



**Sherburne Soil and Water
Conservation District**

14855 Highway 10
Elk River, MN 55330
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**Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District
Conservation Issues Survey**

Since 1944 the Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District has been working with landowners, government, and State & Federal agencies to promote the wise and sustainable use of our land and water resources. As a local governmental unit whose conservation programs are strictly voluntary, your input guides our programs.

We are presently developing our Comprehensive Plan that will address the conservation needs in Sherburne County for the next five years. In order to do this, we need to know what conservation issues are most important to you. For this reason we would like you to complete the attached survey and return it to the address below. If you have any questions feel free to contact our office.

Thank you,

Sherburne SWCD

Please remit completed survey to:

Sherburne SWCD
Attn: Francine Larson
14855 Highway 10
Elk River, MN 55330

Or email to francine.larson@mn.nacdnet.net

Name
Address
Email

Rank each issue according to what you believe is important. Consider each issue with respect to what you think is true for Sherburne County's natural resources.

Surface Water Issues. These pertain to lakes, streams and wetlands.	Select your opinion below for each issue:	
Restoration of lakes and streams (waters that are not healthy)	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Preservation of lakes and streams (waters that are healthy)	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Collaborate with the State to conduct Total Maximum Daily Loads on impaired water bodies	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Address agricultural stormwater runoff to lakes and streams	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Address urban/residential stormwater runoff to lakes and streams	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information

Groundwater Issues:		
High nitrate levels in drinking water supply wells	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
High seasonal demand on municipal wells due to lawn irrigation	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Will water supplies be sustainable to meet the demands of agricultural irrigation and the growing population?	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Unused, unsealed wells (sometimes called abandoned wells) are potential conduits for pollution to enter groundwater	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Wellhead protection: protecting public water supply wells from pollution	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information

Forest Resources:		
Slow the spread of oak wilt	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information
Prevent spread of emerald ash borer	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information
Improve the health of roadside windbreaks	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information
Establish diseased and insect infested tree disposal program	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information
Urban forest health	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information

Soil Resource:		
Controlling wind/water erosion and the resulting sedimentation in our lakes and rivers	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information
Increase planting field windbreaks and shelterbelts	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information
Establish soil quality monitoring sites in the county	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information
Encourage Best Management Practices that improve soil quality (i.e. cover crops)	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information
Increase soil organic matter	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information

Wildlife Habitat:		
Maintenance & protection of wetlands	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information
Control of invasive species and noxious weeds	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information
Increase opportunities & resources for backyard conservation	High Priority	Low Priority
	Not an Issue	Need More Information

Wildlife Habitat Continued:		
Increase and improve bio-diversity and pollinator habitat by encouraging the use of native plants throughout the landscape	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Protecting the quality and quantity of the wetlands in the County	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information

Environmental Education:		
Youth environmental education programs	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Adult environmental education programs	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Receiving environmental information via email, newsletters or website	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Media addressing education opportunities regarding environmental issues	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Prioritize, 1 being most important to 5 being least of importance regarding environmental education in the following areas:	Water _____ Soil _____ Habitat _____ Forest Resources _____ Education _____	

Funding:		
Increase State dollars allocated by legislature to fund Soil and Water Conservation Practices	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Charging fees for technical assistance provided to landowners and organizations	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Grants as a source of funding for operations and programs	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Provide Conservation Management Systems for Rural Preserve Property Tax Program that may reduce a landowner's Property tax liability (Fee charged for this service)	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information
Partner with USDA and NRCS as a source of funding and support	High Priority Not an Issue	Low Priority Need More Information

List other issues you think are important:

Thank you for completing the Conservation Issues Survey. The results will be posted on our website. Please contact our office if you have any questions or would like further information.

Thank you,

Sherburne SWCD