



**ANOKA CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**

2009 ANNUAL PLAN

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AN INVITATION FROM THE CHAIR

MARY JO TRUCHON

We are happy to invite you to review the 2009 Annual Plan of the Anoka Conservation District. Thank you very much for your interest in our activities. The Board of Supervisors and ACD staff are dedicated to providing the services necessary to complete the goals of the Annual Plan. We continue to strive to improve delivery of these services. We have actively promoted our programs, worked closely with other environmental and government agencies and sought training to assist us in doing a better job.

Anoka Conservation District adopted the following mission statement:

- ❖ **inform and assist county residents and landowners in natural resource management,**
- ❖ **conduct research and monitoring for soil and water conservation,**
- ❖ **promote practices for soil and water conservation,**
- ❖ **and serve as a guide to local units of government in land use planning.**

We have prioritized our activities to coincide with our mission statement and aligned District goals and objectives to fulfill that mission.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Anoka Conservation District Board of Supervisors would like to extend their sincere appreciation to the following agencies and individuals for their assistance throughout the year.

ANOKA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

Our sincere appreciation goes to the Anoka County Board of Commissioners. In 2009 the Commissioners are:

District 1	Dennis Berg
District 2	Dick Lang
District 3	Robin West
District 4	Jim Kordiak
District 5	Scott LeDoux
District 6	Rhonda Sivarajah
District 7	Dan Erhart

It is the continued financial support of Anoka County that enables the District to manage and direct the programs protecting Anoka County's environmental assets.

ANOKA COUNTY DEPARTMENTS

Several Anoka County departments provide ACD with the benefit of their expertise in complex matters. Their professionalism and diligence is greatly appreciated.

PAYROLL

Jerry Hennek, Mary Anderson, Cassandra Bologna, Cheryl Peloquin, and Candace Handapangoda

PARKS

John VonDeLinde, Jeff Perry and Tim Sevcik

RISK MANAGEMENT

John Sullivan, Bill Keller, Cheryl Alberts

ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Tom Haluska, Pam McCabe and Dan Klint

HUMAN RESOURCES

John Sprague and Melanie Ault

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Marina "Rina" McManus, Spencer "Spence" Pierce, Jon Christensen and Bart Biernat

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

The ACD appreciates the continued support, technical assistance and training provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). District Conservationist Mary Monte deserves special thanks for assisting Anoka County's agricultural producers. Our appreciation is extended to State Conservationists Bill Hunt for financial support from the USDA NRCS to fund the landscape restoration specialist positions currently serving the seven county metro area from our office.

INTRODUCTION

2009 begins the 64th year of operation for the Anoka Conservation District (ACD). During this time the District has developed programs and applied technology to address natural resource issues. Originally, the main responsibility of soil and water conservation districts was to control soil and water erosion caused by runoff and wind. Changing land uses have expanded those responsibilities to encompass a broad spectrum of conservation and natural resource practices. The District strives to provide an overall program of well-rounded conservation services to Anoka County residents.

Each conservation district analyzes resource needs and issues to develop an inventory for planning purposes. Erosion, pollution, soil limitations, land capabilities, water supplies, forestry, development trends, wetlands and wildlife habitats are considered in the planning process. The annual plan outlines what measures need to be implemented to improve present conditions and address future needs.

The annual plan is the written directive for achieving the goals set forth in the Comprehensive Plan. It contains plans and procedures that will be followed in the upcoming year to attain the main objectives of the ACD. The document outlines a plan of work with respect to the natural resources of Anoka County and how legislative actions, funding, staffing, public interest and growth affect them.

For the most part ACD will focus on continuing the successful programs and services developed in prior years. There are, however, some noteworthy initiatives underway. In partnership with several agencies, we are pursuing the assessment of subwatersheds for high priority impaired waters for water quality

BMP retrofits. We have rallied financial support for a county geologic atlas and are committed to providing the necessary field work to see that effort come to fruition. We intend to continue workshops in partnership with cities and watershed districts. Buckthorn control in high quality ecosystems proved very efficient and so funding for additional treatment will be pursued. Finally, WCA enforcement efforts will be enhanced utilizing funding from a BWSR grant.

ANOKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT MISSION

The mission of the Anoka Conservation District is to:

- inform and assist county residents and landowners in natural resource management,
- conduct research and monitoring for soil and water conservation,
- promote practices for soil and water conservation,
- and serve as a guide to local units of government in land use planning.

DISTRICT CONCERNS

Listed in descending order of priority as identified in the ACD's Comprehensive Plan

1. Natural Habitats
 - Natural Communities
 - Wildlife Connectivity
 - Wetlands
 - Preservation/Enhancement
2. Water Quality
 - Lake
 - Stream/River
 - Groundwater
 - Wetlands
3. Development Impacts (minimize negative impacts)
 - Guidance
 - Assistance
 - Education
 - Local Accountability
4. Private Land Stewardship
 - Conservation Easements
 - Lakeshore/ Stream Restoration
 - Rain Gardens
5. Influencing Public Policy
 - State Legislature
 - City Ordinances

DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

District	Name	Office	Term Expiration
I	Karla Komec	Member	12/31/12
II	Jim Lindahl	Member	12/31/12
III	Sandra DeLaForest	Vice Chair	12/31/10
IV	Mary Jo Truchon	Chair	12/31/10
V	Vici Nass	Treasurer	12/31/12

Regular board meetings of the ACD are generally held on the third Monday of each month. A yearly meeting schedule is posted in the office of the ACD and on ACD's official website, www.AnokaSWCD.org. Regular board meetings and committee meetings are held at the District office in Ham Lake unless otherwise noted.

ACD COMMITTEES

ACD supervisors also serve on committees to analyze detailed information on issues requiring intensive review prior to full board action. Some committees are internal and others function on a metro or statewide level. Supervisors choose to participate in committee meetings to offer personal expertise in the area of discussion or to gain more knowledge of the subject matter. Each supervisor is encouraged to serve on at least two committees.

Finance	Operations	Personnel
Nass, Chair	Lindahl, Chair	Komec, Chair
Komec	DeLaForest	Nass
Lindahl	Truchon	Truchon
Truchon (alt)	Nass (alt)	DeLaForest (alt)
Metro Association	DeLaForest/Lindahl	
CCWD Citizen Advisory	Lindahl	
RCWD Citizen Advisory	Truchon	
Area IV Association	Nass/Truchon/DeLaForest	

DISTRICT STAFF

Current and projected staff has 1573 workdays in administrative and technical support to contribute to District goals and objectives.

District objectives, as described in the following section, will require approximately 1651 workdays to complete. This leaves a deficit of 78.

ACD	Position
Chris Lord	District Manager (1 full time)
Kathy Berkness	Admin. Assist. (.9 part time)
Jamie Schurbon	Water Resource Spec. (1 full time)
Dennis Rodacker	Wetland Spec. (1 full time)
John Loomis	Assist. Water Resource Tech. (.4 part time)
Not yet hired	Geologic Atlas Technician (.5)
Gregg Thompson	Landscape Restoration Spec. (.13 Anoka)
Shawn Tracy	Landscape Restoration Spec. (.12 Anoka)
Nate Zwonitzer	Conservation Tech. (1 temp full time)

NRCS Position	(office in Elk River)
Mary Monte	District Conservationist
Jerry Anderson	Soil Conservation Technician

OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

The following matrix was pulled from ACD's 2008-2009 Comprehensive Plan.

The ACD Board of Supervisors has identified five major issues to address in Anoka County in the coming years: natural habitats, water quality, development impacts, private land stewardship, and public policy. There are several means of addressing a given issue. ACD has selected the following general mechanisms: educate, fund, monitor, review, and promote.

Mechanism	Natural Habitats	Water Quality	Development (min. impacts)	Private Land Stewardship	Influencing Public Policy
<u>Educate</u> the public by conducting presentations and developing educational materials such as brochures, newsletters, and displays to convey knowledge of and appreciation for natural resource topics dealing with priority issues.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<u>Educate</u> landowners with heritage communities about land stewardship and the value of their resource by providing pertinent information on the website.	✓				
<u>Fund</u> conservation practices on high priority problems by supplying landowners with cost share funds and technical assistance.		✓		✓	
<u>Monitor</u> lake and stream water quality in the high priority water bodies to maintain a baseline of data and to identify trends		✓			
<u>Monitor</u> lake, stream, and groundwater levels to better understand water quantity trends and interactions.		✓			

Mechanism	Natural Habitats	Water Quality	Development (min. impacts)	Private Land Stewardship	Influencing Public Policy
<u>Monitor</u> precipitation primarily utilizing a volunteer network.		✓			
<u>Monitor</u> water resources to diagnose the nature of problems uncovered via routine monitoring.		✓			
<u>Promote</u> habitat creation and reforestation through distribution of tree and shrub seedlings at an annual sale.	✓			✓	
<u>Promote</u> the establishment of a greenway network and protection of natural communities by conducting greenways planning and educational programs.	✓		✓	✓	✓
<u>Promote</u> utilization of upland buffers around wetlands to provide habitat as compensation for wetland fill beyond the 1:1 replacement minimum.	✓	✓	✓		✓
<u>Promote</u> conservation design development where feasible to maintain larger contiguous habitats.	✓	✓	✓		✓
<u>Promote</u> acquisition of heritage communities by the local, county and state parks.	✓	✓			✓
<u>Promote</u> ecological restoration of degraded wetlands.	✓			✓	
<u>Promote</u> conservation ethic to LGU's by attending council meetings to forward stewardship agenda.	✓			✓	✓
<u>Promote</u> storm water management, erosion control, and water quality awareness to LGU's by attending council or P&Z meetings to explain the rationale for recommendations supplied as part of the plat review process.		✓	✓		✓
<u>Promote</u> wise natural resource utilization by expanding plat review service to municipalities not currently utilizing the service.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<u>Promote</u> water quality awareness by making sample bottles available for drinking water analysis.		✓		✓	

Mechanism	Natural Habitats	Water Quality	Development (min. impacts)	Private Land Stewardship	Influencing Public Policy
Promote water quality awareness to Lake Associations by undertaking cooperative programs to benefits lakes.	✓	✓		✓	
Promote disclosure of the resource limitations of a property at the time of sale (soils, wetlands, flood plain, etc.).		✓	✓	✓	✓
Promote LGU and county funding mechanisms that are not based on property taxes thereby removing the incentive for full development without conservation.	✓	✓	✓		✓
Promote stable funding for SWCD's by supporting the MASWCD in its efforts and by directly contacting county commissioners and legislators.					✓
Promote compliance with existing statutes, rules and guidance regarding conservation issues.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Promote efforts to place the cost of environmental regulation on those responsible for its degradation (fees for discharge and grading).		✓	✓		✓
Review preliminary plats, DNR and COE permits and make recommendations for erosion control, habitat enhancement and protection and water quality and quantity management.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Review WCA related permits and delineations and promote wetland avoidance/ restoration/ utilization for water quality treatment, flood water attenuation, and wildlife habitat and provide quality control for delineations and exemption determinations.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Addressing the identified objectives requires many programs and services. Following is a summary of ACD's ongoing and proposed efforts presented in the order of how much staff time is dedicated to them.

General Admin/Vacation/Holiday - This category accounts for that portion of each employee's time that is consumed with general district business along with vacation and holiday time. Administrative tasks performed by the District Manager and Administrative Assistant are also included in this category, composing the bulk of the hours.

Wetlands (WCA) - ACD employs a full time Wetland Specialist whose sole purpose is to assist residents with compliance with the Wetland Conservation Act of 1991 and to serve as a quality control mechanism. Staff will continue in 2009 to follow up on replacement site monitoring, an activity that has been neglected in the past. LGU's will be encouraged to utilize escrows and deed restrictions to achieve compliance.

WCA Enforcement - In response to a new grant program, ACD staff will enhance efforts to enforce the Wetland Conservation Act of 1991 by directing more staff time toward resolution of existing and future violations.

Watershed Assessment for Retrofit BMPs - Building from recently completed Non-Degradation Reports and in preparation for approval of various TMDLs, ACD is pursuing funding to prioritize subwatersheds based upon the pollutant load and receiving water body and to conduct assessments on the highest priority subwatersheds to determine the feasibility of implementing stormwater retrofit BMPs. ACD will be working with CCWD to complete subwatershed retrofit analysis in the Sand Creek watershed and is in discussions with RCWD, the City of Blaine and the City of Fridley to complete similar studies in other priority watersheds.

Landscape Restoration - Two Landscape Restoration Specialists,

and to a lesser degree other staff, design and install landscape restoration projects. The Landscape Restoration Specialists are housed at ACD but work throughout the metro. Projects include lakeshore restorations, stream and riverbank stabilizations, rain gardens and other stormwater retrofits, upland habitat restoration, education programs, and others. We favor the use of soft engineering techniques, especially those using native vegetation, to simultaneously correct problems and provide improved wildlife habitat.

Website - ACD manages two websites and provides website host and management services to four Watershed Management Organizations. The ACD websites include one about the ACD (www.AnokaSWCD.org) and one that serves as a general library of natural resources information about the county (www.AnokaNaturalResources.com). All of these websites feature an online mapping tool and interactive access to water resources data.

Promotion - As ACD pursues new partnerships and funding sources to develop programs and services that address the objective identified by the board of supervisors, their time is recorded as promotion. Other promotion activities include speaking at public events, workshops, and other activities that increase program visibility. Promotion of district programs and services is also achieved through partnerships and outreach to other agencies and entities that share the same jurisdiction or purpose such as the City of Ramsey's Environmental Policy Board and the Anoka County Board of Commissioners. One way of networking with these groups is through the chambers of commerce and the Anoka County Elected Officials group.

General Planning - Effective natural resource management requires both cooperative planning with other agencies, as well as within-agency prioritization. These efforts involve ACD staff, supervisors, other elected officials, and other agencies. In 2009 ACD staff and supervisors will engage in a comprehensive planning process to complete the 2010-2015 ACD Comp Plan.

Biomonitoring of Streams - The stream biological monitoring program is both an educational program and a stream health assessment tool. The biomonitoring program relies upon students, with guidance from their teachers, to conduct the sampling and rudimentary sample sorting as part of their high school ecology curriculum. The program uses benthic (bottom dwelling) macroinvertebrates to determine stream health. Because of their extended exposure to stream conditions and sensitivity to habitat and water quality, they can serve as good indicators of stream health. In 2008 there were approximately 500 students from six high schools who monitored six sites under ACD supervision.

Staff Training - ACD offers staff continuing education opportunities through professional workshops, conferences, and purchase of books and other materials.

Lake Water Quality Monitoring - ACD monitors water quality of most recreational lakes in the county. Initially we monitored all lakes frequently. Now that a baseline of data exists, monitoring is most frequent (every 1-3 yrs) on those lakes with suspected problems, new stresses, or ongoing management. Other lakes are monitored less frequently (every 3-4 yrs).

Greenways/Conservation Easements - ACD holds conservation easements. Technical and administrative assistance is provided to landowners interested in donating a conservation easement. Preparation of easement documents and natural resource management plans can be very time consuming and expensive to contract for in the private sector. This expense can be a large deterrent to interested landowners. Once easements are established, annual inspections and meetings with the landowner are important to ensure that there are no easement violations and that progress is being made on approved management plans. A lack of easement maintenance funding to implement management plans has been identified as an issue that staff needs to address. ACD currently holds two conservation easements totaling 250 acres. Land protection is encouraged within the wildlife corridor network identified during prior greenways planning efforts with communities. Land protection will be encouraged during the development review

process when the development is located on an identified wildlife corridor.

Tree Sales - ACD hosts an annual tree and shrub seedling sale. We typically sell 27,000+ seedlings to 300+ landowners. We sell seedlings in bundles of 25, as our focus is habitat improvement, not individual landscaping trees. The tree sale is an opportunity to provide one-on-one consultations with landowners about habitat improvement. We also provide some native grass and wildflower seed. The addition of online credit card order processing and frequent newspaper articles regarding trees and conservation should boost sales. An evergreen variety pack has been added for 2009 and additional variety packs will be considered in the future.

Education/ Homeowner Guide - Educational efforts include workshops, brochures, direct mailings, and messages on our illuminated signage along 4-lane highway 65. One of our largest and most recent efforts was the booklet "Outdoors in Anoka County: a Homeowners Guide." 4,000 of these booklets are being distributed to homes adjacent to important natural areas. Several educational initiatives are being considered for 2009 including an EcoFair to raise funds for staff and supervisor education, outreach to The Lakes and Club West developments to encourage compliance with lake buffer standards, a partnership with the Lake George Conservation Club to improve lake stewardship, a wetland excavation brochure to be distributed through LGUs, and regular cable broadcasts on a variety of conservation topics.

Cost Share - Cost share grants are offered along with our landscape restoration services to encourage projects on private lands that will have public benefits of water quality or wildlife habitat. In the latter half of 2008, ACD partnered with RCWD to administer RCWD's cost share program. Through this partnership, ACD meets with landowners to discuss potential resource management strategies, assists with the development of practice designs and cost estimates, coordinates cost share requests with funding sources, and oversees project installation. RCWD provides the bulk of the cost share funds and ACD and RCWD work together to promote and prioritize project activities. Grants, funded mostly

by partner agencies but administered by ACD, typically provide 50-75% cost share on materials. Increased funding commitments from WMOs will be sought to increase conservation practice installations. Landowners may be charged fees for design assistance to limit the amount of speculative technical assistance that does not result in a conservation project.

GIS Assistance - ACD has expertise in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology, which allows for the production of complex maps, and offers these services to improve natural resources management planning and projects.

Water Resources Assessment and Investigation - The Water Resource Specialist and Technician work with other state and local agencies to investigate water resources problems such as water quality impairments and hydrological problems. No special assessments are planned for 2009.

Buckthorn Treatment - Buckthorn is an invasive small tree that is prolific in Anoka County woodlands and has a dramatic negative impact on forest quality and wildlife. ACD has undertaken a "buckthorn clean sweep" project, where sparse buckthorn infestations in our highest quality natural areas are being eradicated. In recent years 790 acres have been cleared. ACD will pursue funding to continue this effort. ACD will dedicate some staff and financial resources in November of each year regardless of outside funding to ensure continuity in this area.

Lake Level Monitoring - Volunteers monitor water levels in 24 lakes. ACD coordinates this effort by installing and surveying lake gauges, providing datasheets, quality checking data, and submitting data to the DNR for their website.

Stream Quality Monitoring - A variable number of streams are monitored each year, typically 5-10 sites. Monitoring is done for problem detection and diagnosis of known problems, including TMDL studies.

Stream Hydrology/Discharge Monitoring - A variable number of streams each year have continuous water level monitoring devices. We used to monitor 8-12 sites but have reduced that to 3 sites due

to a lack of funds. This monitoring is often paired with water quality studies so pollutant loading calculations and modeling can be done.

Land Cover Update - ACD conducted land cover inventory of the entire county between 1999 and 2005. The earliest inventoried areas are in need of updating since the protocols were improved during the inventory process. The updating process was initiated in 2008 and will be completed in 2009.

Rum River WOMP - ACD operates the Metropolitan Council's water quality and quantity monitoring station in the City of Anoka on the Rum River.

Plat Reviews - ACD staff review development proposals in several municipalities and provide comments ranging from erosion and sediment control and wetland compliance to habitat improvement and soils use limitations. Municipalities incorporate ACD's comments at their discretion. This process would be significantly enhanced if ACD were to become involved at the sketch plan phase and if more cities utilized the service. The housing market slump has drastically reduced work load in this area. Additionally, planning and zoning commission members should receive copies of ACD's comments directly and ACD staff should offer to attend P&Z meetings for higher priority development proposals.

Reference Wetland Monitoring - Wetland regulations are often focused upon determining whether an area is, or is not, a wetland. This is difficult at times because most wetlands are not continually wet. In order to facilitate fair, accurate wetland determinations the ACD monitors 18 wetlands throughout the county that serve as a reference of conditions. Electronic monitoring wells are used to measure subsurface water levels at the wetland edge every four hours up to a depth of 40 inches. This hydrologic information, along with examination of the vegetation and soils, aids in accurate wetland determinations and delineations. These reference wetlands represent several wetland types and some have been monitored for 10+ years.

Wetland Delineation - ACD's Wetland Specialist periodically provides wetland delineation services for small projects. This helps

to maintain the delineation skills of staff, which is critical for the effective implementation of quality control measures for WCA compliance. It also provides residents with a reasonably priced service for very small sites.

Observation Well Monitoring - The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) and ACD are interested in understanding Minnesota's groundwater quantity and flow. The MN DNR maintains a network of groundwater observation wells across the state. The ACD is contracted to take monthly water level readings at 15 wells in Anoka County during March - December. The MN DNR incorporates these data into a statewide database that aids in groundwater mapping.

SRWMO Planning Assistance - The Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization's Watershed Management Plan expires at the end of 2009. ACD has been contracted to provide planning services and will be working with the SRWMO throughout 2009 to complete the plan.

Geologic Atlas - ACD was presented with an opportunity to complete a geologic atlas for Anoka County by providing an in-kind match to the MN Geologic Survey to provide technical services digitizing well information. Several partners have agreed to help fund the field work that ACD will perform. Additional seasonal staff will be added in 2009 to accommodate this project.

URRWMO Planning Assistance - The Upper Rum River Watershed Management Organization updated its Watershed Management Plan with assistance from ACD and a consultant. Throughout 2008 ACD facilitated a technical advisory committee that developed wetland and stormwater management standards, amended them to the WMO Plan and incorporated them into member city ordinances and control measures. This effort will likely be completed by January 2009.

DNR/COE Permit Review - The MN Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers both copy ACD on permit applications. ACD staff review and comment on all natural resource management implications.

Rain Gauge Network - Precipitation can be quite variable across the

county. In order to obtain accurate data to pair with other hydrological monitoring programs ACD manages a network of 5 datalogging rain gauges and 15 manual gauges operated by volunteers.

STAFFING REQUIREMENTS

Objective Addressed: Natural Habitats (NH) Water Quality (WQI)
Development (D) Private Land Stewardship (PLS) Public Policy (PP)

Program	2009	Objective Addressed
General Admin/Vacation/Holiday	1.350	NH, WQI, D, PLS, PP
Geologic Atlas	.750	WQI
Wetlands (WCA)	.700	NH, WQI, D
WCA Enforcement	.330	NH, WQI, D
Watershed Assess for Retrofit	.300	WQI, D, PLS, PP
Web Site	.300	NH, WQI, PP
Promotion	.250	NH, WQI, D, PLS, PP
Education/Outreach	.250	NH, WQI, D, PLS, PP
Landscape Restoration	.250	HN, WQI, PLS
SRWMO Planning Assistance	.250	NH, WQI, D, PLS, PP
Cost Share	.250	NH, WQI, PLS
Lake Water Quality Monitoring	.169	NH, WQI, D, PLS, PP
General Planning	.165	NH, WQI, D, PLS, PP
Biomonitoring of Streams	.135	NH, WQI, D, PLS,
Greenways/Cons. Easements	.135	NH, WQI, D, PLS, PP
Trees Sales	.127	NH, D, PLS
Staff Training	.100	NH, WQI, D, PLS, PP
Landcover Update	.096	NH, PLS
Stream Water Qual. Monitoring	.077	WQI, D, PLS, PP
Lake Level Monitoring	.065	WQI, PLS, PP
Buckthorn Treatment	.038	NH, PLS
Reference Wetland Monitoring	.038	WQI, PP
GIS Assistance	.032	NH, WQI, D, PLS, PP
Water Res. Assess & Invest.	.032	WQI, D, PLS, PP
Wetland Delineation	.032	NH, D, PLS, PP
Observation Well Monitoring	.032	WQI, PP
Stream Hydrology/Discharge	.027	WQI, D, PLS, PP
Plat Reviews	.027	NH, WQI, D, PP
URRWMO Planning Assistance	.019	NH, WQI, D, PLS, PP
Rum River WOMP	.015	WQI, D, PLS, PP
DNR/COE Permit Review	.004	NH, WQI, D, PLS, PP
Rain Gauge Network	.004	WQI, PP
Total	6.349	

COST-SHARE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Cost-share programs are divided into two general categories: agricultural and urban.

NATURE AND EXTENT OF HIGH PRIORITY AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS

High priority erosion problems are defined as: "Erosion from wind and/or water occurring on Class I-IV soil in excess of 2T tons/acres/year of any soil within 300 feet of a stream or 1,000 feet of a water basin designated as a protected water or wetland by the DNR, eroding in excess of 2T tons/acre/year". Those areas in Anoka County are all located in the northwest part of the county. Wind erosion is also a problem that is accounted for in this analysis. Eighteen thousand acres of sandy out-wash soils have close to 2T erosion potential.

High priority sedimentation problems are defined as: "All areas within 300 feet of a stream or 1,000 feet of a lake where the erosion rate exceeds 3T tons/acre/year and where the Conservation District can show that sedimentation delivery for a watershed out-letting to these waters exceeds 2T tons/acre/year. The lake or stream must be classified by the DNR as a protected water."

High priority feedlots are defined as: "Those feedlots where the pollution rating (from the Agricultural Waste Model) is greater than or equal to one and is discharging pollutants to DNR designated protected waters or wetlands; to shallow soils overlying fractured bedrock; or within 150 feet of a water well." Feedlots, when improperly located with respect to water resources, and improperly managed to prevent runoff from entering a lake or a stream, can downgrade water

quality. Feedlots have not been actively tracked in Anoka County. An inventory of feedlot location, size and regulatory compliance is needed before significant effort can be put into cost share in this area.

AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION MEASURES NEEDED

Practices being used to control water erosion are: conservation tillage, grassed waterways, contour farming, strip-cropping, diversions, terraces, water and sediment control basins, and critical area plantings.

Practices used to control wind erosion are; conservation tillage, field windbreaks, wind strip-cropping and permanent vegetative cover.

Practices used to control feedlot pollution are: waste management systems, waste storage ponds, waste storage structures, waste utilization plans and diversions.

NATURE AND EXTENT OF HIGH PRIORITY URBAN PROBLEMS

With a limited agricultural constituency, ACD has noted significant erosion problems associated with urban and urbanizing land uses. Streambank erosion has been accelerated by more dramatic bounces in stream elevations that last for a longer duration. Lakeshore erosion has been accelerated due to the practice of maintaining a manicured lawn to the waters edge and wind and water erosion have become a greater concern due to mass grading on construction sites.

Ultimately, these all have the potential to degrade surface water quality. Sedimentation is the largest contributor to water quality degradation. Storm sewers are conduits for fertilizers, pesticides, chemicals, solvents, road salt and other contaminants to open water resources. Any structural,

grading or vegetative practice that has the potential to improve and protect water quality is a candidate for cost share.

URBAN CONSERVATION MEASURES NEEDED

The following conservation practices may be necessary to address high priority erosion, sedimentation, and water quality problems in Anoka County. Innovative methods are encouraged.

- Temporary construction site erosion and sediment control practices,
- Grade stabilization structures,
- Streambank and lakeshore protection (rock rip rap, bioengineering),
- Urban stormwater retrofit practices,
- Critical area/slope stabilization,
- Stormwater conveyance system management,
- Model ordinances addressing erosion control, stormwater management, wetland preservation, groundwater protection, and
- Reduction of sediment/chemical application to streets.

BUDGET PROJECTIONS

Year	Personnel	Operating	Capital	County Allotment	BWSR Allotment
1991	\$67,586	\$57,164	\$2,098	\$62,500	\$9,547
1992	\$97,023	\$25,943	\$443	\$65,500	\$9,061
1993	\$106,925	\$34,448	\$2,241	\$70,000	\$9,537
1994	\$133,325	\$24,915	\$2111	\$72,000	\$9,398
1995	\$118,828	\$26,656	\$7,983	\$79,000	\$9,398
1996	\$118,272	\$34,735	\$19,423	\$83,350	\$12,094
1997	\$123,608	\$38,751	\$15,195	\$90,137	\$13,338
1998	\$129,630	\$38,657	\$3,862	\$94,013	\$16,500
1999	\$153,938	\$44,374	\$22,050	\$98,150	\$19,260
2000	\$213,469	\$50,763	\$13,429	\$114,640	\$22,752
2001	\$248,552	\$53,769	\$11,743	\$126,000	\$24,253
2002	\$315,787	\$51,340	\$37,406	\$137,500	\$24,469
2003	\$327,590	\$50,590	\$13,080	\$143,233	\$25,304
2004	\$389,124	\$52,775	\$2,801	\$125,000	\$24,039
2005	\$408,687	\$59,026	\$22,540	\$138,750	\$25,000
2006	\$410,736	\$56,908	\$11,647	\$144,000	\$25,000
2007	\$456,908	\$50,616	\$16,173	\$140,000	\$25,304
2008	\$445,687	\$61,373	\$6,436	\$145,600	\$21,812
2009*	\$484,118	\$58,730	\$6,306	\$150,987	\$25,000

* Estimated

FUNDS NEEDED FOR IMPLEMENTATION

REVENUE SUMMARY

Charges for Services	177,595
Interest	2,000
Withdrawal from Funds	28,493
Local /Regional Grants	169,000
County Grants	214,005
<u>State Grants</u>	<u>169,857</u>
Total	\$732,457

PASS THROUGH SUMMARY **\$52,979**

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

Personnel Services	484,118
District Operations	58,730
District Projects	211,796
Deposit to Funds	0
<u>Capital Expenses</u>	<u>6,306</u>
Total	\$760,950

REVENUE DETAIL

Charges for Services

Plat Reviews	\$ 350
WCA Administration	\$ 1,000
Wetlands	\$ 2,000
Easement Admin	\$ 300
Equipment Rental	\$ 500
Education	\$ 320
Labor Reimbursement	\$ 2,500
Tree Program	\$ 30,500
WMO/Local Contracts	\$ 140,125
Interest	\$ 2,000

Total **\$179,595**

Grants

LOCAL/REGIONAL

Landscape Restoration Program	\$ 168,000
Met Council WOMP	\$ 1,000

Total **\$169,000**

COUNTY

Ag Preserves	\$ 63,018
General Services	\$ 150,987

Total **\$214,005**

STATE

Well Monitoring	\$ 1,320
Shoreland (pass through)	\$ 2,979
ISTS (pass through)	\$ 1,500
State Cost Share (pass through)	\$ 14,000
State Cost Share Admin	\$ 2,800
WCA Block Grant Admin	\$ 38,000
WCA Block Grant (pass through)	\$ 44,000
NRBG Local Water Planning	\$ 10,658
BWSR WCA Enforcement	\$ 29,600
General Service	\$ 25,000

Total **\$169,857**

EXPENSES DETAIL

Personnel Services

Permanent Salaries	\$ 348,140
Temporary Salaries	\$ 43,026
Benefits	\$ 37,380
Social Security	\$ 29,924
PERA	\$ 24,448
LTD Insurance	\$ 1,200

Total	\$484,118
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Office Overhead

Supv Per Diem	\$ 10,000
Supv Pera	\$ 180
Supv Medicare	\$ 150
Supv Mileage & Exp	\$ 2,000
Employee Exp & Mile	\$ 1,000
Vehicle Insurance, Gas, Maintenance	\$ 5,000
Office Maintenance	\$ 1,200
Office Supplies	\$ 1,500
Fees/Dues	\$ 4,000
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 250
Training & Seminars	\$ 5,500
Rent	\$ 17,000
Monthly Bills	\$ 4,200
Cleaning	\$ 1,650
Computer Tech Support	\$ 2,000
Misc.	\$ 50
Postage	\$ 550
Prof. Services (Audit, Ads etc...)	\$ 2,500

Total	\$ 58,730
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District Projects

Website	\$ 2,200
Promotion/Volunteer Banquet	\$ 600
Wetland Supplies	\$ 150
Education and promotion	\$ 900
Tree Program	\$ 20,000
WMO Local Contracts	\$ 13,889
Landscape Restoration Program	\$ 20,000
Landscape Restoration Program Expenses	\$ 41,512
AG Preserves	\$ 33,516
State	\$ 78,979
Met Council WOMP	\$ 50
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Total	\$211,796

Capital

District Car	\$ 4,000
WM40 Monitoring Well	\$ 806
Computer	\$ 1,500
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Total Capital Expense	\$ 6,306

Pass Through Detail

Shoreland	\$ 2,979
ISTS	\$ 1,500
State Cost Share	\$ 14,000
WCA Block Grant	\$ 34,500
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Total Pass Through	\$ 52,979