



Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance

DATE: November 17th, 2017

REPORT PERIOD: October 25th 2017 – November 17th 2017

FROM: Blue Earth SWCD Staff: Derek Denisen, John Billings, and Jerad Bach

SUBJECT: Le Sueur Watershed Report

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Meeting:

Staff attended the Le Sueur Cycle 2 Monitoring and Coordination Meeting on Tuesday November 14th. At the meeting attendees discussed the pros and cons of cycle one and how to work better together for cycle two. They also discussed who was going to be monitoring the sites for cycle two and which lakes should be prioritized for sampling in the watershed. Finally, the members identified issues that have occurred and may occur during the cycles and brainstormed solutions for solving them.

Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Academy:

Staff attended the BWSR Academy from November 1st through November 3rd. At the Academy staff increased their education on conservation through educational sessions. These educational sessions provided knowledgeable information on specific fields in conservation. With this knowledge, staff will be able to implement conservation with better quality and efficiency.

Le Sueur Watershed Projects:

- Staff met with a landowner from Byron Township in Waseca County who is interested in implementing a denitrifying bioreactor to reduce the nitrates in his tile. We reviewed the contract for the bioreactor together and the landowner agreed to the terms of the contract and signed the document.
- Staff have continued to work on 23 NRCS CP21 native grass filter strip contracts which will improve water quality and create beneficial wildlife habitat.
- RIM easement compliance issues were addressed. One the issues involved a permanent structure installed on an easement. Landowners were called, and mailed a formal letter, that informed them to remove their permanent structure from the easement. The other issue involved a landowner who needs to install a new septic system in a RIM easement. BWSR agreed to allow the landowner to install the septic system on the RIM easement because it was the only viable location.
- An anonymous complaint about excessive soil loss in a landowner's agricultural field is in the process of being resolved.
- Staff have been working with 7 landowners on the process of seeding their RIM/CRP sites.



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WORK AREA: LeSueur River Watershed
COUNTIES: Blue Earth, Faribault,
Freeborn, Le Sueur, Steele, & Waseca