

**Meeker County
Soil & Water Conservation District**

**Comprehensive Plan
2013 – 2018**

Signed:



Dated:



Introduction

The purpose of Meeker Soil & Water Conservation District's (SWCD) Comprehensive Plan is to direct the Board of Supervisors in effective planning and to prepare a program plan for the accomplishment of its duties in dealing with soil and water management. This plan was developed to cover a five-year period of time.

Meeker SWCD can use its resources to accomplish the goals of the Comprehensive Plan. The District was created under Minnesota Statutes 103C. The District's mission is to assist land owners and occupiers in applying proper practices for the conservation of the soil and water resources. These practices include: prevention and control of soil erosion, conservation planning and development, administering the Reinvest in Minnesota program and the Wetland Conservation Act, AgBMP/State Revolving Fund, observation well monitoring, Walk in Access, and the District tree program.

Meeker SWCD was organized in the fall of 1949 and additional townships were added in 1951 and 1953, and all cities were added in July of 1972. The District was organized for the purpose of assisting land owners and occupiers in dealing with a wide range of conservation protection and flood prevention measures, farm forestry, wildlife improvement, recreation and rural area development within the 17 townships of Meeker County.

At the regular meeting of the Meeker SWCD Board of Supervisors on July 1, 2013, the Board passed a resolution adopting The 2013 – 2023 Meeker County Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) as the SWCD Comprehensive Plan for 2013 – 2018. Enclosed is this resolution, list of supervisors and staff, county map with supervisor districts, soils map and descriptions, State Cost-Share program definitions and practices, five-year budget and workload analysis. The CLWP can be found on the District's website. The State Cost-Share Handbook can be found on the Board of Water and Soil Resources' website. Both can be accessed at the SWCD office.

Resolution 1
Adopting the
Meeker County Comprehensive Local Water Plan
As the Comprehensive Plan of the Meeker SWCD

Supervisor Bob Schiefelbein offered the following Resolution, No. 1, and Dan Barka moved for its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Meeker SWCD has been an active participant in the development and all updates of the Meeker County Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP); and

WHEREAS, the Meeker County CLWP included a map and description of the soil classifications within the conservation district; and

WHEREAS, the Meeker County CLWP identifies the areas within the conservation district where erosion, sedimentation, and related water quality problems are the most severe; and

WHEREAS, the Meeker County CLWP has been approved by the BWSR and has been determined to be in compliance with all laws and rules governing water in the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the Meeker County CLWP identifies high priority erosion, sedimentation, and water quality problems in accordance with BWSR rules and guidelines,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Meeker SWCD adopts the Meeker County CLWP as its Comprehensive Plan for the calendar years 2013 to 2018.

Supervisor Fred Behnke seconded the adoption of the resolution, and it was declared adopted upon the following votes:

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Bob Schiefelbein
Dan Barka
Fred Behnke
Doug Carlson

**Meeker Soil & Water Conservation District
916 East St. Paul Street
Litchfield, MN 55355
320-693-7287**

Board of Supervisors

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Robert Schiefelbein
35359 – 732 Avenue
Kimball, MN 55353
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70228 – 218 Street
Dassel, MN 55325
District 3

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61056 CSAH 28
Litchfield, MN 55355
District 5

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57263 – 260 Street
Grove City, MN 56243
District 4

Member

Thomas Burr
51941 CSAH 20
Paynesville, MN 56362
District 1

Board meetings are held the first Monday of the month at 9 a.m. at the USDA Service Center, 916 East St. Paul Street, Litchfield, Minnesota.

District Staff

District Technician
Joe Norman

Assistant Feedlot Officer
Dana Leibried

District Administrative Secretary
Deb Holtz

Natural Resources Conservation Service Staff

District Conservationist
Dale Johnson

Soil Conservation Technician
Jeremy Buckentin

Farm Bill Grant – Pheasants Forever Staff

Caleb Papenhausen

Meeker County Soil & Water Conservation District

The Meeker County Comprehensive Local Water Plan (CLWP) was adopted in June of 2013. The CLWP summarizes the existing conditions of resources in Meeker County and presents the objectives and policies developed by the Meeker County Water Plan Task Force. Specific implementation measures needed to obtain the desired objectives have been identified.

Chapter 2, "Assessment of Priority Concern," provides an assessment of the priority concerns identified through the CLWP's priority concerns scoping process and categorizes these issues into four topic areas.

Section 1, "Surface Water Quality – Reducing Priority Pollutants" beginning on page 17, provides assessments of how pollutants are affecting Meeker County's surface water quality. Concerns related to impaired waters, feedlots and livestock management, subsurface sewage treatment systems, shoreland and lake management, and land management were identified together with risks and locations within the county.

Section 2, "Erosion and Sediment Control" beginning on page 26, identifies Meeker County's ten major soil associations, which are mapped on page 27. Erosion prone soils are identified and mapped on page 32.

Section 3, "Surface Water Quality – Management" beginning on page 34, discusses agricultural drainage, stormwater management, and wetlands and water retention with risks being identified. Dams and drainage ditches are mapped on page 36.

Section 4, "Groundwater Quality & Quantity" beginning on page 44, discusses concerns for Meeker County's groundwater.

Chapter 3, "Goals, Objectives & Action Steps" establishes Meeker County's goals, objectives and planned action steps for each of the above areas of concern. It also identifies which stakeholders are involved in the implementation of each identified initiative.

In addition, Meeker SWCD identifies soil erosion and the resulting sediment as a surface water quality concern. Sheet, rill, ephemeral and gully erosion occurs in all watersheds.

The practices that would address the county's priority concerns include critical area seedings/plantings; diversions; field windbreaks; living snow fences; shelterbelts; manure basins; grass waterways; riparian buffer strips; water and sediment control; water control structures; streambank, shoreland and roadside stabilizations; stripcropping; terraces; residue management, conservation drainage and wetland

restorations; conservation cover or other conservation practices that establish permanent cover.

Cost-Share Program Priority Definitions:

1. High Priority Erosion Problems: “High priority erosion problems” means areas where erosion from wind or water is occurring equal to, or in excess of, 2 T tons per acre per year or is occurring on any area that exhibits active gully erosion or is identified as high priority in the comprehensive local water plan or the District’s Comprehensive Plan.
2. High Priority Water Quality Problems: “High priority water quality problems” means areas where sediment, nutrients, chemicals, or other pollutants discharge to the Department of Natural Resources designated protected waters or to any high priority waters as identified in the CLWP or the District’s Comprehensive Plan, or discharge to a sinkhole or groundwater. The pollutant delivery rate to the water source is in amounts that will impair the quality or usefulness of the water resource.
3. Practices that are eligible for cost-share to correct high priority erosion and water quality problems are

- Critical Area Planting
- Diversions
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment
- Shelterbelts
- Grassed Waterways
- Livestock Waste Management
- Filter Strips
- Sediment Basins
- Streambank and Shoreline Protection
- Stripcropping
- Terraces
- Well Decommissioning
- Forestry Conservation Practice

The definitions and approved practices are taken from the State of Minnesota Cost-Share Program handbook, which can be found on line at the Board of Water and Soil Resources’ website and are accessible at the Meeker SWCD office.

Specific information and maps about Meeker County soils are found in the CLWP. Water erosion and wind erosion potential maps are found in the CLWP.

Meeker County SWCD Projected Five-Year Budget

<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Actual CY-2013</u>	<u>CY-2014</u>	<u>CY-2015</u>	<u>CY-2016</u>	<u>CY-2017</u>	<u>CY-2018</u>
Intergovernmental Revenue						
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0
State						
General Services	\$18,552	\$18,552	\$18,552	\$18,552	\$18,500	\$18,500
T & A Services	3,894	3,894	3,894	3,894	4,000	4,000
Well Observation	600	800	800	800	800	800
RIM Services	3,968	3,968	3,968	3,968	4,000	4,000
Cost-Share Work *	15,576	15,576	15,576	15,576	16,000	16,000
Farm Bill Grant *	31,500	31,500	31,500	31,500	32,000	32,000
County	<u>162,500</u>	<u>162,500</u>	<u>162,500</u>	<u>165,000</u>	<u>167,200</u>	<u>171,200</u>
Total Intergovmt. Revenue	236,590	236,790	236,790	239,290	242,500	246,500
Charges for Services						
Sale of Trees/Fabric	15,000	16,000	23,886	25,286	27,000	27,000
Miscellaneous Revenue						
Interest	<u>750</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$252,340</u>	<u>\$253,190</u>	<u>\$261,076</u>	<u>\$265,076</u>	<u>\$270,000</u>	<u>\$274,000</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>						
District Operations						
Personal Services	\$147,500	\$151,925	\$155,000	\$158,000	\$161,000	\$164,000
Other Services and Charges	21,464	19,889	20,000	20,500	21,000	21,500
Supplies and Capital Outlay	<u>21,300</u>	<u>18,300</u>	<u>18,000</u>	<u>18,500</u>	<u>19,000</u>	<u>19,500</u>
Total District Operations	190,264	190,114	193,000	197,000	201,000	205,000
Project Expense – Cost-Share *	15,576	15,576	15,576	15,576	16,000	16,000
Project Expense – Trees/Fabric	15,000	16,000	21,000	21,000	21,000	21,000
Farm Bill Biologist *	<u>31,500</u>	<u>31,500</u>	<u>31,500</u>	<u>31,500</u>	<u>32,000</u>	<u>32,000</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$252,340</u>	<u>\$253,190</u>	<u>\$261,076</u>	<u>\$265,076</u>	<u>\$270,000</u>	<u>\$274,000</u>

* These funds are considered pass-through dollars.

Workload Analysis Worksheet

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Administration</u>	<u>Technical</u>	<u>Clerical</u>
Reports and Financial	40	10	42
Meetings	1	25	10
eLINK	4	5	9
Education	0	1	3
Conservation Planning & Application	0	62	0
State Cost-Share Program	0	25	18
RIM Easements	0	110	1
Tree Program	0	66	6
Feedlot Program	4	85	110
State Revolving Fund	0	5	4
Agricultural Inspector	3	12	4
Wetland Conservation Act	<u>0</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>1</u>
Days Needed to Address Work Plan	8	460	252

Staff Days Available

<u>Staff Position</u>	<u>Work Days</u>	<u>Paid Leave</u>	<u>Total Days</u>
Secretary (1/2 time)	120	10	130
Technician	240	20	260
Assistant Feedlot Officer/Ag Insp	240	20	260
Farm Bill Biologist (1/2 time)	<u>120</u>	10	130
	720		

One full-time staff year is 260 days. Paid Leave includes annual leave, holidays and sick leave.