

KANABEC SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Kanabec Soil and Water Conservation District is dedicated to working cooperatively with landowners, groups, agencies and other governmental units, in order to promote the wise and sustainable use of our land and water related resources; to educate and inform the public about these uses, provide technical assistance, administer state conservation cost-share programs and serve as a county wide soil and water conservation and natural resource information and referral center.

What is a Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)?

- A LOCAL unit of government with 5 locally elected supervisors who:
- Provide local leadership and direction for applying conservation services on the land,
- COORDINATES the activities of federal, state and local agencies to provide conservation services and funding,
- DEVELOPS conservation plans, educational programs, provides technical information and demonstrations utilizing the expertise of its own employees, and
- WORKS with landowners, other agencies, associations, corporations, cities, townships, and the county to plan and install conservation measures.

Services and Programs Available:

Low Interest Loans

Provides loans with funds provided by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture for upgrading septic systems, manure handling equipment, tillage equipment as well as other conservation practices.

District Cost-Share

Provides state cost-share dollars for various conservation best management practices.

Snake River Watershed Management Board and Citizens Advisory Committee

Provides technical and advisory duties for various conservation practices for water quality improvements. Assists the state and Snake River Watershed with the Impaired Waters Program and helps in the development of a total maximum daily load (TMDL) study and implementation.

RIM – Reinvest in Minnesota & PWP – Permanent Wetland Preserve

Administers the RIM Reserve and PWP Programs for the State, which requires perpetual easements on property within the county to protect the natural resources.

Other Programs and Activities

Maintains rainfall observers network; does groundwater observation well monitoring; assists with the area Envirothon, a hands on outdoor education program for high school students.

Contact Information:

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Engineering and Vegetation Restoration Management

Assists landowners with design, survey and construction inspections through a joint powers agreement for feedlot runoff control, animal waste systems, lakeshore erosion control, grassed waterways, sediment basins and wetland restorations, vegetative buffers and infiltration systems.

Trees

Assists landowners by offering trees and tree related specialty items for sale for conservation purposes; assists with designs for windbreaks, shelter belts and wildlife plantings.

Forest Stewardship Plans

Assists in plan development for the management of forest resources.

Wetland Conservation Act

Assists the county in implementing the Wetland Conservation Act and provides technical assistance to landowners for wetland activities.

Water Plan

Assists the county in the development and implementation of the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan to maintain and improve the water quality and quantity of the waters throughout Kanabec County.