



# Greater Blue Earth River Basin

March 3, 2017



DANIELLE EVERS

AREA 5 MAWQCP CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST

Serving the Counties of: Cottonwood, Jackson, Lac Qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock, & Yellow Medicine

## Projects and Events:

- Continuing to meet with producers for assessments, create maps, & upload documents for state verification
- Took the Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) exam on Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> to become a certified certifier
- Working with NRCS to create Conservation Plans for RCPP EQIP applicants
- Coordinating with TSA & NRCS to design and implement conservation practices for MAWQCP producers
- Assisting producers in submitting MAWQCP Cost-Share Grant Applications
- Creating informational documents for buffer meetings in St. James, Windom's Farm and Home show, etc...
- Presenting at St. James buffer meetings on March 21<sup>st</sup>
- Plan on attending Farm Management Profitability Conference in Lamberton on March 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Plan on attending Soil Health day's in Comfrey and Marshall on March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> respectively

## Program Updates and Information:

- Water quality inlets are available for interested farmers pursuing certifications (2 free for each applicant)
- New mapping tool is almost ready for use
- New updates are coming for a more encompassing online assessment tool
- \$6000 of Additional funding is still available through GBERBA for districts to continue working on the MAWQCP
- MAWQCP has certified over **346 farms**, including over **194,644 acres** with **603 new BMP's**
- Estimated benefits include: **5,835 tons** of TSS reduced per year, **8,498 tons** soil reduced per year, **7,188 lbs** Phosphorous reduced per year
- Grant application available for up to \$5,000 cost-share through the MDA for producers to install new conservation practices
- MAWQCP RCPP EQIP applications are available until the **deadline March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017**
- Screening deadline for RCPP EQIP is **April 17<sup>th</sup>**

## YEAR TO DATE NUMBERS

<b>Area 5</b>	<b>Applications</b>	<b>Assessments Completed</b>	<b>Actively Pursuing Cert.</b>	<b>Certifications</b>
Cottonwood SWCD	18	16	6	6
Jackson SWCD	24	24	12	9
Lac Qui Parle SWCD	5	5	0	3
Lincoln SWCD	16	15	1	4
Lyon SWCD	7	6	0	4
Murray SWCD	6	5	2	3
Nobles SWCD	4	4	0	3
Pipestone SWCD	17	15	3	7
Redwood SWCD	15	10	2	6
Rock SWCD	7	6	1	3
Yellow Medicine SWCD	10	9	0	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>52</b>

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