



Soil and Water CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Construction Season is Beginning and We Offer Cost-Share Assistance!

Lyon SWCD offers 75% cost-share assistance for structural practices including but not limited to:

- Water & Sediment Control Basins
- Terraces
- Grassed Waterways
- Diversions
- Streambank Stabilizations (where infrastructure is impacted)

NOTE: IF your property is located within a priority watershed of the Yellow Medicine River Watershed, you may be eligible for up to 90% cost-share assistance on qualifying practices.



Eroded cropland with exposed tile

Finished grassed waterway recently seeded

If you are interested in any structural conservation practice please contact our office at 507-532-8207 x3. Interest for basins and waterways has increased so please give our staff time to survey and design your project(s) by getting ahold of us now!

****New** Non-structural conservation practice cost-share**

Lyon County SWCD now offers flat-rate cost-share on practices such as cover crops, tillage management, conservation crop rotation and conservation cover.

3 year contract minimum for all conservation practices with compliance checks yearly.

Priority will be given to those that rank highest.

If you're interested please contact our office at 507-532-8207 x3.

We joined Facebook! To keep up your local SWCD, NRCS and Pheasants Forever updates, give us a follow or like! Scan the QR code below with your phone camera to easily find our page!



Scan me!



LYON COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1424 E College Drive
Suite 600
Marshall, Minnesota 56258

CERTIFY YOUR LAND, WATER AND LEGACY FOR YEARS TO COME

The **Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP)** is a voluntary opportunity for agricultural landowners to take the lead implementing conservation practices to protect surface and groundwater. Currently, 17 producers in Lyon County are certified with three more working towards certification. A great job is being done to protect water quality here and statewide by our farmers!

Through this program, certified producers receive:

- ❖ **Regulatory Certainty:** Certified producers are considered compliant with any new water quality rules or laws that are implemented during the ten year period of certification.
- ❖ **Recognition:** Certified producers may use their status to promote their business as good stewards of water quality.
- ❖ **Priority for assistance:** When seeking certification, you can obtain specially designated technical and financial assistance to implement practices that promote water quality.

How the Certification Process Works:

1. **Contact Us**
 - a. Reach out to Lyon County SWCD office to start the application process with Danielle Evers the area certification specialist.
2. **Assessment**
 - a. We work with you to collect information like field characteristics, nutrient management practices, and tillage practices. An online field-by-field water quality risk assessment will be completed.
3. **Schedule a Meeting**
 - a. We meet to review the risk assessment and recommend new practices that mitigate water quality risks and make sense for your farm operation.
4. **Verification**
 - a. We conduct a field verification to confirm all risks to water quality have been treated or a plan is in place to address the risk.
5. **Follow-Up**
 - a. We stay in touch as you continue to make enhancements.



LYON COUNTY PARK UPDATES

- ❖ **Garvin Park:** Lyon County Parks received a \$1.2 million grant through the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission. Construction will begin this summer. This grant includes the addition of a shower/restroom facility in the Horse Campground, upgrades to several restroom facilities throughout the park, and a new shelter/main playground area.
- ❖ **Twin Lakes Park:** The kayak and paddleboard rental system will be in place near the West Twin Lake boat landing for rentals 24/7 this camping season.
- ❖ **Reservations:** Reservations can be made for either park through the county website: www.lyonco.org/parks



Pollinator Habitat in Marshall

With the support of the SWCD Board, a partnership was formed with the City of Marshall in creating sustainable pollinator habitat.

The SWCD will assist in restoring and conserving native plant communities to benefit pollinators, and associated wildlife species.

We are currently working on grant funding to begin to transition city-owned property into sustainable pollinator habitat.

Are You In Compliance with the Buffer Law?

In order to be in compliance with State Law, SWCD staff will be viewing aerial photos and doing site visits on public waters and ditch systems

Questions?

Contact Blake Giles
507-591-2002

Perpetual Easement Rate Increase

The SWCD would like to inform landowners that the State perpetual easement rates have increased, on average, by 43% county-wide. This rate increase is to account for the significant change in value seen for agricultural land over 2022. The rate increases are applicable on the State Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and the Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) perpetual easement programs. Here are a few examples of increases in the county.

Township	2018 MN CREP Cropland Rate	2018 RIM Rate	2023 MN CREP Cropland Rate	2023 RIM Rate
Lucas	\$8,618.10	\$7,682.81	\$12,123.92	\$9,398.38
Grandview	\$8,577.47	\$7,646.58	\$12,115.88	\$9,392.15
Monroe	\$8,567.02	\$7,637.27	\$12,124.92	\$9,399.17

Partner Highlights

Lyon County NRCS is accepting EQIP, RCPP & CSP applications year round. Stop in the office and see Gatlin, Kelly or Jeremy for more information.

Lyon County Pheasants Forever has food plot seed available for pick-up at the Lyon County SWCD Office building if you ordered through them last fall last year. Some extra seed will be available while supplies lasts.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ORDER FOOD PLOT SEED FOR NEXT YEAR, CALL OUR OFFICE AT 507-532-8207 x3 AND ASK FOR BROCK BOERBOOM.

NRCS Programs:

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is NRCS' flagship conservation program that helps farmers, ranchers and forest landowners integrate conservation into working lands.

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) represents a genuine commitment to conservation with a 5 year contract with the opportunity to renew if the initial contract is successfully fulfilled.

The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) is specialized funding for landowners in the Ag Water Quality Certification Program or those in a priority watershed.

Lyon County NRCS Field Office Staff

Kelly Heather, Team Lead/District Conservationist – Manages Lincoln, Lyon and Yellow Medicine County NRCS staff and programs.
Cell phone: 507-774-2206 E-mail: kelly.heather@usda.gov

Gatlin Hemann, Soil Conservationist – Certified conservation planner, expert map maker and works with all NRCS conservation programs.
Cell phone: 507-766-5121 E-mail: gatlin.hemann@usda.gov

Jeremy Larson, Civil Engineering Technician – Specializes in structural practices including basins and waterways. He's your go to for grazing practices and design.
Cell phone: 218-457-1815 E-mail: jeremy.larson@usda.gov

Hailey Caron, Earth Team Volunteer – Assists with office duties and surveys with partners.

Brock Boerboom, Pheasants Forever – Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist – Assist with programs that provide habitat to upland wildlife such as CRP, CREP and RIM.
Cell phone: 507-829-0501 E-mail: bboerboom@pheasantsforever.org



The SWCD and USDA are equal opportunity providers, employers and lenders.



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ATTENTION: Lyon County Feedlot Owners –

Manure Pile Etiquette: If you plan to temporarily stock your manure, make sure you follow these few rules required in Lyon County:

1. All manure piles should be 300 ft. away from the road right of way and 100 ft. from water sources such as: Open tile intakes, Lakes, Rivers, Streams, Wells, etc.
2. All manure piles must be at **MINIMUM** 1,320 ft. or ¼ mile away from dwellings not owned by feedlot owner and avoid short-term stock piling on slopes greater than 6 percent.

2023 Inspections have begun. Producers will be asked to be on site.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Lyon County Feedlot Officer, Courtney, at 507-829-3254 or call the main office at 507-532-8207 x3.

Meet the Staff



Left to Right: (Front Row) Kelly Heather-NRCS, John Biren-SWCD, Luke Olson-SWCD, Anita Cauwels-SWCD, Maggie Syversen-NRCS (recently transferred to SD), Courtney Snyder-SWCD. (Back Row) Brock Boerboom-Pheasants Forever, Jeremy Larson-NRCS, Blake Giles-SWCD, Gatlin Hemann-NRCS