



Soil and Water CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Attention County Ditch Systems - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that Lyon County Commissioners, acting as the drainage authority for the applicable drainage system, will hold public hearings regarding ditch assessments to be payable in 2025 on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. for County Ditches and at 11:30 a.m. for Judicial/Joint Ditches at the Commissioner Room on the second floor of the Lyon County Government Center, 607 West Main Street, Marshall, MN 56258.

The purpose of these hearings is to review system benefit balances and determine ditch assessments for payable year 2025. Members/landowners of each ditch system and the general public who are interested or have concerns are encouraged to attend.

The Lyon County Board of Commissioners therefore deems it necessary to review the current system benefits and determine if additional assessments should be made to the system based a percentage of the benefits or assess a specific dollar amount on all lands benefited by said ditches for the purpose of creating a sufficient balance in said ditch accounts for past and future maintenance, repair and other costs of the aforementioned ditches.

Please contact Lyon County Ditch Inspector John Biren at 507-532-8207, ext 3, if you have any questions or desire additional information.

NEWSRELEASE



MDA Reminds Farmers of Proper Bulk Fertilizer Storage Storage areas for dry and liquid fertilizer must be permitted

St. Paul, MN: Ahead of the planting season, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is reminding farmers of proper storage guidelines for bulk fertilizer.

Bulk liquid fertilizer can contaminate soil, surface water, and groundwater if a storage tank or pipe leaks. Dry fertilizer can also leach into the environment if it is placed on the ground and mixes with snow and rain.

To limit the risk of environmental impacts, liquid fertilizer tanks must be inside a containment system that will hold any spills. This is called secondary containment. Dry fertilizer must be stored on an impervious surface and in a roofed area that will protect its contents from the elements. There may be other requirements depending on the location of the stored dry fertilizer.

Farmers storing any amount of dry bulk fertilizer on the farm must get an MDA bulk storage permit. Farmers must also get an MDA permit if they're storing more than 6,000 gallons of liquid fertilizer.

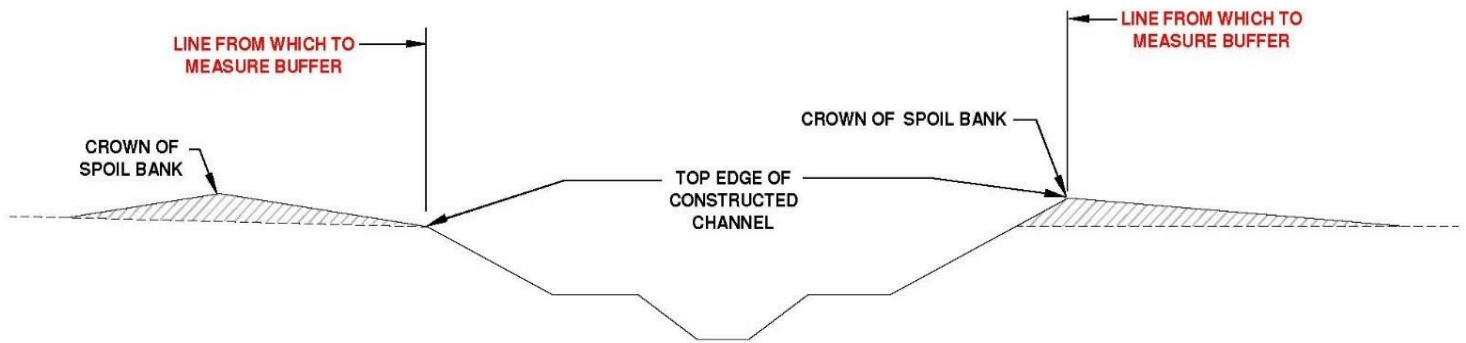
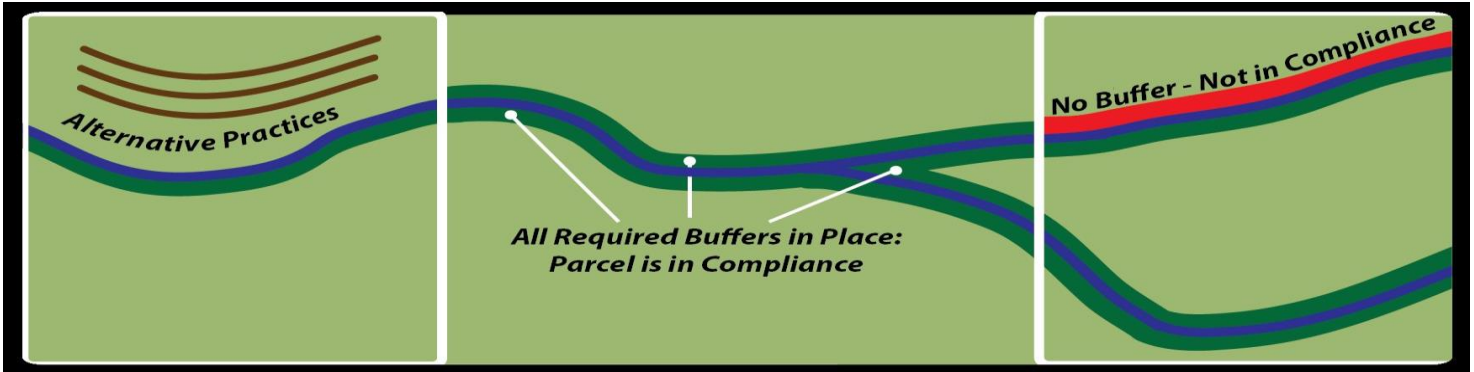
The storage permit application must include drawings for secondary containment. An application, along with a \$100 fee, must be submitted prior to the start of construction or storage of any dry fertilizer or more than 6,000 gallons of liquid fertilizer. The permit application can be found on [the MDA website](#).

Failing to comply with bulk fertilizer storage requirements may result in further enforcement actions by the MDA. Contamination from a release may also result in a costly environmental cleanup that could be averted when liquid bulk fertilizer tanks or dry fertilizer is in an MDA permitted containment. As a reminder, a release of fertilizer into the environment is an incident that must be immediately reported to the Minnesota Duty Officer at 1-800-422-0798.

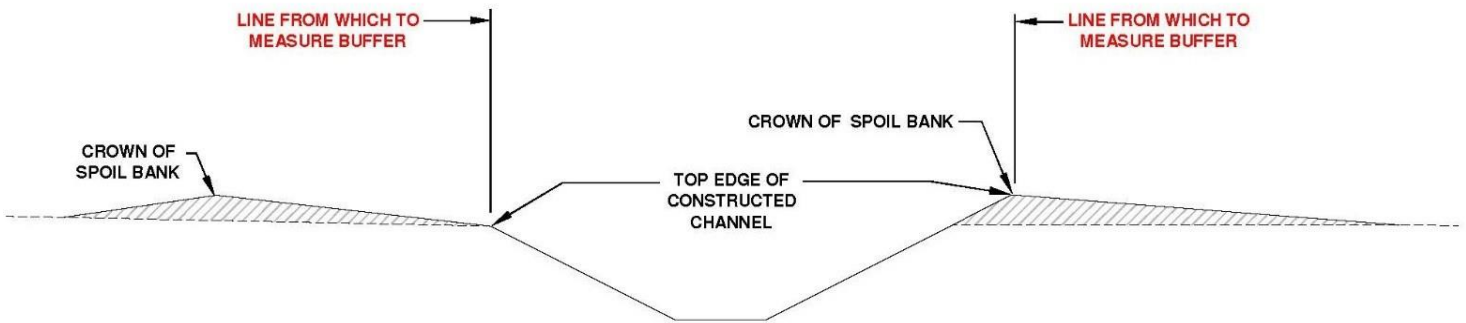
For more information on bulk storage and permits, contact Matthew Parins at 651-201-6587 or Matthew.Parins@state.mn.us.

Are you Compliant with the Minnesota State Buffer Law?

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the SWCD at (507) 532-8207 x 3



**BUFFER LAW AND DRAINAGE LAW
TWO - STAGE PUBLIC DRAINAGE DITCH**



**BUFFER LAW AND DRAINAGE LAW
SINGLE - STAGE PUBLIC DRAINAGE DITCH**



What Kind of Programs are within Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM)?



RIM Grasslands - Perpetual easement program targeting moderate-level remnant prairie sites. Remnant, unbroken ground required with the option to add cropland acres as desired. Pays RIM township rate for non-cropland. Among other things, prioritization is given to sites:

- Within the MN Prairie Plan priority areas
- At a high risk of conversion
- Near grassland complexes

RIM Wellhead - Perpetual easement program targeting Wellhead Protection Areas. Sites offered must have a majority (greater than 51%) within the high or very high vulnerable area of the Wellhead Protection Area. Standard RIM rates.

RIM Riparian and Floodplain Restoration - Perpetual, 30-year, and/or working land easement options available. Riparian/floodplain areas offered must be adjacent to public waters (rivers/streams, public drainage systems, wetlands, and lakes). 1000-foot average minimum from the ordinary high water level of lake, pond, or flowage. 300-foot average minimum from a river or stream. Rates vary based on program options.

RIM Wetlands - Perpetual easement program targeting drained and altered wetlands. These include farmed/cropped existing, natural wetlands, effectively drained/altered wetlands, partially drained, altered wetlands, and/or previously restored wetlands. Standard RIM rates.

RIM 1W1P - Perpetual easement program targeting priority areas based on One Watershed, One Plan Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans. Rates vary based on program options.



Partner Updates

NRCS Programs



Lyon County NRCS is accepting EQIP, RCPP & CSP applications year round even if deadline has passed. If you have areas of erosion or grazing practices you'd like to implement please stop by or call the office, sooner the better. Spring & Summer are the best times to do field visits and plan your conservation practices. Stop in the office and see Kelly, Hailey, Owen or Jeremy for more information.

Lyon County NRCS Field Office Staff

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

Hailey Bornitz, Soil Conservationist - Recent hire that works full-time with all NRCS conservation programs. Cell Phone: 507-706-3896 E-mail: hailey.bornitz@usda.gov

Owen Colline, Agronomist- Recent Hire that works full time with NRCS conservation programs. Nutrient & Pest Management practices are his specialty. Cell Phone: 507-318-6683 Email: owen.colline@usda.gov

Jeremy Larson, Civil Engineering Technician – Specializes in Ag waste structures and working with the Technical Service Providers. He's your go to for grazing practices and design. Cell phone: 218-457-1815 E-mail: jeremy.larson@usda.gov

Mark Peper, Pheasants Forever – Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist– Assists with programs that provide habitat to upland wildlife such as CRP, CREP and RIM. Office: 507-537-1401 ext. 3 Email: mark.peper@usda.gov or mtpeper@pheasantsforever.org



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Marshall, Minnesota 56258

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ATTENTION: Lyon County Feedlot Owners –

Your checklist for expanding your feedlot:

1. How many head do you currently have compared to how many you are hoping to expand to?
 - a. If **under** 500 animal units (au), stop in our office and fill out our form
 - b. If **over** 500 au
 - i. Stop in our office, we will need to submit a good neighbor notice to the Tracy Headlight Herald newspaper
 - ii. Bring an updated four-year nutrient management plan (NMP), contact the CFO for more details on what belongs in an NMP
 - iii. Fill out an application that can be found online at www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/county-feedlot-officers

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Lyon County Feedlot Officers, Courtney or Blake at 507-532-8207 x3.

2024 inspections have started. Producers will be asked to be on site.

Staff Spotlight

As of May 31st, 2024, Gavin is the Soil & Water Conservation District's Summer Intern. He was born and raised in Marshall, MN and he enjoys hunting and fishing in his free time. For the SWCD, he has been working on County and Judicial Ditch Inventories, RIM/CRP Field Checks and other projects around the office. His dream job is to become a Conservation Technician or a Professional Welder. His favorite part of working for the SWCD is meeting community members and being outside.

A fun fact about Gavin is he went to Wisconsin to support his favorite football team, **The Green Bay Packers!**

If you see him around the Lyon County don't be afraid to stop him and say hello!

