

Becoming a Board Member of Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District

Concerned citizens in Fillmore County can help conserve natural resources by serving as a Supervisor on the Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District Board. If the issues and programs stated in this document interest you – please call the SWCD at 507-765-3878 ext. 3.

1. **Mission:** The mission of the Fillmore SWCD is to promote natural resource stewardship through educational, technical and financial assistance.
2. **Vision:** To protect Minnesota's natural resources.
3. **Goals and Objectives**
 - Establish soil and water conservation policy for the district
 - Assess resource needs
 - Develop strategies to address these needs
 - Provide quality conservation education to county school children
 - Provide land users with technical assistance
 - Develop programs to address local natural resource problems
 - Serve as focal point for addressing natural resource issues and coordinating various programs to help identified concerns
4. **Legal Authority**
 - Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103C defines a soil and water conservation district as a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota
5. **Major Issues at this Time**
 - Water resources/Water quality
 - Erosion from cropland
 - Land users needing technical assistance
6. **Major Programs and Activities**
 - Agricultural cost-share programs
 - Tree sales
 - Publish annual newspaper insert
 - Implement the Root River One Watershed One Plan
 - Educational programs for schools, youth, adult and civic groups
 - Review erosion and sediment control plans
7. **Funding Sources**
 - Local governments (Fillmore County)
 - State governments (Board of Water and Soil Resources, MN Pollution Control Agency, MN Department of Natural Resources, MN Department of Agriculture)
 - Grants
 - Federal grants and agreements

8. Expectations of Supervisors

- Be involved and responsible for district program direction
- Develop policies and programs
- Promote soil and water conservation in the community
- Take advantage of training opportunities to develop abilities
- Attend board and committee meetings
- Participate in district programs and activities
- Represent district in public
- Help secure financial resources
- Promote the district

9. Benefits of Being a Supervisor

- Being a voice for citizens of your county
- Providing your time to improve the environment
- Being actively involved with assistance and educational programs for citizens
- Providing leadership in community resource conservation
- Development of leadership skills

Additional information is available by calling the district office at 507-765-3878 ext. 3, by visiting the SWCD website at www.fillmoreswcd.org, or by contacting a current district board member.