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Watershed clean-up crews visit five locations

David Hannula
Staff Writer

Volunteer crews working in five locations gathered up an estimated 670 lbs. of trash during the 4th Annual Elk River Watershed Clean-up last Saturday morning, according to Watershed Coordinator Tiffany Determan at the Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) office in Elk River.

A five-member crew assembled at the Becker Community Center to get to work on bridges on Co. Rd. 11, Co. Rd. 23, Co. Rd. 24 and Hwy 25 during the two-hour session. In that group were Terry Vander Eyk, SWCD Int. Dir. Bill Bronder, Judi Klosterman, Joel Schwarting and Ron Burley.

Other area crews assembled at Big Lake (Mike Buckley, Amber Larson, Frances Gerde and Blake Buzzo); Big Lake/Mitchell Lake (Amy Vrudny, Jeff Vrudny, Tommy Vrudny, Amber Larson, Francine Larson); Wapiti Park (Angel Hardy, Patrick Pellegrin, Thomas Hedlund, Skip Deutchman, Karry Schwanki, Scott Schwanki, Karen Betland and Tiffany Determan), and the Odds and Ends Crew, Tibbits Brook and Snake River, (Tiffany Determan, Shane Determan).

During the program, volunteers collected aluminum cans, glass and plastic bottles, cigarette butts, vehicle tires, metal car parts, a vacuum cleaner, glass refrigerator door, shoes, rebar and wire, a television set, a computer, bicycles, styrofoam coolers, food wrappers, gloves, shotgun shells, newspapers, a gas can and various other items.

Sponsors And Volunteers

Event sponsors included the following: Staff time from the Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District. Funds came from the Big Lake Community Lakes Assoc.; Lake Orono Improvement Assoc.; and the Sherburne County Rural Living Task Force. Volunteers included the Wapiti Park Campers and other committed individuals.

Waste Disposal was provided by Sherburne County Public Works, Jerry's Auto Parts and Salvage, and Central Appliance Recyclers. Food and drink came from Coburn's, Caribou Coffee and the Diamond City Bakery.

Waste disposal materials were provided by Sherburne Public Works, with meeting facilities at Big Lake Lion's Park, City of Big Lake, Lakeside Park, Becker Community Center and Wapiti Park.



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CLEAN-UP DAY. Ron Burley was in the tall grass alongside the Co. Rd. 23 bridge during the Elk River Watershed clean-up project last Saturday morning. (Photos by David Hannula.)



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BY THE RIVER SIDE. SWCD's Bill Bronder, left, and volunteers Joel Schwarting and Judi Klosterman cleaned up during the project.

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