
2009 Annual Report

**Todd
Soil & Water
Conservation
District**

*607 9th Street NE
Long Prairie Minnesota 56347
320-732-2644*

TODD SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SWCD



2009 Todd Supervisors



Left to Right: Ken Peska, Lee Buchholz, Dale Katterhagen, Norm Krause, and Tom Williamson



Long Prairie River TMDL Report Completed & Implementation in Progress

STREAM BANK PROTECTION



Before



After Stream Barbs Installed

LAKESHORE RESTORATION

Battle Point Restoration Project



Before



During



After



EDUCATION

EnviroFest for All Todd County 6th Grade Students



Water Presentation from Minnesota Science Museum



DNR Fisheries Finding Invertebrates (Bugs)



Trees Planted for Living Snow Fence



Windbreak Planted w/ Fabric Mulch Protection



Todd SWCD Staff
Kitty, Sandy, Greg, and Ed



AG WASTE SYSTEM PROJECT



Before Construction



During Construction



Completed Ag Waste Project

CONSERVATION PROJECTS



Grass Waterways



Closing Abandon Ag Waste Pits



Strip Cropping



Rotational Grazing Systems



Feedlot Filter Strip

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Introduction

The Todd Soil and Water Program was organized on March 29th, 1965 by the Todd County Commissioners and was certified by the Secretary of State on April 12th, 1965. Leadership and Governance is provided by the board of five locally elected Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors. The role of the elected District Supervisor is to develop policy, long range plans, and budgets.

Our primary goal is to take available technical, financial, and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user for conservation of soil, water, and related resources.

Mission Statement

To meet society's needs in protecting the land and safeguarding water quality by providing technical and financial assistance to landowners and users

Todd SWCD 2009 Board of Supervisors

Chairman	Norman Krause	Area 1
Vice Chairman	Thomas Williamson	Area 5
Secretary	Leland Buchholz	Area 4
Treasurer	Kenneth Pesta	Area 2
Member	Dale Katterhagen	Area 3

Todd SWCD Staff

District Manager	Sandy Rohr
Technical Manager	Greg Ostrowski
LWM/TMDL Coordinator	Kitty Tepley
District Technician / WCA Coordinator	Ed Uhlenkamp

NRCS Staff

District Conservationist	Jim Fritz
Soil Conservation Technician	Darlene Drayna
Civil Engineering Technician	Steve Girard

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Partnerships and Cooperating Agencies

NATIONAL	STATE	LOCAL
<u>National Association of Conservation Districts</u>	<u>MN Board of Soil and Water Resources</u>	<u>Todd County Commissioners and</u>
<u>Natural Resource Conservation Service</u>	<u>Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts</u>	<u>Todd County Departments</u> <u>Todd County NRCS</u>
<u>US Army Corps of Engineers</u>	<u>MN Pollution Control Agency</u> <u>MN Association of Counties</u>	<u>West Central Technical Service Area Engineers (TSE)</u>
<u>US Fish and Wildlife Service</u> <u>US Geological Survey</u>	<u>U of M Extension Service</u>	<u>Sauk River Watershed District</u>
<u>US Dept. of Agriculture</u>	<u>MN Department of Natural Resources, All Divisions</u>	<u>Adjacent Soil & Water Conservation Districts</u>
<u>US Forest Service</u>	<u>MN Department of Ag</u>	<u>Todd County Cities</u> <u>Todd County Farm Service Agency</u>
<u>US Environmental Protection Agency</u>	<u>Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts</u>	<u>Todd County Lake Associations</u>
	<u>University of Minnesota</u>	

*** The Sea is the wind made visible, but a river is the land turned liquid***

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Programs, Services and Activities of the District

Agriculture – BMP Loan Program (SRF)
Clean Water Legacy grant Implementation (SWCD is the lead)
Clean Water Partnership Water Quality Studies
Community Tree Programs
Conservation Demonstration Plots
Conservation Reserve Program (CRP and CCRP)
Conservation Tillage
DNR Shoreland Program
Educational Activities
Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)
Erosion & Sediment Control BMP's
Feedlot Administration
Forest Stewardship Program
Geologic Atlas and Regional Hydrogeologic Assessment for Todd County
Grass Seeding
Installation of Living Snow Fences in cooperation with MNDOT
Installation of Windbreaks
Judicial Drainage Inspections
Local Water Management Planning – Coordinator
Monitoring Groundwater for Quality and Quantity
Monitoring Surface Water for Quality and Quantity
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II
Permanent Wetland Preserve (PWP) Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)
Pollution Control BMP's
Rain Gauge Monitoring
Reinvest in Minnesota/Wetland Reserve Program (RIM/WRP)
Soil Survey/Interpretations
State Cost Share Program
Surface Water Assessment Program- Swan/Long Lakes Project
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation – Long Prairie River Watershed
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Development – Sauk River Watershed
Tree Sales Program
Water Appropriations Permits
Watershed Planning for a Water Management Organization
Watershed Plan Review for a Water Management Organization
Wetland Inventory and Monitoring

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Activities and Accomplishments Summary

Awards and Recognition

- Todd County Outstanding Conservationist Jim Luskey.
- Todd County Land Stewardship Award to Gloria Stevenson.

Education, Public Relations, and Training

- SWCD staff took part in 12 training opportunities.
- Sponsored 4 tours and/or demonstrations throughout the County
- Staff and Supervisors met with one or more Todd County Commissioners a minimum of 12 times.
- Staff and Supervisors met with State Legislators 4 times.
- SWCD Supervisors delivered presentations at 4 organization meetings
- SWCD Staff delivered 6 presentations to a variety of organizations and meetings
- Sponsored the 15th Annual Enviro Fest, an all day outdoor Environmental Education Day for 350 Todd County 6th grade students.
- Provided Environmental Education materials to interested schools.
- Developed a Conservation Information Booth at the Todd County Fair.
- Assisted in Area II and State Envirothon Contest.
- Sponsored private well Nitrate Testing Clinics in cooperation with MDA & MDH
- Staff and supervisors serve on 8 conservation related committees, including the 2009 Convention Planning Committee

Projects and Programs

- Coordinate 11 Volunteer Rain Gauge Monitors monthly reports.
- Monitor 26 Observation Wells for Static Water Levels.
- Worked with 2 Communities on Wellhead Protection Plans.
- Administer The Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan.
- Accepted the responsibility of the County Feedlot Compliance Program
- Administer the TMDL Implementation Plan for the Long Prairie River Watershed.
- Completed the Surface Water Assessment Grant for the Swan River Headwater Lakes Monitoring Project.
- Partner with the Sauk River Watershed District to develop TMDL Plans.
- Reviewed 5 Irrigation Water Appropriation permit applications and developed Conservation Plans for 269.5 irrigated acres.
- Worked with the MN Conservation Corps to install lakeshore restoration project at Battle Point Park.
- Provide guidance and support to the County Drainage Program.
- Conduct Livestock Environmental Quality Assurance Reviews for Livestock producers in five key areas: Water Quality; Odor & Air Quality; Soil Quality & Nutrient Management and Community Image.
- Provide support for Todd County Mapping System
- Support and Utilize Engineering Services and Partnership with West Central Technical Service Area Engineers
- Provide Cost Share to seal un-used wells

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Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)

- Provided Technical Assistance to 106 Landowners
- Approved 22 Exemption Applications
- 8 No-Loss Determinations
- 6 Boundary or Type Determinations
- 21.27 Acres Wetland Restoration
- 2 Replacement Plan
- 21 Violation Sites Investigated with 14 Enforcement Actions
- 52 acres Impacts Avoided

State Revolving Fund Low Interest Loan Program

- 5 Ag Waste Systems completed
- 5 ISTS Upgrades completed
- 1 Tillage Equipment Loan
- Applications Approved and funds encumbered for
 - 3 Ag Waste Systems
 - 1 Erosion Control Project
 - 10 ISTS Upgrades

Best Management Practices Installed

- Tree Program
 - 23,852 Trees sold to 158 Individuals
 - Installed 34,520 ft of Field Windbreaks
 - 4 Shelterbelts
 - 68.0 acres Re-Forestation
- Feedlot Projects
 - 2 Waste Storage Facilities
 - 1 Abandoned Waste Pond Closure
- Grazing Plans
 - 82 Acres Prescribed Grazing
 - 5,095 ft of Fencing
 - 2 Watering Facilities
 - 77 sq. ft. heavy Use Protection
 - 24.8 Acres Pasture & Hay Planting
- Erosion Control
 - 1 Shoreland Slope Stabilization project
 - 13 Sediment Basins w/Tile for 2 landowners
 - Restored 644.0 ft of Lakeshore for 5 Landowners
 - 0.63 Acres Critical Area Planting

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Environmental Quality Incentive Program

- Conservation Crop Rotation
7 Landowners with a total of 669.7 acres
- Cover Crop
2 Landowners with a total of 175.4 acres
- Firebreaks
5 Landowners with a total of 130.6 acres
- Irrigation Water Management
4 Landowners with a total of 373.9 acres
- Mulching
4 Landowners with a total of 144.0 acres
- Nutrient Management
1 Landowners with a total of 161.6 acres
- Tree & Shrub Establishment
7 Landowners with a total of 200.2 acres
- Upland Wildlife Management
15 Landowners with a total of 451.1 acres
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment
7 Landowners with a total of 260.5 acres
- Contribution Agreement between the Todd SWCD, NRCS and TSE for the design, installation and checkout of two manure storage systems.

Conservation Reserve Program & Continuous Conservation Reserve Program

- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment 11,732.0 Feet
- Riparian Forest Buffer 13.4 Acres
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Mgt 1,701.2 Acres
- Wetland Restoration 140.3 Acres
- Total Number of CRP Contracts – 760 Total Acres – 14,004.2

RIM / WRP Contracts

- 2 Contracts with a total of 239.3 Acres

West Central Technical Service Area Engineers

- 5 Projects Designed for Todd County
 - 4 Ag Waste Systems
 - 3 Shoreland Restorations Projects
- 10 Projects Designed for Long Prairie Watershed
 - 9 Shoreland Protections
 - 1 Slope Stabilization

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Highlight: Todd SWCD worked with the Sauk River Watershed District staff, Todd County, US Fish & Wildlife Service, MN Conservation Corp, DNR, MN Extension and



Todd County Parks & Trails to complete a Shoreland Restoration project at Battle Point Park on east Lake Osakis. As a result of consistent wave action, much of the shoreland surrounding the 10+ acre park was steadily eroding away in to the lake.

Thanks to some careful consideration by the technical staff, an environmentally as well as aesthetically pleasing design was developed to restore part of the shoreland to a more natural

landscape utilizing the latest technologies in transplanting materials and geosynthetics. Pictured on the left is the result of a geosynthetic earth retention system known as geogrid coupled with an Envirolock System, specifically designed for this project. This



specific site was then planted with over 11,000 wildflower and native grass plugs.

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Strong northwest winds make this section of Battle Point shoreland an easy target for powerful erosive forces. To offer some aid in the prevention of further erosion hard armor, in the form of large-diameter riprap, was implemented to help with the dissipation of energy carried by wave action.

"When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect." - Leopold