



# 2011 Natural Resources Block Grant

## Fillmore County, MN

### Natural Resources Block Grant Awarded for FY 2011

Local Water Management	\$14,038
Wetland Conservation Act	\$ 8,630
DNR Shoreland Admin. Grant	\$ 2,647
SSTS (Septic System Program)	\$ 9,931
Feedlot Base Grant	\$85,543
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$120,789</b>

### Grant Period (including extensions)

From: July 1, 2010  
To: June 30, 2012

### Funds Returned to State

Type \$0  
Date Fund Returned: N/A

The Natural Resources Block Grant combines five base grants into one agreement between the County and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). All of the grants help to carry out the goals of the Fillmore County Local Water Management Plan.

The DNR Shoreland Program, MPCA Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) Program, and the MPCA Feedlot Program Base Grant are all administered by the Fillmore County Zoning Office. The administration of the Local Water Management Plan and the Wetland Conservation Act has been delegated by the County to the Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).

The Natural Resources Block Grant is a non-competitive grant awarded to all counties with a Local Water Management Plan that has been locally adopted and BWSR approved. The amount awarded to each county varies based on tax base or workload for a particular program. There are required cash and/or in-kind matches for all the grants except the SSTS grant.

## Natural Resources Block Grant Expenditures in 2011

GRANT PROGRAM		GRANT EXPENDITURE	CASH MATCH	LOCAL IN-KIND MATCH
Local Water Management	FY11 GRANT	\$ 3,043.28	\$ 5,848.00	—
	FY10 GRANT	\$ 10,108.93		
Wetland Conservation Act Administration	FY11 GRANT	\$ 8,630.00	\$ 4,315.00	\$ 6,497.00
DNR Shoreland Ordinance Administration	FY11 GRANT	\$ 2,647.00	—	\$ 2,722.28
SSTS (Septic System Program Administration)	FY11 GRANT	\$ 9,931.00	—	—
Feedlot Program Base Grant	FY11 GRANT	\$ 58,049.50	\$ 18,723.00	\$ 35,259.00
	FY10 GRANT	\$ 17,913.50		
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>FY11 GRANT</b>	<b>\$ 82,300.78</b>	<b>\$ 28,886.00</b>	<b>\$ 44,478.28</b>
	<b>FY10 GRANT</b>	<b>\$ 28,022.43</b>		

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*Prepared by Fillmore SWCD  
for BWSR Website Reporting Requirements*



The Fillmore County Local Water Management Plan for 2006-2015 was reviewed after five years of implementation and amended in 2010. The amendment was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources on December 15, 2010 and adopted by the Fillmore County Board of Commissioners on February 1, 2011, as authorized under MN Statutes Chapter 103B.301. A complete update of the plan will be done in 2015.



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### Natural Resources Block Grant Activities as reported in eLINK

**Local Water Management Base Grant:** The Water Management Committee met six times, including three Citizens' Advisory Committee meetings and three Technical Advisory Committee meetings. Topics discussed during these meetings included the Minnesota Water Sustainability Framework, Fillmore County Water Plan Amendment, CRP, Root River Turbidity TMDL, Root River Field to Stream Partnership, Root River Comprehensive Strategy, the statewide Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan, Midwest Natural Resources Group, civic engagement, MRBI, and sediment fingerprinting. Guest speakers at these meetings included Jennifer Ronnenberg with the Fillmore SWCD (CRP update), Dawn Bernau with the Fillmore SWCD (NFMP update), and Donna Rasmussen with the Fillmore SWCD (MNRG, CE, MRBI update). The video "Troubled Waters: A Mississippi River Story" was also shown at one of the meetings. SE MN WRB and BALMM meetings were attended by the county and SWCD to aid in the management of the region's water resources. One sampling round for the Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring project was completed in August. Presentations were given to Spring Valley 3rd graders (2 classes, ~40 students, Ag in the Classroom). Two nitrate testing clinics were held in Spring Valley and Rushford. The SWCD assisted with the development and progress of the National Trout Center as a member of the NTC Steering Committee. The Fillmore County Water Plan Amendment was wrapped up in 2011. Data analysis and report writing continued for the Root River Turbidity TMDL. One TMDL Technical Advisory Group meetings was also held. Sampling, monitoring, data management, data analysis, and maintenance continued for the Root River Field to Stream Partnership.

**Wetland Conservation Act Administration:** The Fillmore SWCD had 39 landowner contacts in 2011 related to wetland issues. There were 13 no loss decisions, three drainage exemptions related to maintenance of existing drainage systems without permanent loss of wetland, one de minimis exemption resulting in less than 2000 sq. ft. of impact, and one ag exemption resulting in acres impacted. These were approved either by notice of decision or a letter sent to the landowner. Several of the landowner contacts were a result of initial contacts with NRCS which were then communicated to SWCD staff. One SWCD employee that is a TEP member completed the Wetland Delineators Certification Program. Monitoring of two restoration sites is ongoing. The SWCD Board sent a letter to the local legislators requesting that funding be restored to the Wetland Preservation Area program to reimburse counties for lost property taxes.

**DNR Shoreland Administration:** There were 2 permits issued in the Shoreland District. The buffer initiative started by the SWCD is ongoing as staff time permits.

**MPCA SSTS Program Administration:** The Fillmore County Zoning Office issued 81 septic system permits in 2011. A total of 89 septic tanks were installed in the county in 2011. The annual report was submitted to MPCA with details about the program's administration.

**MPCA Feedlot Program Base Grant:** (see also <http://www.co.fillmore.mn.us/zoning.html>)

**Complaints:** All complaints handled as they occurred. All moved toward coming into compliance in cooperation with MPCA if necessary. Ten sites were inspected at feedlots required to be registered that were the result of a complaint. Three pollution events occurred where an emergency response was conducted.

**County Program Goals:** There were 3 workshops/trainings hosted and/or co-sponsored by the CFO, and 50 feedlot owners attended feedlot producer workshops, training events or information meetings. Feedlot owners were assisted with coming into compliance through technical assistance and cost-share funding. Other assistance was provided with Conditional Use Permit applications, nutrient management requirements, and other needs. Fillmore County has continued to receive additional funds from regional entities because of the number of projects in progress that were in need of funding.

**Inspection and Compliance Plan:** Conducted compliance inspections targeted to sites within the Shoreland District to help move the Open Lot Agreements into compliance with the 2010 deadline.

Number of sites inspected with 10 - 99 AU that are required to be registered: 27

Number of sites inspected with 100 - 299 AU: 27

Number of Non-NPDES sites greater than or = to 300 AU inspected: 13



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Number of NPDES sites inspected: 2

Total number of sites inspected at feedlots that are required to be registered: 69

Number of sites that were inspected that were not required to be registered but were the result of a complaint or referral: 1

Number of sites inspected at feedlots required to be registered that were the result of a complaint: 10

Non-NPDES sites =300 AU (or >100 AU located in a vulnerable DWSMA) where a land application review was attempted, but no written records were available: 0

Non-NPDES sites =300 AU (or > 100 AU located in a vulnerable DWSMA) with land application records where a Level II review was conducted and the determination was compliance: 9

Non-NPDES sites =300 AU (or > 100 AU located in a vulnerable DWSMA) with land application records where a Level II review was conducted and the determination was non-compliance: 0

Feedlots where a Level III land application inspection was conducted and the determination was compliance: 8

Feedlots where a Level III land application inspection was conducted and the determination was non-compliance: 5

Number of sites constructing (new or modifications) where 2 or more on-site producer contacts and/or inspections were done: 8

Number of sites with OLAs where 2 or more on-site producer contacts and/or inspections were done: 3

Number of sites with an interim permit where 2 or more on-site producer contacts and/or inspections were done: 11

Number of sites inspected with 10 AU or more in shoreland: 13

Number of sites inspected with 10 AU or more that are both in shoreland and in a DWSMA: 0

Number of sites inspected with 50 AU or more that are in a DWSMA and are not in shoreland: 0

Number of sites <300 AU in shoreland where a partial environmental upgrade was achieved in the current program year: 0

Number of sites <300 AU in shoreland where a complete environmental upgrade was achieved in the current program year: 2

Number of sites <300 AU not in shoreland where a partial environmental upgrade was achieved in the current program year: 2

Number of sites <300 AU not in shoreland where a complete environmental upgrade was achieved in the current program year: 6

Number of Non-NPDES sites > or= 300 AU where a complete environmental upgrade was completed in the current program year: 4

**Owner Assistance Goals:** 12 feedlot fixes were completed during 2011. Fixes included roof gutters, small pits, buffers, picket fences, fencing, etc.

Number of workshops or trainings hosted and/or co-sponsored by the CFO: 3

Number of feedlot owners attending feedlot producer workshops, training events or information meetings: 50

Number of mailings to feedlot owners: 2

Number of feedlot articles placed in local newspapers: 2

On 11/8/11 cost share dollars paid to CY11-01 McNamara in the amount of \$3520

**Permitting:** Issuing interim and construction short form permits and permits for farmers who need to meet requirements for NPDES. Updating Open Lot Agreements for some sites that do not require a permit but are undergoing fixes.

Number of 30-day construction/expansion notifications received: 15

Number of interim permits issued for feedlots with < 300 AU: 8

Number of interim permits issued for Non-NPDES feedlots with > than or = to 300 AU: 4

Number of short-form permits issued for Non-NPDES sites > or = 300 AU: 2

Number of short form (> or = 300 AU) or interim permit revisions conducted: 0

**Registrations and Inventories:** Maintained/updated registrations in eLINK.

Number of feedlots registered in shoreland with 10 - 299 AU: 140

Number of feedlots registered outside shoreland with 50-299 AU: 584

Number of Non-NPDES sites > or = 300 AU: 114

Number of feedlots registered with NPDES permits: 18

Total: 856

Number of sites with 10 AU or more in shoreland: 151

Number of sites with 10 AU or more that are both in shoreland and in a Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA): 1

Number of sites with 50 AU or more that are in a DWSMA and are not in shoreland: 0

Area (DWSMA): 1

Number of sites with 50 AU or more that are in a DWSMA and are not in shoreland: 14