



Sherburne **SWCD**

SHERBURNE SWCD

2026 Annual Plan of Work
Adopted 01/15/2026

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Annual Objectives and Strategies

The Annual Plan, and this section of Objectives and Strategies in particular, outline the framework of the Sherburne SWCD's day-to-day activities and their relationship to the overarching goals set forth in the district's many applicable plans (SWCD Strategic Plan, SWCD Education and Outreach Plan, Rum River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan and Mississippi River St. Cloud Watershed Management Plan).

Objective 1: Protect and/or Restore Surface Water Quality

Objective 2: Conserve, Protect, and Enhance Ground Water Quality and Quantity

Objective 3: Protect, Enhance, and Establish New Native Habitat Objective 4: Increase District Awareness and Promote Community Collaboration

Objective 5: Maintain a Strong Operating Structure that Adapts to Changes in the External Environment

Framework:

- A. Objective: An objective is a broad approach, strategy, or principle that steers our operations towards ultimately accomplishing goals outlined in various other plans. They encompass all dynamics of the Sherburne SWCD's operations (Planning and Prioritization, Education and Outreach, Technical Assistance and Implementation, and Performance Assessment). The Objectives presented here are not listed in a ranked order, they each carry equal importance.
- B. Strategies: A strategy is an example of day-to-day activities that support the overlying Objective. A strategy may be short or long term and may also be fixed or on-going.

Objective 1: Protect and/or Restore Surface Water Quality

Strategies

- Planning and Prioritization
 - Complete sub-watershed assessments for priority water bodies.
 - Assess shorelands for disturbance and erosion concerns.
 - Work with land use decision-makers to improve programs and ordinances for surface water by participating on steering committees and provide commentary on variance requests or ordinance revisions as needed.
 - Complete baseline and targeted water monitoring programs as funding is available.
- Education and Outreach
 - Feature water quality topics in webinar and tabling activities.
 - Participate in MS4 partnerships for stormwater education initiatives.
 - Host agricultural-focused events to communicate issues with topsoil loss, soil health, and nutrient management.
- Technical Assistance and Implementation
 - Provide basic concepts of shoreland erosion control measures and estimated costs to interested landowners during site visits.
 - Partner with lake associations/districts and other entities on in-lake phosphorus control measures.
 - Maintain technical assistance and cost share programs to implement erosion control, filtration and soil loss projects.
- Performance Assessment
 - Ensure timely and accurate reporting on project outcomes to District and Watershed tracking tools.
 - Compare accomplishments to the goal metrics outlined in the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans.
 - Conduct frequent site evaluations and provide maintenance assistance information to ensure installed practices remain effective for their anticipated lifespan.

Objective 2: Conserve, Protect, and Enhance Ground Water Quality and Quantity

Strategies

- Planning and Prioritization
 - Maintain and form new partnerships with local governmental units and landowners to protect sensitive groundwater areas (DWSMAs, WHP, highly vulnerable soils, etc.).
 - Participate in farmer-led conversations to identify future areas of collaboration and focus.

- Partner with the county and other regulatory agencies to implement urban groundwater protection strategies (proper SSTS maintenance, stormwater infiltration, etc.)
- Conduct targeted monitoring of groundwater resources as funding becomes available.
- Education and Outreach
 - Host informative speakers on developing technology for conservation irrigation practices, connect these resources to landowners.
 - Support field demonstration events that display the infiltration potential for cover crops, conservation tillage, and other best management practices.
 - Partner with appropriate agencies to bring urban groundwater quality topics and ordinances/regulations to landowners.
- Technical Assistance and Implementation
 - Ensure staff are trained and certified with appropriate credentials to provide technical assistance.
 - Maintain technical assistance and cost share programs to implement best management practices for irrigation and soil health.
- Performance Assessment
 - Initiate a baseline soil health assessment in key areas, track progress periodically over time.
 - Ensure timely and accurate reporting on project outcomes to District and Watershed tracking tools.
 - Compare accomplishments to the goal metrics outlined in the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans.

Objective 3: Protect, Enhance, and Establish New Native Habitat

Strategies

- Planning and Prioritization
 - Expand and protect habitat using prioritization planning tools including Landscape Stewardship Plan, MN Trust focus lands, RIM easement criteria, federal pollinator priority zones, and Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan priority zones.
 - Integrate planting of climate adaptive species into projects where possible.
 - Partner with other agencies to protect at-risk, rare species through strategic relocation projects.
 - Work with land use decision-makers to improve programs and ordinances for native habitat and vegetation diversity by participating on steering committees and provide commentary on variance requests or ordinance revisions as needed.
- Education and Outreach
 - Communicate the importance of native vegetation and buffer strips to landowners on shoreland, urban, and rural areas.
 - Host or participate in local events and provide both youth and adults information on the importance of pollinating insects and pollinator habitat.
 - Conduct site assessments as requested for tree disease identification and mitigation options.
- Technical Assistance and Implementation
 - Complete habitat project designs with a focus upon a diverse planting plan.
 - Ensure staff are trained and certified with appropriate credentials to provide technical assistance.
 - Acquire funding, or direct landowners to programs that offer financial assistance to implement habitat projects.
- Performance Assessment
 - Ensure timely and accurate reporting on project outcomes to District and Watershed tracking tools.
 - Compare accomplishments to the goal metrics outlined in the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans.
 - Conduct frequent site evaluations and provide maintenance assistance information to ensure installed practices remain effective for their anticipated lifespan.

Objective 4: Increase District Awareness and Promote Community Collaboration

Strategies

- Planning and Prioritization
 - Identify key landowner demographics or stakeholder groups for outreach.
 - Maintain relationships with key figures in the community, individuals that are well recognized locally and share the District's values and mission and can advocate on our behalf.
 - Maintain key partnerships with federal, state and local agencies as well as non-profits and watershed partners.
- Education and Outreach
 - Host targeted outreach events annually with a specific demographic, land-use type, or resource issue in mind.
 - Prioritize several events annually that focus on collaborative learning, two-way dialogue, and active participation from community participants.
- Technical Assistance and Implementation
 - Utilize existing and new forms of communication to bring program sheets and services to landowners in the county.
 - Identify ways to showcase conservation stewards or impactful projects to the broader community.
- Performance Assessment
 - Track and reflect upon outreach events and communications.
 - Ensure timely and accurate reporting on project outcomes to District and Watershed tracking tools.
 - Compare accomplishments to the goal metrics outlined in the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans.

Objective 5: Maintain a Strong Operating Structure that Adapts to Changes in the External Environment

Strategies

- Planning and Prioritization
 - Annually review the District's Strategic Plan, adapt or revise as needed.
 - Annually assess workloads for existing staff and identify if gaps exist.
- Education and Outreach
 - Maintain close relationship with Area 4 SWCD's and MASWCD representatives.
 - Connect with local and state representatives, communicate the District's successes and legislative needs on an annual (or more frequent) basis.
- Technical Assistance and Implementation
 - Annually review staff training accomplishments, training needs, and career growth path. Prioritize Job Approval Authority certification where needed.
- Performance Assessment
 - Track progress and outcomes pertaining to pollution reductions, protection accomplishments, stakeholder outreach and engagement.
 - Assess staff wages, satisfaction, career growth and other metrics annually.
 - Host board retreats, trainings, and team-building events. Assess training needs annually.

District Programs

Aquatic Invasive Species Program (AIS)

Sherburne County delegated the responsibility of developing and implementing an AIS Prevention Plan, utilizing the funds provided by the State of Minnesota through the DNR AIS Prevention Fund. In the first year of the program, the SSWCD (with assistance from a local AIS Task Force) developed a five year plan which will be updated annually and provided to the County

Board for approval. Plan elements include initiatives to prevent AIS introduction to/from Sherburne County and limiting the spread within the county limits. Activities include efforts such as education and awareness, enforcement of AIS laws through watercraft inspections and partnerships with the Sherburne County Sheriff's Department, early detection and rapid response actions. The SSWCD will also empower local lake associations and districts through a county AIS grant program and collaborative Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA).

- FY26 AIS Aid - \$73,418.00
- FY27 AIS Aid - \$36,709.00 TBD

Board of Adjustments Reviews

At the request of Sherburne County Planning and Zoning staff, in late 2017 SSWCD staff began reviewing Variance Requests that were submitted to County staff and the Board of Adjustments from local residents. Often, variance requests involve matters pertaining to impervious surfaces or shoreland setbacks which would influence stormwater quality/quantity and surface water runoff to lakes. SSWCD is able to provide commentary on the waterbodies these properties drain to, bring up concerns they have that may originate from the proposed developments, and most importantly offer an alternative plan or pollution mitigation plan that the landowner may implement in their development design. SSWCD comments are sent to County staff, who integrate them within their comments to Board of Adjustments Directors.

Forest Resource Services

The SSWCD offers tree inspections and assists landowners with the development of management plans that provide landowners with the information they need to manage their forests for a variety of products and services. The SSWCD administers the citizen pruner program for the cities of Becker, Big Lake, Princeton, Elk River, Clear Lake, and Zimmerman. The SSWCD also administers the woodpecker activity Survey to promote early detection of EAB. The SSWCD is currently administering the following grants:

- FY25 Centering Communities in Canopy Solutions

Gravel Bed Tree Program

The SSWCD will maintain a 100 sapling capacity gravel bed nursery for tree distribution. Conditioned trees are used to increase climate change resilient species in communities to increase sustainability if tree services including stormwater mitigation, energy savings and moderation of urban heat island effect. In 2026 the Gravel Bed will be utilized to condition bare root tree saplings for the Canopy Solutions grant.

Irrigation Water Management

The SSWCD implements the Irrigation Water Management Program using weather station information, weekly crop water use reports and evapotranspiration data, and provides technical assistance to operators. Staff assists operators using the checkbook method and innovative technology; the SSWCD has 6 AgSense units available for farmers to use. The SSWCD can also assist with uniformity testing on pivots.

Lakes and River Stewardship

Assist Lake Associations, Lake Improvement Districts, Municipalities and other groups to develop monitoring and management programs for lakes and streams, with emphasis on training volunteers and students to conduct monitoring; SSWCD will coordinate data management and assist landowners with shoreland and stream bank resource concerns.

Local Water Management (LWM)

Local Water Management focuses on implementing the actions outlined in Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans. This work includes identifying opportunities with landowners and funding entities, developing projects with landowners, building collaborative partnerships with agencies, and evaluating and reporting upon activities.

Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan (NFMP)

The MDA is the state's lead agency for nitrogen fertilizer and management, the Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan (NFMP) outlines how MDA addressed elevated levels of nitrate in groundwater. The SSWCD has partnered with MDA as a pilot county to implement the NFMP in Sherburne County utilizing a Local Advisory Team (LAT) consisting of farmers and local agribusinesses. The partnership began in 2017.

Nutrient Management

Nutrient Management Planning is a process that helps producers identify and manage the location, rate, timing, form, and method of all nutrient applications. The goal is to optimize crop yields while minimizing nutrient movement. SSWCD offers technical assistance to landowners who are developing nutrient management plans. SSWCD also offers assistance in manure composting and manure composting systems.

Prairie Program

The Prairie Program is available to all county residents who are interested in establishing more than 0.5 contiguous acres of native prairie on their property. Technical assistance can be provided for site preparation, species selection and planting recommendations. Financial assistance can be provided for the cost of seed. Further technical assistance is also provided for stand quality and invasive species control.

Pasture Management Program

The Pasture Management Improvement Program is available to all county residents who own or manage pastures. This program was developed to assist landowners in improving the quantity and quality their pastures. It includes soil testing, interpretation of the University of Minnesota soil test results, evaluation, and a pasture management plan and seed mix.

Pollinator Program

The Pollinator Program is available to all county residents who are interested in establishing less than 0.5 acres of native habitat on their property, with an emphasis on species that benefit at risk pollinators. Technical assistance can be provided for site preparation, species selection and planting recommendations. Financial assistance can be provided for the cost of seed. Further technical assistance is also provided for stand quality and invasive species control.

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)

SSWCD partners with staff from County Public Works and County Planning and Zoning to collectively address and report stormwater issues. The SWPPP team plans occasional stormwater networking and education events, collaborates on state-required stormwater reporting documents, and strives to address the stormwater related goals in the Local Water Management Plan. The team also works collaboratively to complete educational programs and pollution reduction documentation as required by the State of Minnesota MS4 permitting.

Tree & Native Plant Program

The tree program will only sell bare root stock trees in multiples of 25; thereby promoting the SSWCD philosophy of selling trees for conservation (woodlots, windbreaks, shelterbelts, erosion control, soil and water conservation, or permanent food and cover for wildlife) and not ornamental uses. Only plants and seed mixes native to the eco-region will be available through this program that benefit pollinators, wildlife habitat and water quality.

Vegetative Cover Incentive Programs

The SSWCD works with local landowners interested in planting cover crops or establishing native prairie and buffers to improve soil health and wildlife habitat.

State Programs

Agriculture Best Management Practices Loan Program (AgBMP)

This program loans money to farmers, agricultural supply businesses, and rural landowners for implementing practices that prevent or mitigate nonpoint source water pollution and are listed as priorities in locally developed water plans.

Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Grant Programs

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is a state agency that assists local governments to manage and conserve their irreplaceable water and soil resources. BWSR accomplishes this mission by providing financial, technical, and administrative help to local governments throughout the state. The SSWCD is currently administering the following grants:

- FY24 Soil Health Staffing Grant – P1
- FY25 Soil Health Staffing Grant – P2
- FY26 Soil Health Practices Grant – P3

Buffer Program

The Minnesota Buffer Law was passed in 2015 and requires landowners to install buffer strips along State Protected Waters and Public Drainage Ditches. It is the responsibility of the SSWCD to provide notification that a parcel may be deemed non-compliant and to help ensure that compliance is reached by the dates required. It is the responsibility of the SSWCD to track compliance in BuffCAT, the Board of Water and Soil Resources tracking tool, and provide technical assistance to landowners in an effort to meet compliance. The SSWCD is not a regulatory agency and does not provide enforcement of the Buffer Law.

Clean Water Funds Grants (CWF)

On November 4, 2008, Minnesota voters approved the Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment to the constitution to: protect drinking water sources; protect, enhance, and restore wetlands, prairies, forests, and fish, game, and wildlife habitat; preserve arts and cultural heritage; support parks and trails; and protect, enhance, and restore lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater. The SSWCD is currently administering the following grants:

- FY24 Drinking Water Subgrant
- FY25 Eagle Lake Feasibility Grant

Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans (CWMPs)

The One Watershed, One Plan process was developed to transition water planning from a county basis to a watershed basis in 2014 with a focus on prioritizing and targeting the most important resources on a larger, watershed scale. As of 2025, Sherburne County and SWCD are operating under two CWMPs, for the Mississippi River St. Cloud Watershed and Rum River Watershed. Development and local adoption of a CWMP results in eligibility for Watershed Based Implementation Funds (WBIF), which are Clean Water Fund program grants designed to assist local government units in carrying out activities within the CWMP.

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program (CPL)

The Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL) Grant Program funds conservation projects that restore, enhance, or protect forests, wetlands, prairies, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife in MN. Funding for the CPL grant program is from the Outdoor Heritage Fund. The SSWCD is currently administering the following grants:

- FY 25 CPL Oak Savanna Park Habitat Enhancement

DNR Observation Well Monitoring

SSWCD staff monitor wells for depth and ground water trends. 25 wells are monitored, and data is used by the DNR.

Lab to Lakes (L2L)

Lab to Lakes is an initiative developed by the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) to bring tools and techniques developed at MAISRC to a management scale on Minnesota lakes. SSWCD applied for and was granted funds to complete a carp management program and ecosystem research project on Lake Fremont in 2024-2028.

Landscape Stewardship Plan (LSP)

A LSP is largely a mapping and prioritizing study designed to identify areas for forestry protection and restoration in the landscape. The effort is closely tied to water quality, research has shown that as watersheds near 75% natural cover the benefits to water quality are high. SSWCD has assisted in the development of two LSPs for the watersheds connected to our county, Mississippi River St. Cloud (2023) and the Rum River Watershed (2020).

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC)

The Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council was established by the legislature with the responsibility of providing annual funding recommendations to the legislature from the Outdoor Heritage Fund (LSOHF). The Outdoor Heritage Fund, one of four funds created by the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment, receives one-third of the money raised by the tax increase. The SSWCD is not currently administering an LSOHC grant.

MN Agriculture Water Quality Certainty Program (MAWQCP)

The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification is a voluntary program that provides the opportunity for farmers and landowners to take the lead in implementing conservation practices that protect our surface and ground water. Certified farmers are deemed to be compliant with any new water quality rules or regulations during their period (up to 10 years) of certification. Certification is a three-step process; application, assessment, and verification. The SSWCD assists the farmer with the application and assessment, a licensed certifier completes the verification, and the farm is then eligible for certification.

MN Department of Health (MDH)

The MN Department of Health's Drinking Water Protection section ensures that the state's public water systems meet federal and state guidelines for safe drinking water. The SSWCD will establish an outreach and education network for cities, townships, and residents. This will allow residents to better understand their drinking water from private wells and how we can impact ground water quality in all landscapes. The SSWCD is currently administering the following grants:

- FY2025 - 2027 MDH Groundwater Accelerated Implementation Grant – Township Testing

MN Land Trust (MLT)

The MN Land Trust works with conservation easements in the Anoka Sand Plain Protection Program, a conservation initiative to permanently protect high quality wildlife habitat in the Anoka Sand Plain. The SSWCD will work with MN Land Trust to identify and provide outreach services to prospective landowners for the conservation easement program.

MN State Cost Share/Conservation Contracts

The state cost-share program was established in 1977 to share the cost of practices for erosion or sedimentation control or water quality improvement that are designed to protect and improve soil and water resources. These funds are generally used for projects such as: shoreline restoration, stormwater runoff control, and erosion control. Refer to District Financial Assistance Policy Guidelines.

One Watershed One Plan (1W1P)

- The One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) was developed to align water planning on major watershed boundaries with state strategies towards prioritized, targeted and measurable implementation plans (Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans). These plans are completed for a 10-year period, with a midpoint review at five years. The SSWCD was involved in the development of two plans for the major watersheds in Sherburne County: Mississippi River St Cloud Watershed – approved by BWSR in January 2025)
- Rum River Watershed – FY2019 – approved by BWSR in May 2022

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is awarding the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and project partners \$11.16 million to implement conservation measures on irrigated lands. The money is being awarded through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) and will fund a 5-year project that

is focused on 25 counties across the state of Minnesota. SSWCD will act as co-fiscal agent and be responsible to report TA activities for 13 SWCD partners.

Re-invest in Minnesota Resource Program (RIM)

The RIM conservation easement program retires marginal, highly erodible agricultural land to protect soil and water quality and support fish and wildlife habitat. Currently funding is available for the Rum River Watershed and Mississippi River St. Cloud Watershed.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is mandatory for impaired waters under the Federal Clean Water Act. The SSWCD provides consulting services, equipment, and monitoring activities. SSWCD staff continues to hold discussions with our watershed partners on these initiatives and pursues opportunities as they arise. TMDL's were completed for six streams and three lakes (Sherburne County) in 2023 in coordination with the MRSC WRAPS Cycle 2, Phase 2 project. A final TMDL was approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2024.

Watershed Based Implementation Funds (WBIF)

WBIF funds are available to implement Comprehensive Watershed Management Plans that originate from 1w1p. The funds are administered by BWSR and aim to implement activities described in the plans. Currently, the Sherburne SWCD is eligible for WBIF funds in the Rum River Watershed and Mississippi River St. Cloud Watershed.

Watershed Restoration and Protection Project (WRAPP)

Watershed Restoration and Protection Project (WRAPP) is a watershed wide assessment and monitoring effort that will result in an overview of watershed trends and identification of restoration and protection resources for the surface waters in the watershed. WRAPP reports for the Mississippi River St. Cloud and Rum River Watersheds were completed in 2015 and 2017, respectively. A 2nd round (updated) WRAPP report was completed for the Mississippi River St. Cloud Watershed in 2024 and an updated report for the Rum River Watershed is anticipated for 2026/2027. .

Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network (WPLMN)

Statewide monitoring program administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The SSWCD is responsible for 5 sites 2 of which are in Sherburne County (Clearwater River, Elk River, St. Francis) and 3 in Mille Lacs County (Rum-West Branch, Rum)

Walk in Access Program (WIA)

Walk in Access provides public hunting opportunities on private land and rewards landowners for keeping their land in high quality habitat. The SSWCD will work directly with landowners for program enrollment.

Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)

The SSWCD assists landowners with project applications and wetland determinations. The SSWCD is a member of the Technical Evaluation Panel that reviews all projects that may impact a wetland. The Wetland Conservation Act is administered by several local governmental units in Sherburne County.

Federal Programs

Federal Programs

Assist with activities of the 2018 Farm Bill, Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). The SSWCD will conduct local work group meetings for EQIP.

Plant Materials Evaluation Site

Upon approval of the MOU. The SSWCD will conduct studies and determine performance and area of adaptation; development and release of improved plant materials; and transfer of technical information. The SSWCD will work cooperatively with NRCS and the U of M Sand Plain Research Farm on selecting plant materials to be evaluated at the Plant Materials site in Becker. The SSWCD is responsible for annual in-row maintenance.

Education / Outreach Activities

In 2023 the SSWCD adopted a 3-year Education and Outreach Plan that prioritizes and organizes education and outreach activities in the County from 2023 through 2026. Revisions were made in 2026 to guide activities through 2028. Refer to the EOP for detailed information.

Partnerships/ Committees / Associations

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Task Force

The AIS was formed to assist with the development and implementation of the county Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan. The Task Force will meet twice a year to review AIS programs, and every five years to update the AIS Prevention Plan.

Anoka Sandplain Partnership (ASP)

The Anoka Sandplain Partnership is a coalition of 25 conservation stakeholders, led by Great River Greening, with a mission to bring together their collective expertise, resources and connections to advance terrestrial and freshwater resource conservation in this ecological region.

Metropolitan Conservation District JPB - Technical Service Area (MCD)

The purpose of the MCD is to share ideas, identify issues, opportunities and solutions among Conservation Districts that have common metropolitan concerns regarding the protection and conservation of natural resources. In addition, the MCD works together to develop and implement joint activities for resource conservation. The Board consists of members of the eleven county Metropolitan Areas.

MN Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts Area IV (MASWCD Area IV)

The purpose of the Metropolitan Area Conservation District association is to provide opportunities for education, communication, cooperation, and coordination between and among its member Districts and affiliated partners.

MN Forest Resource Council (MFRC)

The MFRC works on behalf of family forest owners, through education and advocacy, to promote stewardship of woodlands. The Board meets monthly – every quarter is an in person meeting at the DNR Forestry Office in Cambridge from 10:00 – 3:00,

MN SWCD Forestry Association

The MN SWCD Forestry Association exists to assist member districts in meeting the forestry and woodland management needs of their clientele. The organization creates a network of forestry professionals from not only SWCDs, but also MN BWSR, USDA NRCS and U of M Extension who meet every other month on the 3rd Thursday to provide one another with updates on programs, educational opportunities and legislative efforts. The meetings are held at the McGregor Community Center on Hwy 65 and run from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Plant Materials Advisory Committee (PMAC)

The SSWCD will inform the Plant Materials Advisory Committee of major announcements or accomplishments. The SSWCD will work cooperatively with NRCS and the U of M Sand Plain Research Farm on selecting plant materials to be evaluated at the Plant Materials site in Becker. The PMAC is comprised of one Supervisor and staff member from Sherburne, Stearns, Wright and Benton SWCDs. The PMAC meets as needed.

Rum River Watershed Partnership (RRWP)

The Rum River Watershed Partnership, through a joint power's agreement, was established to oversee the implementation of the Rum River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

Sherburne County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA)

The SC COLA was established in 2017, due to the efforts of numerous representatives from the county's 11 active lake associations as well as SSWCD staff. A SSWCD staff member serves on the SC COLA Board of Directors as an ex-officio (non-voting) member. The SC COLA strives to protect the waterways of Sherburne County through education, partnerships, leveraging resources as a larger group, information sharing, and advocacy.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

The SSWCD has been partnering with TNC since 2020 on cover crop programing. This partnership has expanded to include a wetland restoration project.

Other

The SSWCD works with numerous partners every day to carry out our objectives. We partner with groups and organizations at the local, county, and state levels and actively seek out new partnerships to further our impact in Sherburne County.

Annual Budget – 2026

Sherburne Soil Water Conservation District 2026 Budget

REVENUES

	2026 Budget
Intergovernmental Revenue	
County Levy	
County Allocation	\$ 379,078.04
Other Levy Funds	
Local Water Management	\$ 21,674.00
Subtotal	<u>\$ 400,752.04</u>
Other County Revenue	
Local Water Management (State)	\$ 11,050.00
Natural Resource Block Grant - WCA (State)	\$ 6,471.00
Aquatic Invasive Species (State)	\$ 72,855.80
State Agencies - Agreements & Grants	
State SWCD Aid (Appropriation)	\$ 135,000.00
State General (Grants & Agreements)	\$ 975,379.59
Federal Agencies - Agreements & Grants	
Federal General	\$ 1,313.88
Charges for Services	\$ 61,700.00
Other Income	\$ 10,600.00
Subtotal	<u>\$ 1,274,370.27</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 1,675,122.31

EXPENDITURES

District Operations	
Personnel Expenses	\$ 758,413.24
Operating Expenses	\$ 179,324.72
Total District Operations	<u>\$ 937,737.95</u>
District Expenditures	
District Project Expense	\$ 105,280.80
State Agencies - Agreements & Grants	\$ 631,881.19
Federal Agencies - Agreements & Grants	\$ -
Total District Expenditures	<u>\$ 737,161.99</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,674,899.95
Net Income	\$ 222.35