

2018 BROWN SWCD ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Brown SWCD completed or participated in the following projects and events, but not limited to, throughout 2018.

EDUCATION & PROMOTION

- Radio Presentations on Buffer Law Program, Tree Program, Walk-In Access Program, RIM Program, Cost-Share Program, MAWQCP, MN CREP Program, and Aquatic Invasive Species Program
- News Releases sent to local newspapers and/or posted on the SWCD's Website and Facebook page about the Tree Program, MN CREP Program, Buffer Program, Buffer Cost Share Program, Supervisor Elections, Outstanding Conservationist, Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention, and Soil Water Stewardship Week
- Booth at the New Ulm Farm Show and Farmfest
- Elementary student events: Environmental Fair, Children's Water Festival, Arbor Day Presentation
- Soil Stewardship information provided to Brown County churches
- Conservation Update Annual Newsletter Published
- Outstanding Conservationist Recognition

COST SHARE/PLANNING/INSTALLATION ASSISTANCE

- Project Completed – North Home 18, Grassed Waterway
- Project Completed – Milford 19 and 31, Four Alternative Tile Intakes
- Project Completed – Stately 14, Water and Sediment Control Basin
- Project Completed – Stately 23, Water and Sediment Control Basin
- Project Completed – Leavenworth 15, Water and Sediment Control Basin
- Project Completed – Eden 31, 1 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Eden 32, 2.5 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Eden 28, 1.8 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Cottonwood 25, .5 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Cottonwood 34, 2 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Cottonwood 34, .8 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Milford 31, .5 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Eden 5, .3 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Prairieville 36, 2 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Home 31, .3 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Eden 19, .8 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Linden 3, 1 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Cottonwood 22 and 27, 1.5 acre buffer cost share
- Project Completed – Eden 17, .5 acre buffer cost share
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – Stately 9, Terrace
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – Bashaw 17, Streambank Protection
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – Burnstown 19, Streambank Protection
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – Stark 4, Streambank Protection
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – Burnstown 19, Streambank Protection
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – Milford 32, Water and Sediment Control Basin
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – Milford 11, Grade Stabilization
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – Cottonwood 4, Grade Stabilization
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – Cottonwood 23, Grade Stabilization
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – Home 36, Grade Stabilization
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – Cottonwood 5, Grade Stabilization
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – North Star 6, 1 acre buffer cost share
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – North Star 3, 4 acre buffer cost share
- Contract Encumbered, 2019 Construction Planned – North Star 6, 1.5 acre buffer cost share
- Tree planting completed in Leavenworth Township
- GBERBA: Cover Crop contract completed in Lake Hanska 32

MN CREP EASEMENT APPLICATIONS APPROVED FOR FUNDING

- Filter Strip – Sigel 28, 3.47 acres
- Filter Strip – Stately 27, 6.41 acres
- Filter Strip – Mulligan 11, 11.06 acres
- Wetland Restoration – Albin 8, 97.62 acres
- Wetland Restoration – Bashaw 13, 3.69 acres
- Wetland Restoration – Bashaw 13, 12.27 acres

BUFFER PROGRAM

- Mailings to Brown County landowners with deadline reminders
- Maintained internal database and BuffCAT database for tracking compliance
- Adopted the Brown SWCD Monitoring Plan for Buffer Compliance Tracking
- Encumbered and managed 18 buffer cost share projects
- Attended redetermination of benefits ditch meetings in cooperation with drainage authority
- Performed site visits requested by landowners to measure and flag buffer width, evaluate alternative practice requests, provide technical guidance, and verify compliance
- Provided technical assistance to landowners to reach compliance

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION

- Promote AIS Prevention through billboards, radio ads, television commercial program in cooperation with 13 counties, newspaper ads and inserts, posters at local bait shops
- Attended ice fishing tournaments and kids fishing tournaments to promote AIS Prevention
- Attended sportsman's club meetings and lake association meetings
- Held meetings with lake managers and landing managers
- Attended AIS Detector's Training and Aquatic Invaders Summit

WATERSHED PLANNING

- Attended meetings to provide input on the Middle MN WRAPS draft report
- Attended meetings to provide input on the Watonwan WRAPS draft report
- Attended meetings and assisted with public kick-off meetings for the Cottonwood WRAPS planning process with RCRCa acting as the project manager and Wenck as the consultant for this watershed project
- Continued involvement in the Watonwan Watershed Planning Partnership for the one watershed one plan grant project with staff and Supervisors attending Steering Team and Policy Committee meetings

PROGRAMS

- Tree Sales (49 Customers)
- Well Readings
- Rain Gauge Program
- RIM Program Site Checks
- State Cost Share Site Checks
- Walk-In Access Program – 9 active contracts
- RIM Program Ownership Changes
- RIM Program Conservation Plan Changes
- Wetlands Conservation Act – TEP Panel Member
- MAWQCP Program – 3 certified landowners

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATION AND/OR SUPPORT

- Brown County
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Redwood Cottonwood Rivers Control Area
- Bridging Brown County
- South Central Technical Service Area
- National Association of Conservation Districts
- Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
- Minnesota DNR
- Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Farm Service Agency
- Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance
- Lake Hanska Area Association
- MASWCD Area VI Association
- Minnesota River Congress
- Pheasants Forever
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Army Corps of Engineers
- Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees