



# Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

South Central MAWQCP Certification Specialist

Serving the Counties of: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, McLeod, Nicollet, Renville, Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan



Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance



BRIDGETT M. WINKELS  
AREA 6 MAWQCP CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST  
March 30, 2016

### Meetings/Trainings:

- February 21 LeSueur SWCD workshop (presented), Le Center
- March 28 Soil Health Day (presented), Comfrey
- March 29 GBERBA Tech, Mankato
- April 17 Blue Earth WRAPS meeting, Blue Earth
- April 26 GBERBA Tech, Mankato

### Workload:

- Coordinating with and training SWCD managers and staff for those who want to continue working with producers on the MAWQCP.
- Working on multiple assessments, site visits, and handing out certified farm signs.
- Attending meetings and events to promote the program.

AREA 6	Applications	Assessments	Certifications
Blue Earth SWCD	11	9	4
Brown SWCD	6	4	3
Faribault SWCD	8	4	4
LeSueur SWCD	2	0	0
Martin SWCD	7	5	4
McLeod SWCD	4	1	1
Nicollet SWCD	0	0	0
Renville SWCD	3	3	1
Sibley SWCD	1	1	1
Waseca SWCD	6	6	0
Watonwan SWCD	10	5	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>22</b>

### Program Updates and Information:

- MAWQCP has certified over 365 farms, including 214,064 acres with 637 new conservation practices.
- New mapping application has been released to better track applications and new conservation practices.
- Water quality inlets are available for interested farmers pursuing certifications (2 free for each applicant).
- Additional funding still available through GBERBA for districts to continue working on the MAWQCP with producers and assist the Area Certification Specialist.
- MDA grant application available for up to \$5,000, 75% cost-share through the MDA for producers to install new conservation practices. Please work with your Area Certification Specialist to work through the application process.
- MAWQCP RCPP EQIP applications are being accepted continuously until the first week in March 2017.