



Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance

www.GBERBA.org

DATE: January 11, 2019

NAME: Josh Votruba
Watonwan Watershed Technician

Topics: Past Events, Upcoming Events, Working on

Past Events:

- Dec 17 – Watonwan SWCD Board Meeting, St. James, MN
- Dec 20 – Cottonwood SWCD Board Meeting, Windom, MN
- Dec 21 – Watonwan 1W1P Steering Team Meeting, St. James, MN
- Jan 8 – Watonwan 1W1P Steering Team Meeting, St. James, MN

Upcoming Events:

- Jan 25 – Yields, Soils, and Cover Crops Winter Workshop, Heron Lake, MN
- Jan 28 – Watonwan SWCD Board Meeting, St. James, MN
- Jan 28 – Watonwan 1W1P Kickoff Meeting, St. James, MN

Working on:

- *Training:* I recently have gotten training in using eLINK to report grant information for GBERBA projects. I have begun entering the GBERBA project information for the cover crop and alternative tile intake projects into eLINK.
- *Watonwan River One Watershed, One Plan:* The public kickoff meeting for the Watonwan River One Watershed, One Plan will take place January 28th and will be from 4-7 PM at the American Legion in St. James. During the kickoff meeting/open house Houston Engineering will be giving a presentation about the Watonwan River One Watershed, One Plan. In addition, keynote speaker Billy Hildebrand of KFAN Outdoors will be speaking about the importance of conservation in regards to outdoor activities. Starting this week the Watonwan 1W1P Steering Team has begun advertising the kickoff meeting/open house.



Greater Blue Earth River Basin

Jan 7, 2019



DANIELLE EVERS

AREA 5 MAWQCP CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST

Serving the Counties of: Cottonwood, Jackson, Lac Qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock, & Yellow Medicine

Projects and Workload:

- Continuing to meet with producers for assessments, create maps, & upload documents for state verification
- Assisting producers in submitting MAWQCP Cost-Share Grant Applications
- Coordinating with Water Resource Specialist in Nobles, Lyon, Lincoln, Pipestone, Rock for program promotion and to reach more producers in the wellhead protection areas
- Attending/Participating in events to gain continuing education credits for CCA certification
- Homework for the Minnesota Rural Leadership Program
- Working on trying to have some Ag Water Quality Meetings in different counties & inviting producers

Events:

- **Jan 10th** – Training – Ivanhoe, MN
- **Jan 15-18th** – MARL Seminar 3 – St. Paul, MN
- **Jan 25th** – Cover Crop Winter Workshop – Heron Lake, MN
- **Jan 30th** – MECA Conference – Willmar, MN

Program Updates and Information:

- Water quality inlets are still available for interested farmers pursuing certifications (2 free for each applicant)
- **\$6,000** of Additional funding is still available through GBERBA for districts to continue working on the MAWQCP
- MAWQCP has certified over **691 farms**, including over **449,281 acres** with **1,328 new BMP's**
- Estimated benefits include: **25,111 tons** of TSS reduced per year, **63,525 tons** soil reduced per year, **29,649 lbs** Phosphorous reduced per year
- Grant applications still available for up to **\$5,000 75%** cost-share through the MDA for producers

YEAR TO DATE NUMBERS

Area 5	Applications	Assessments Completed	Actively Pursuing Cert.	Certifications
Cottonwood SWCD	31	29	1	12
Jackson SWCD	30	26	7	13
Lac Qui Parle SWCD	5	5	0	3
Lincoln SWCD	16	16	0	5
Lyon SWCD	12	9	3	4
Murray SWCD	12	12	1	9
Nobles SWCD	13	13	0	9
Pipestone SWCD	31	30	0	16
Redwood SWCD	30	30	1	21
Rock SWCD	18	15	1	9
Yellow Medicine SWCD	22	20	3	9
Totals	220	205	17	110

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Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

South Central MAWQCP Certification Specialist

Serving the Counties of: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, McLeod, Nicollet, Renville, Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan



Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance



Herman Bartsch
AREA 6 MAWQCP CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST
January 11th, 2019

Workload:

- Working with producers and SWCDs to complete assessments and certifications
- Assisting producers with MDA Grant Applications
- Cover Crop Plans
- Program Promotion – Planning with SWCDs
- Planning Nitrogen Trials
- Updating Job Approval Authority and Conservation Planner status
- UMN Extension Research Update – Waseca 1-8-19
- Faribault SWCD Board Meeting – 1-9-18

AREA 6	Applications	Assessments	Certifications
Blue Earth SWCD	13	12	7
Brown SWCD	9	6	3
Faribault SWCD	19	14	10
LeSueur SWCD	3	2	2
Martin SWCD	8	5	5
McLeod SWCD	8	6	4
Nicollet SWCD	1	0	0
Renville SWCD	7	7	5
Sibley SWCD	3	3	3
Waseca SWCD	9	9	2
Watonwan SWCD	10	6	5
Total	90	70	46

MAWQCP Numbers as of 12-31-18

- 691 producers certified
- 449,281 acres certified
- 1,328 new practices installed or planned to be installed
- Sediment delivery to surface waters reduced by 25,111 tons per year (50,222,360 lbs.)
- Soil loss reduced by 63,525 tons per year (127,049,593 lbs.)
- Phosphorus loss reduced by 29,649 lbs. of P per year

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