



# Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance

---

DATE: December 20th, 2017

REPORT PERIOD: November 17<sup>th</sup> – December 20th 2017

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

SUBJECT: Le Sueur Watershed Report

## **Madison Lake Watershed and Lake Association (MLWLA)**

Staff attended the MLWLA meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup> to provide an update with projects and progress in the Madison Lake watershed. Projects that were completed in the Madison Lake watershed include native grass habitat establishment and CRP contracts for CP21 native grass filter strips. The future goals for the watershed is to establish good landowner relations and help them implement conservation practices. These conservation practices will help the landowner build soil health while also reducing pollution and increasing water quality.

## **CRP in the Le Sueur Watershed**

Staff have completed 45 CRP contracts in the Le Sueur Watershed. The 45 contracts are for native grass filter strips, wetland restorations, and wildlife enhancement grasslands. An estimated 250 acres of native vegetation for wildlife habitat and water quality improvement will now be implemented in the Le Sueur Watershed for at least the next 10 years.

## **Le Sueur Priority Areas**

A landowner located in the Madison Lake watershed has expressed concern of storm water runoff polluting Madison Lake. I met with this landowner at the site and talked with him about his concerns. We went over the possible solutions and I told him I would look into further options and funding for the situation. I also met with another landowner who is located off of CD 83 who wants to prevent further soil loss in his field. The landowner and I met at the location where the erosion is occurring. We discussed the options for his situation and the landowner expressed that if there is enough funding that he will continue forward with implementing a conservation practice.

## **Le Sueur Watershed Projects and Miscellaneous**

- Staff provided assistance to 8 landowners on the process of seeding their RIM/CRP sites.
- Cover crop sites were visited to record the growth progress after the corn harvest.
- Staff attended the Waseca County Board meeting and acquired approval for Dennis Byron's denitrifying bioreactor contract.
- Five water samples were tested for various water quality parameters that were brought in by curious landowners.
- Assisted 7 landowners with general programmatic questions.
- Helped 15 landowners with questions about the buffer law.



# Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance

---

Derek Denisen  
*LeSueur Watershed Technician*  
Blue Earth County SWCD  
1160 S. Victory Dr. Suite #3  
Mankato, MN 56001

E-MAIL:  
Derek.Denisen@blueearthswcd.org  
PHONE: (507) 345-4744

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