



Soil and Water CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2023 Environmental Fair

On September 26th & 27th, we and 10 other Soil & Water Conservation Districts around the area, held the 29th Annual Environmental Fair! We had a total of 1,636 students and 25 different schools from all around the Southwest Minnesota Area. We had 22 educational sessions to send the students to.

A few of these sessions were:

- “The Zoomobile” by the Great Plains Zoo & Delbridge Museum of Natural History
- “Water” & “Energy” presentations by the Science Museum of Minnesota
- “Prescribed Burns” by the Native Resource Preservation
- “Wild About Wetlands” by the Prairie Ecology Bus Center
- “Groundwater” by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

We could not have done this without the help of our presenters and the support from our local schools. We also want to send a **HUGE** thank you to the Lyon County Parks Department. They helped us out so much by setting up and making sure each building was ready for us. Thank you also to Lyon County Commissioners, Todd Draper & Tom Andries, for stopping out and seeing what this event all entails! We appreciate their support as well!

We are already looking forward to next year’s 30th Environmental Fair!



ZooMobile session teaching students about the importance of reptiles/amphibians.



Drones session showing students how they can be used for conservation.
Presenter - SWPTSA



Stream Table session showing students the effects of erosion.
Presenter - RCRCA

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

Pollinator Plots to be developed in the City of Marshall (As seen in the Marshall Independent)

The City of Marshall has partnered with the Lyon County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). The Lyon County SWCD has been awarded \$28,725 for the Pollinator Project through the Board of Water & Soil Resources' (BWSR) Habitat Enhancement Landscape Pilot (HELP) Program.

Overall, these two projects will result in 17.6 acres of diverse habitat, thriving with vegetation, in hopes of attracting at-risk pollinator species by increasing the quality and quantity of their vital and depleting resources.

This grant will assist in covering the cost of site preparations, seeding, and implementing a multi-year maintenance plan for two targeted locations. Project A is a riparian site along the Redwood River, in Victory Park, which will be an enhancement project on 15.1 acres. Project B is along the bike trail north of Southwest State University Minnesota which will be a full establishment across 2.5 acres.

Also, as part of this plan, community education programming will be provided to help educate, inform, and promote information about pollinator habitat and the benefits to our environment.

Blake Giles, Conservation Technician with the Lyon County SWCD, emphasized the importance of community education and collaboration with the hopes of enhancing pollinators throughout the City of Marshall. He stated, "I feel very confident that our efforts will have a successful first phase and continue onto greater education and more community involvement to show the importance of pollinator habitat in our area."

The City of Marshall looks forward to working with the Lyon County SWCD and envisions this as just the beginning of a much larger project.

As the city and the Lyon County SWCD work towards enhancing our pollinator habitats throughout the community, it is critical to acknowledge the important role pollinators play in the overall health of our environment.



MARSHALL



Pollinator Plot A, North of Highway 23 at Victory Park, will be ENHANCED with the funding from the Clean Water Fund HELP Grant.



Pollinator Plot B, West of Highway 23 and North of Southwest Minnesota State University, will be a NEW pollinator plot establishment.

Are you interested in making cover crops and/or conservation tillage part of your farming practices?

The Yellow Medicine Watershed District has a great opportunity for you through the Yellow Medicine River One Watershed One Plan if you are in the priority area. **You can be awarded up to \$110/Acre for 3 YEARS!**

Pick the practice(s) you're most interested in and give us a call!

Single Species Cover Crop	\$50/Acre
Multi-species Cover Crop	\$60/Acre
No-Till/Strip Till	\$30/Acre

IF YOU'VE NEVER DONE COVER CROPS, YOU'RE ELIGIBLE FOR AN EXTRA \$10/ACRE AND YOU CHOOSE TO DO BOTH COVER CROPS & CONSERVATION TILLAGE, YOU WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR \$10 MORE PER ACRE!

Contact Lyon Soil & Water Conservation District at 507-532-8207 x3 or stop in our office located at 1424 E College Drive Suite 600, Marshall, MN 56258 if you would like to sign up or if you have any questions!



YELLOW MEDICINE RIVER
WATERSHED DISTRICT



BE NICE TO OUR ICE

The Keep It Clean Coalition is addressing the growing problem of garbage/waste left on and in the ice of Minnesota Lakes. They've recently partnered with MN DNR, MPCA, MN-FISH, Minnesota's Lakes & Rivers Advocates and lake associations across the state. With all their efforts, Minnesota State Law states it is now illegal to place garbage or waste on or under the ice in Minnesota. While ice fishing this year, please legally contain or dispose of your garbage. Visit keepitcleanmn.org to learn more!



Lyon County Parks Update

Areas of Garvin Park may be off limits during construction starting August 2023. Camping will remain open and the park is open to day use. However, specific areas of the park may be temporarily closed without notice. For the safety of all visitors and construction workers please stay away from construction areas at all times.

Partner Updates

NRCS Programs

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) – Deadline is **January 12th, 2024**.

Lyon County NRCS is accepting EQIP, RCPP & CSP applications year round even if deadline has passed. Stop in the office and see Hailey, Kelly or Jeremy for more information.

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

Hailey Caron, Soil Conservationist - Recent hire that works full-time with all NRCS conservation programs

Cell Phone: 507-706-3896

E-mail: hailey.caron@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

Owen Colline, Trainee/PT Soil Conservationist – Pathways intern that assists with all NRCS conservation programs until December 2023

E-mail: owen.colline@usda.gov

Brock Boerboom, Pheasants Forever – Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist– Assists with programs that provide habitat to upland wildlife such as CRP, CREP and RIM.

Cell phone: 507-829-0501

E-mail: bboerboom@pheasantsforever.org

If you would like to order corn or sorghum food plot seed for 2024 call our office at 507-532-8207 x3 and ask for Brock Boerboom.

As of 10/26/2023, Gatlin Hemann has transferred to Iowa NRCS. We send our best wishes to him & will miss him around the office!



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





1424 E College Drive
Suite 600
Marshall, Minnesota 56258

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***ATTENTION: Lyon County Feedlot Owners –
“How do I know if I need to register my feedlot?”***

1. Any feedlot within shore land (300ft from a public water) with 10 or more animal units is required to be registered with the County
2. Any feedlot not within shore land but with over 50 animal units but less than 1000 is required to be registered with the County
3. If your feedlot is 1000 animal units or over, you are required to register for an NPDES permit through the State of Minnesota. Please contact Josh Kircher with MPCA Feedlot.

Also keep in mind, 2023 Inspections are still in progress. Producers will be asked to be on site.

Some exceptions may apply due to head count. For any questions or for a list of animal unit conversions, please contact Courtney at 507-532-8207 x3.

Meet our Supervisors



Left to right: (Back Row) Thomas Andries - Lyon County Board of Commissioners Representative, Steve Prairie - Representing Area 5, Gary Laleman - Representing Area 1, Allen Deutz - SWCD Board Vice Chairman - Representing Area 2, Gary Crowley - Lyon County Board of Commissioners Representative, (Front Row) John Lanoue - SWCD Board Chairman - Representing Area 4, Mark Meulebroeck - Representing Area 3.