



# 2021 Annual Report

## Our Mission



The Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is a local government agency providing programs to the public for conservation use and the development of soil, water and related resources. The district provides funding, technical assistance and education. We work alongside with Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS) and Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR).

Our mission is to encourage the wise use of land and water and to treat these resources in accordance with their needs for protection and improvement.



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Doug Hanson, Chairman, Willmar  
Donnel Williamson, Vice Chair, Spicer  
Jane Youngkrantz, Secretary, Lake Lillian  
Brandon Smith, Treasurer, Raymond  
Ron Dilley, Public Relations and Information,  
Pennock

## KANDIYOHI SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT STAFF

Ryan Peterson, RIM Coordinator;  
[Ryan.Peterson@mn.nacdnet.net](mailto:Ryan.Peterson@mn.nacdnet.net)  
Sandy Laumer, Office Manager,  
[Sandra.Laumer@mn.nadnet.net](mailto:Sandra.Laumer@mn.nadnet.net)  
Ellie Faber, Conservation Technician,  
[Ellie.Faber@usda.gov](mailto:Ellie.Faber@usda.gov)

## Pheasants Forever

Aaron Wilson, Pheasants Forever Farm Bill  
Biologist, [awilson@pheasantsforever.org](mailto:awilson@pheasantsforever.org)

## NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE STAFF (ASSISTING KANDIYOHI SWCD)

Melanie Dickman, District Conservationist  
Matt Rose, Soil Conservationist  
NRCS Southwest Area Staff, Marshall  
NRCS Staff, St. Paul

## BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES STAFF (ASSISTING KANDIYOHI SWCD)

John Jaschke, BWSR, St. Paul  
BWSR Staff, St. Paul  
Jeremy Maul, BC, Mankato  
Lynda Ponting, Wetland Specialist, St Cloud





## REINVEST IN MINNESOTA (RIM), WETLAND RESERVE PROGRAM (WRP) & CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP)

- Site evaluations and inspections on 64 RIM Conservation Easements
- 2 CREP easements completed
- 206 Kandiyohi RIM Easements
- 9269 Acres of Easements
- CREP Outreach



## COST SHARE PROGRAMS

- State: 3 wetland restorations \$1,433.50
- State: 1 Biomass and Forage Planting \$1,000
- State: 3 WASCOB's \$5,528.99
- State: 1 Rain Garden \$3,000
- State: 1 Pollinator Planting \$2,400



## CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP); CONTINUOUS CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CCRP)

- CRP: 83 re-enrolled contracts for 1,928.89 acres
- CCRP filter strips (CP21): 88.29 acres
- CCRP wetland restorations (CP23A): 378.8 acres
- CCRP Duck Nesting (CP37): 363.61 acres
- Kandiyohi County currently has 1,800 CRP contracts which total 28,163.06 acres and annual payments of \$4,621,850.00

## MN WALK-IN ACCESS

- Promoted program to landowners with postcards
- Total of 12 sites and 1,158 acres to be open for public hunting





### MINNESOTA AG WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM (MAWQCP)

- 8 new Landowners certified,
- Promoted program to landowners via newsletter, newspaper articles, word of mouth, and CSP applications
- Plans are made for 2022 to promote more certifications and continue to certify other landowners who submitted applications



### SERVICE PROGRAMS

- Tree sales of \$46,120.43
- Tree plantings at 9 sites
- Filter fabric – 4 miles of fabric installed
- Prairie restoration/seeding – 576 acres seeded on 52 sites
- Seeding plans & sales -12 sites

### STATE REVOLVING FUND (SRF)

Funds were used for 1 Erosion Control Project \$79,500, 1 Ag Waste Project \$36,000, and 1 Sprayer \$67,000 for a total of \$182,500. Applying for continued funding in 2022.

### WATERSHED PROJECTS & LAKE ASSOCIATIONS

We work cooperatively with the following watershed projects and lake associations, promoting conservation and providing technical assistance for water quality activities.

- Chippewa River Watershed Association
- Hawk Creek Watershed Project
- Rice/Koronis Watershed
- Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District
- Diamond Lake Association
- Games Lake Association
- Norway Lake Association
- Eagle Lake Association
- Calhoun Lake Association
- Kandi-Wakanda Watershed
- Kandiyohei County Lake Association
- 1W1P- North Fork CROW Watershed District
- 1W1P-Middle Minnesota River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan



## VOLUNTEER RAIN GAUGE MONITORS

- 8 monitors countywide report monthly

## WETLAND CONSERVATION ACT (WCA)

- 15 Notice of Applications (boundary and type of wetlands)
- 19 Notice of Decisions
- 9 Agricultural Exemptions
- 2 Wetland Bank Applications
- 20 TEP panel site visits

## TAX FORFEITED LAND

- Assisted Kandiyohi County Auditor's Office



## NRCS Services

The Kandiyohi SWCD has a good working relationship with the NRCS. We partner and assist each other on conservation practices that not only benefit the land, but the landowner as well.



## ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (EQIP)

- contracts funded for \$16,977.00

## CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP)

- contracts funded for \$786,281.20

## REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM – LAND MANAGEMENT (RCPP-LM)

- contracts funded for \$38,695.00



## EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

- Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center (PWELC): continue to serve in an advisory capacity
- Earth Day Celebration at PWELC
- Presentations to Lake Associations in Kandiyohi County
- New London-Spicer High School Soil Judging Class
- NACD Poster Contest
- Newsletter- In West Central Tribune's Reminder

## SPECIAL EVENTS/OTHER

- Cost Share funds for Cover Crops
- Cost Share fund to design and install rain gardens
- Technical Advisor to Kandiyohi County Planning & Zoning Committee
- State Forestry Committee
- EQIP Technical Committee
- Plant Materials Committee
- NRCS State Technical Committee
- AIS Kandiyohi Committee
- Invasive Phragmites Treatment Coordination

## OUTSTANDING CONSERVATIONIST

- Ken & Lynnae Hess Horseshoe Grove Bison Ranch

