

# Small Farms Cost-Sharing

Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District

As a farmer, responsibly managing your livestock waste is one of the most important actions you can take for the health of your livestock, crops, family, land, water and community.

Several portions of the Elk River are currently listed on the Environmental Protection Agency's list of Impaired Waterways due to barnyard runoff from livestock. Under the Small Farms Cost-Sharing program, Sherburne SWCD offers several programs to assist landowners in reducing bacteria transport to the river.

## Available Small Farms Cost-Sharing Practices

### Manure Management:

#### Livestock fencing, composting bins or other manure storage facilities

Manure Management protects surface water quality by reducing nutrient and sediment runoff, it also helps protect air quality by controlling odors.



Composting Bin

### Buffer Strips:

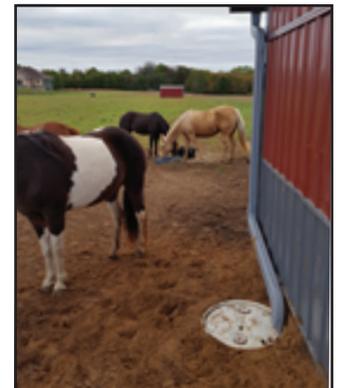
#### Vegetated buffers

Vegetated buffers work to remove sediment, organic matter and other nutrients, from runoff water by slowing down the water and allowing those materials to settle out and water to soak into the soil.

### Pasture Management:

#### Livestock rotation plans and pasture plantings

These plans all help create healthy pastures which offer good nutrition, physically strengthen soils, and provide good vegetation to retain manure and nutrients during periods of heavy rain.



French Drain

### Stormwater Runoff:

#### Vegetated Plantings, French Drains, Raingardens, Constructed Berms

These practices help direct the flow of water on your property away from manure and bare soil.

Sherburne SWCD staff have the experience to help you address all your small farms or hobby farm needs! Site visits and consultations are completed free of charge, as are many technical designs.

Through a grant provided by the State of Minnesota's Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment, the Sherburne SWCD can now provide up to 75% financial assistance towards projects located in Priority Zones near the Elk River.

Contact Miranda or Dan today to see if you qualify!

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