

ANNUAL PLAN
of the
LAC QUI PARLE
SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



122 - 8th Avenue South
Suite 1
Madison, Minnesota 56256

PERIOD COVERED
January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009

I. Introduction

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District's vision is *Lac qui Parle's natural resources wisely managed to provide a healthy environment for life*. The vision encompasses not only the natural environment but also the economic environment for the people of Lac qui Parle County.

The mission of the Soil and Water Conservation District is to take available technical, financial, and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user.

The purpose of this Annual Plan is to identify resource problems within our soil and water conservation district. In addition to identifying these resource problems, it outlines and specifies goals to be accomplished in solving these resource problems. The Annual Plan breaks down the goals identified in the Lac qui Parle County Water Management Plan (smaller gray font) and specifies additional goals identified by the Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors for the current year. Educational methods, conservation practice application and projected expenses and income needs for the Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District are outlined. This Annual Plan needs a degree of flexibility to allow the District to use what resources become available to meet the needs of our local resource users as those needs arise.

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors and staff will review this plan quarterly.

The Soil and Water Conservation District will work to increase the staff's capabilities in engineering, computer and related skills necessary to adequately and to efficiently provide assistance to Lac qui Parle landusers.

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors have adopted the Lac qui Parle County Local Comprehensive Water Management Plan as the District's long-range plan. The Goals and Objectives as defined in the Lac qui Parle County Water Management Plan are:

Education Goal: Collect, Analyze and Provide Important Water Planning Information

- A. Continue to support the various monitoring and information gathering efforts in order to better understand and assess water planning issues.
- B. Raise public awareness on a number of key water-planning issues.

Water Management Goal: Protect and Improve Water Quality and Quantity through Water Management

- A. Identify and properly address flooding and drainage issues and opportunities
- B. Identify priority wetlands for protection, enhancement and restoration activities.

Ground Water Goal: Protect and Improve the Quality of Groundwater in the County

- A. Help all landowners act to protect the County's groundwater quality.
- B. Assist with wellhead protection.

- C. Make good land use decisions regarding groundwater protection.

Priority Pollutant Goal: To Restore, Protect and Maintain the Water Quality, Biodiversity and Natural Beauty of Lac qui Parle County's Water Resources

- A. In cooperation with the MPCA, participate in the development of the TMDLs and subsequent implementation efforts that will help get the waters off the TMDL 303d list of impaired waters (see appendix 1, the 2006 list of Impaired Waters in the County.)
- B. Reduce the impact of activities on surface water quality.

Erosion Goal: To Protect the County's Long-Term Soil Resources.

- A. Address sediment concerns by ensuring that turbidity and total suspended solids levels are low enough to fully support aquatic life and aesthetic/recreational use.

Recreational Values Goals: To Ensure That Lac qui Parle County Continues to Provide a Safe and Clean Environment for Water-Based Activities

- A. Educate, encourage and advertise recreation water values for hunting, fishing, trapping, bird watching and other water-based activities.

The additional Goals and Objectives identified by the District Board of Supervisors for the 2009 Annual Plan are:

Tree Planting Goal: To Promote Longevity and Quality of Conservation Tree Plantings

- A: Raise public awareness of the benefits of species diversity and native species in tree plantings
- B: Raise public awareness of the effectiveness of quality tree plantings

II. Goals, Objectives, Strategy and Actions

The following objectives, strategies and action items have been taken directly from the Lac qui Parle County Local Water Management Plan, followed by objectives and actions identified by the Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors. Only those action items from the Water Plan that have the SWCD and/or NRCS listed as the lead agency are listed here. (Refer to the Lac qui Parle County Local Comprehensive Water Management Plan for the full scope of action items planned for the County.) The SWCD will partner with other local entities to do other action items. The Goals, Objectives, Strategy and Actions in the Water Management Plan listed here were developed for 2008 – 2013.

Priority Issue: Water Resource Education

EDUCATION GOAL: COLLECT, ANALYZE AND PROVIDE IMPORTANT WATER PLANNING INFORMATION.

Objective A: Continue to support the various monitoring and information gathering efforts in order to better understand and assess water planning issues.

Actions:

- **Proactively work with various state agencies, watersheds and citizens to identify the condition of the County's water resources, find gaps in the County's knowledge and understanding of its water resources, find ways to fill those gaps and learn how to interpret and use the information in the decision-making process.**

Measured by: Water management decisions

Who: **All partners**

When: On-going

- **Continue and expand the volunteer Rain Gauge Monitor program and develop links from local websites to the data in the Office of Climatology.**

Measured by: Data collected and disseminated

Who: **SWCD, CWP/WD**

When: On-going

- **Monitor water levels in 11 wells in areas in the County near irrigation systems for the DNR. Add a link from the SWCD website to the data.**

Measured by: Water levels reported and website link

Who: **SWCD, DNR**

When: On-going

- **Seek funding to hire technicians to work in local offices to promote existing programs on a one-to-one basis with the public.**

Measured by: Staffing

Who: **SWCD, CWP/WD**

When: On-going

Objective B: Raise public awareness on a number of key water-planning issues.

Actions:

- **Partner to provide environmental education to students using events such as the Southwest Minnesota Environmental Fair, tours, presentations, field days and contests.**

Measured by: Events

Who: **SWCD, NRCS, WP, EO, CWP/WD** When: Annually

Priority Issue: Water Management

WATER MANAGEMENT GOAL: PROTECT AND IMPROVE WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY THROUGH WATER MANAGEMENT.

Objective A: Identify and properly address flooding and drainage issues and opportunities.

Actions:

- **Identify and promote best management practices for water entering ditches and other water bodies such as upland treatment practices, tile management, intakes, side inlets and other practices that will reduce sedimentation and pollution. Make that information available to contractors and producers in brochures, electronic means, radio, demonstrations and possible tours.**

Measured by: BMP publications, events

Who: **NRCS/SWCD, WD/CWP**

When: On-going

Objective B: Identify priority wetlands for protection, enhancement and restoration activities.

Actions:

- **Pursue funding for landowners who want to voluntarily restore or enhance wetlands. Work with 3-4 landowners each year.**

Measured by: wetland restoration acres funded

Who: **SWCD, NRCS, WD, DNR FWS, EO & P&Z** When: On-going

Priority Issue: Groundwater Protection

GROUND WATER GOAL: PROTECT AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF GROUNDWATER IN THE COUNTY

Objective A: Help all landowners act to protect the County's groundwater quality.

Objective B: Assist with wellhead protection

Objective C: Make good land use decisions regarding groundwater protection.

Priority Issue: Reducing Priority Pollutants

PRIORITY POLLUTANT GOAL: TO RESTORE, PROTECT AND MAINTAIN THE WATER QUALITY, BIODIVERSITY AND NATURAL BEAUTY OF LAC QUI PARLE COUNTY'S WATER RESOURCES.

Objective A: In cooperation with the MPCA, participate in the development of the TMDLs and subsequent implementation efforts that will help get the waters off the TMDL 303d list of impaired waters.

Objective B: Reduce the impact of activities on surface water quality

Actions:

- **Work with existing 1-2 producers each year to bring their feedlots into compliance.**

Measured by: Number of feedlots in compliance

Who: **NRCS, SWCD, CWP/WD, EO, CB** When: On-going

- **Assist producers to manage manure application by working with them and with custom applicators to access the Ag BMP Loan program to upgrade their equipment.**

Measured by: Number of loan applications

Who: **SWCD, EO**

When: On-going

- **Review current and ongoing water quality monitoring and promote BMPs appropriate for specific conditions where surface water may be a concern for pollution by agricultural chemical use.**

Measured by: Number of BMPs installed; presence/absence of ag chemicals detected by monitoring

Who: **NRCS, SWCD, UMES, CWP/WD, MDA** When: On-going

Priority Issue: Erosion

EROSION GOAL: TO PROTECT THE COUNTY'S LONG-TERM SOIL RESOURCES.

Objective A: Address sediment concerns by ensuring that turbidity and total suspended solids levels are low enough to fully support aquatic life and aesthetic/recreational use.

Actions:

- **Set up tours in County to show land users current applied practices. Promote & share with all agencies.**

Measured by: Tours set up and numbers of participants

Who: **SWCD/NRCS, CWP/WD, CC, DNR, LO** When: On-going

- **Target absentee landowners to promote erosion control practices and enhance incentives by one newsletter/year to producers and owners and by a direct one-to-one contact with 10 individuals/year.**

Measured by: Number of contacts and number of contracts

Who: **SWCD/NRCS**, WP, FSA, CWP/WD When: On-going

- **Install 100 acres of buffers each year**

Measured by: Acre numbers from agency reports

Who: **SWCD/NRCS**, CWP/WD, FSA When: On-going

- **Work with land users to install engineered practices to control erosion in concentrated flow areas.**

10 sediment control basins each year

1 acre waterway each year

Measured by: Agency reports

Who: **SWCD/NRCS**, CWP/WD When: On-going

- **Conduct a tillage transect survey every other year**

Measured by: Results from survey

Who: **SWCD**, CWP/WD When: odd number years

- **Promote the EQIP tillage incentive and fund five applications each year.**

Measured by: number of funded applications

Who: **NRCS**, SWCD, CWP/WD When: On-going

- **Work with operators to increase conservation tillage by 5% each year**

Measured by: Transect tillage survey and EQIP reports

Who: **NRCS**, SWCD, CWP/WD When: On-going

- **Work with land owners to install 1,300 feet of field windbreaks or grass strips each year to reduce wind erosion.**

Measured by: Agency reports

Who: **SWCD**, NRCS When: On-going

- **Protect 150 acres of highly erodible cropland each year by getting them seeded to grasses.**

Measured by: Agency reports

Who: **NRCS**, SWCD, CWP/WD When: On-going

- **Work with operators to plan grazing systems on 200 acres of pastureland each year for 1,000 acres net.**

Measured by: Agency reports

Who: **NRCS**, SWCD, CWP/WD When: On-going

Priority Issue: Recreational Values

RECREATIONAL VALUES GOAL: TO ENSURE THAT LAC QUI PARLE COUNTY CONTINUES TO PROVIDE A SAFE AND CLEAN ENVIRONMENT FOR WATER-BASED ACTIVITIES.

Objective A: Educate, encourage and advertise recreation water values for hunting, fishing, trapping, bird watching and other water-based activities.

The additional Goals and Objectives identified by the District Board of Supervisors for the 2009 Annual Plan are:

TREE PLANTING GOAL: TO PROMOTE LONGEVITY AND QUALITY OF CONSERVATION TREE PLANTINGS

Objective A: Raise public awareness of the benefits of species diversity and native species in tree plantings

Actions:

- **Present information on benefits of species diversity to landowners planning farmstead shelterbelts, wildlife habitat, and any other tree/shrub plantings.**

Measured by: Number of plans

When: On-going

- **Present information on benefits of native species to landowners planning farmstead shelterbelts, wildlife habitat, and any other tree/shrub plantings.**

Measured by: Number of plantings

When: On-going

- **Distribute native species tree or shrub to all kindergarten students in Lac qui Parle County schools including native species information to share with parents.**

Measured by: Distribution activity

When: May

- **Make information on species diversity and/or native species available to the public through electronic means, radio, newspapers, or demonstrations.**

Measured by: Publications or events

When: On-going

Objective B: Raise public awareness of the effectiveness of quality tree plantings

Actions:

- **Make information on energy savings due to effective tree plantings available to the public through electronic means, radio, newspapers, or demonstrations.**

Measured by: Publications or events

When: On-going

III. Budget Requirements

FUNDS NEEDED TO INSTALL PRACTICES TO CONTROL HIGH PRIORITY EROSION PROBLEMS

(January 1, 2009, to December 31, 2009)

Total Anticipated Allocation		<u>\$ 38,341</u>
Administrative and Technical Allowance		7,668
Amount for Cost-Share Work		30,673
To be spent as follows:		
Engineered Practices	21,673	
Tree Plantings	9,000	

The major additional funding for engineered best management practices is the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Program rules, including payment rates, have not yet been released. The SWCD will use some of its cost-share dollars to supplement EQIP cost-share to equal no more than 75% of eligible costs.

The Conservation Reserve Program, Continuous Conservation Reserve Program, and EQIP can provide funding for additional best management practice applications like grassed waterways, buffers, tree establishment, and nutrient management plans. Other state and federal programs are more limited in funds, but are also available to assist landowners to establish best management practices to protect their natural resources.

The technical representative for the state cost-share program in Lac qui Parle has been delegated to the District Engineering Technician, Curtis Nordaune, with support from the Natural Resource Conservation Service Area Support Office. District Technician, Les Kvidera, is designated as technical representative on vegetative plantings.

IV. Staffing Needs

These staff years include three full-time SWCD staff members, one full-time NRCS and one part-time NRCS.

GOAL/OBJECTIVE	STAFF YEARS	
	Administrative	Technical
Education	.75	.1
Protect/Improve Water Quality and Quantity	.25	.75
Protect/Improve the Quality of Groundwater	.1	.15
Priority Pollutants	.25	.75
Erosion	.25	.75
Recreational Values	.1	
Tree Planting	.1	.3
TOTAL STAFF YEARS	1.8	2.8

LqP SWCD 2009 Budget

		2009			2009
REVENUES		BUDGET	EXPENSES		BUDGET
1-3300 · Intergovernmental Revenue			1-4603 · Personal Services		
1-01 · Federal Grant		2,000.00	Payroll Expenses-Comp Sick Leave		
1-02 · State Revenue*		83,087.00	1-101 · Supervisor's Compensation		8,000.00
1-03 · County Revenue			1-102 · Employee Salary		
1-04 · County Water Plan			1-124 · CREP Salary		
1-05 · WCA		5,000.00	1-102 · Employee Salary - Other		107,195.00
1-03 · County Revenue - Other		39,087.00	Total 1-102 · Employee Salary		115,195.00
Total 1-03 · County Revenue		104,087.00	1-121 · Payroll Expenses-FICA		3,116.00
1-3300 · Intergovernmental Revenue - Other			1-122 · PERA		6,560.00
Total 1-3300 · Intergovernmental Revenue		195,194.00	1-123 · Medical Insurance		20,000.00
1-3400 · Charges for Services			1-125 · Payroll Expense Retro Salary		0.00
Orifice Plates, Flags Etc			1-4603 · Personal Services - Other		
1-07 · Tree Sales		31,000.00	Total 1-4603 · Personal Services		150,871.00
1-08 · Planting Charges		3,000.00	1-4610 · Other Services & Charges		
1-09 · Fabric Sales		20,000.00	1-201 · Supervisor's Expenses		4,000.00
1-10 · Tree Planting Supplies		290.00	1-203 · Employee Expenses		3,000.00
1-11 · Flag Sales		50.00	1-204 · Office Maintenance		3,000.00
1-12 · Grass Drill		750.00	1-210 · Professional Services		3,500.00
1-14 · Other Charges for Services			1-211 · Fees and Dues		3,500.00
1-18 · Water Plan Administration			1-215 · Vehicle Maintenance & Repair		3,000.00
1-19 · DNR Observation Wells		1,320.00	1-216 · Education and Promotion		3,500.00
1-20 · CREP Administrative Services			1-234 · Insurance		5,000.00
1-14 · Other Charges for Services - Other			1-240 · Rent		17,500.00
Total 1-14 · Other Charges for Services		56,410.00	1-241 · Recording Practices		0.00
1-15 · Weed Wrench			1-242 · RIM Reimbursable Expenses		0.00
1-3400 · Charges for Services - Other			1-250 · Misc Other Services & Charges		200.00
Total 1-3400 · Charges for Services		56,410.00	1-4610 · Other Services & Charges - Other		0.00
1-3600 · Miscellaneous Revenue			Total 1-4610 · Other Services & Charges		46,200.00
1-13 · Affiliate Memberships		1,500.00	1-4611 · Supplies		
1-21 · Interest		4,500.00	1-310 · Office Supplies		400.00
1-22 · Other Misc Revenues (incl Pheasants Forever)		2,700.00	1-320 · Field Supplies		350.00
1-23 · PERA Aid		514.00	1-4611 · Supplies - Other		
1-24 · Refunds and Reimbursements			Total 1-4611 · Supplies		750.00
1-30 · Contribution Agreement Reimburs		1,875.00	1-4612 · Capital Outlay		
1-24 · Refunds and Reimbursements - Other		6,000.00	1-400 · Equipment Purchases		
Total 1-24 · Refunds and Reimbursements		7,875.00	1-4612 · Capital Outlay - Other		5,000.00
1-3600 · Miscellaneous Revenue - Other			Total 1-4612 · Capital Outlay		5,000.00
Total 1-3600 · Miscellaneous Revenue		17,089.00	1-4713 · District Project Expenses		
REVENUE TOTALS		268,693.00	1-600 · Tree Stock Expenses		17,500.00
Service Grant	22,918.00		1-601 · Tree Program Expenses		2,000.00
Cost Share	38,341.00		1-602 · Drill Expense		500.00
Farm Program Tech Grant	15,750.00		1-603 · Fabric Expenses		10,000.00
Escement Services Grant	12,038.00		1-605 · Living Snow Fence		0.00
TOTAL STATE REVENUES	89,107.00		1-620 · Misc Project Expenses		200.00
			1-4713 · District Project Expenses - Other		0.00
			Total 1-4713 · District Project Expenses		30,200.00
			1-4714 · State Project Expenses		
			1-500 · State Cost Share Projects		30,672.00
			1-501 · SLR Projects		0.00
			1-502 · WCA-Wetland Conservation Act		5,000.00
			1-4714 · State Project Expenses - Other		0.00
			Total 1-4714 · State Project Expenses		35,672.00
			6999 · Uncategorized Expenses		
			EXPENDITURE TOTALS		268,693.00
SUMMARY:					
Revenue Total		\$ 268,693.00			
Expenditure Total		\$ 268,693.00			
Difference		\$ -			

Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District

122 8th Avenue S., Madiran, MN 56256

Phone: 320-598-7321 Ext. 3 Fax: 320-598-3432

2009 Budget

REVENUES

Government Revenue

Federal Revenue/Grants	2,000.00
State Revenue/Grants	89,107.00
WCA	5,000.00
County Revenue	99,087.00

Charges for Services

Tree Program	56,410.00
Observation Wells	

Other Revenue

Affiliate Memberships	17,089.00
Interest	
Pheasants Forever	
PERA Aid	
Contribution Agreements	
Refunds and Reimbursements	

REVENUE TOTALS **\$ 268,693.00**

EXPENSES

Personal Services

Supervisor Compensation	150,871.00
Employee Salary	
FICA/PERA/Medical Insurance	

Other Services & Charges

Supervisor/Employee Expenses	46,200.00
Office maintenance	
Professional Services	
Fees and Dues	
Vehicle Maintenance & Repair	
Education & Promotion	
Insurance	

Supplies

Office and Field Supplies	750.00
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Capital Outlay

Equipment/Building	5,000.00
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District Project Expenses

Tree Stock and Fabric	30,200.00
Drill	

State Project Expenses

Administration	35,672.00
CWP Activities	
Land and Water	

EXPENDITURE TOTALS **268,693.00**

BALANCE **\$ -**