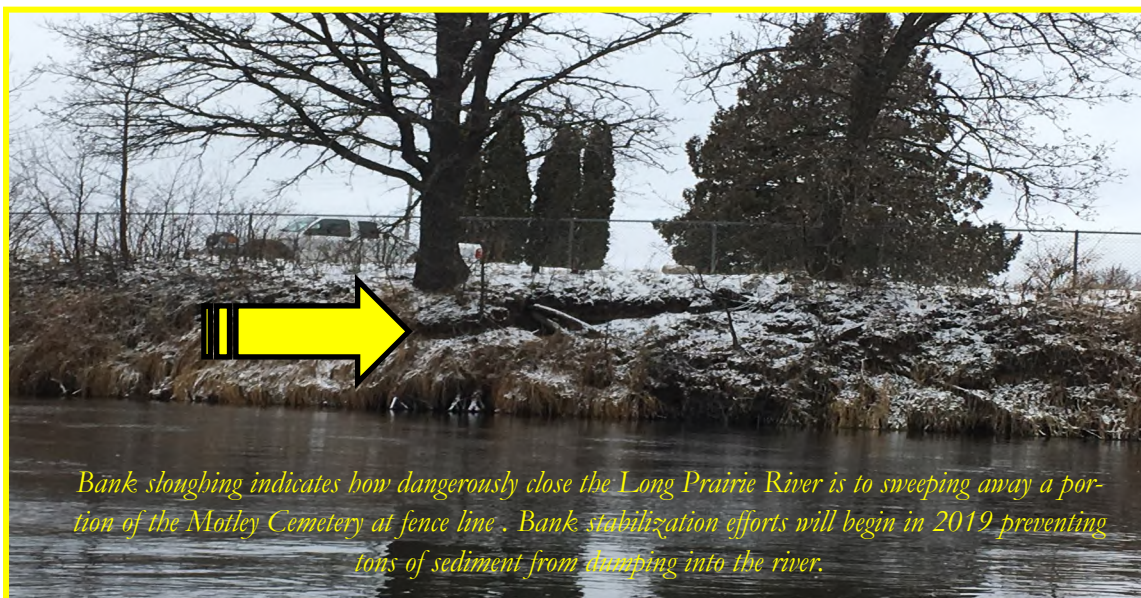
- \$10/acre base rate
- +\$1/acre if >140 acres
- +\$1/acre if <½ mile from public hunting land
- +\$1/acre if enrolled multi-year

Parcels may include those already in a conservation program such as CREP, CRP, RIM or WRP. However, any parcel that has high quality natural vegetation such as grassland, wetland or timber may be considered.

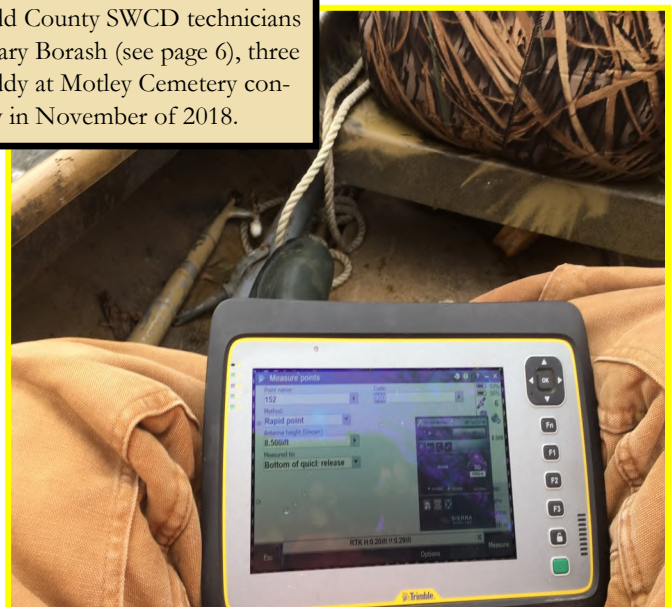
Contracts are 1-3 years and landowners may opt out at any time, without penalty, although payments are pro-rated based on the date of the opt-out. Maps of currently enrolled WIA sites and more information on the program can be found at

Todd SWCD Lands a Second MPCA 319 Grant in 2018!

The Long Prairie Streambank Project grant was awarded after a year's worth of work by Todd SWCD technicians, SWCD Director Tim Stieber, Villard Township officials, and the Motley Cemetery Association. That year's worth of work paid off in the sum of \$156,450 dollars worth of grant funding for a failing bank of the Long Prairie River on Spruce Road in Villard Township and a second eroding bank at the Motley Cemetery. Both locations have streambank erosion threatening road utility on Spruce Road and grave sites at the Motley Cemetery. Pete Berscheid, Todd County Veteran Services Officer, spearheaded an effort to raise an additional \$45,000 match for the Motley Cemetery bank stabilization project using the Region Five County Veteran Service Officers, a multi-county organization involving Todd, Wadena, and Morrison Counties. A Sourcewell grant was obtained for this effort. West Central Technical Service engineers are finalizing designs for each project, and construction is expected to begin in 2019.



“Don’t Rock the Boat”— Todd County SWCD technicians and West Central technician, Gary Borash (see page 6), three in a boat, balance across the eddy at Motley Cemetery conducting an elevation survey in November of 2018.





Another Year in the Books...

2018 Year End

Todd SWCD Completes Three Year 2015 CWP Swan River Grant!



WATER QUALITY PROJECT

~LITTLE SWAN LAKE~

MISSISSIPPI RIVER BRAINERD WATERSHED

Pillsbury Lake Lions Club Park just off of 331st Ave. on the east side of lake.

Clean Water Partnership 2015 through the MPCA.

TSS and Soil Reductions (Shoreline) : **40 tons per year**

TSS (Infiltration): **145 lbs. per year**

Nitrogen Reductions: **6 lbs. per year**

Phosphorus Reductions: **37 lbs. per year**

Pollutant removal: **100% through infiltration**

Total Project Cost: **\$20,567.00**

Landowner Portion (50%): **\$10,283.50** (City of Swanville Lions Club Donated these funds)

Original Site Issues : Runoff from township road was causing erosion and allowing pollutants to flow directly to the lake. Shoreline erosion was active and especially present where historic trees had been lost.

Final Site Modifications: Stormwater Treatment Train—Prior erosion control mechanism (cemented rock chute) removed. Road runoff now goes down curbing to a catch basin and then is diverted to wetland on the opposite side of road. Infiltration trench behind beach wall to catch parking lot water, overflow runs over a vegetated turf reinforcing mat before going to lake. Rock rip rap and coir logs installed along shoreline to stop erosion.



Todd SWCD says thank you and good bye to SWCD Board Supervisor, Norm Krause (left picture on right) after decades of service and to Shannon Wettstein, former Todd SWCD Water Planner, now Manager of Morrison County SWCD.