



Lake Bronson Watershed Runoff Reduction



Clean Water Funds: 2011

Clean Water Grant	\$100,000
Leveraged Funds*	\$25,000
Total Project Budget	\$125,000

* Leveraged Funds include required 25% local match

Targeted Water:

County/Watershed Wide

Project Sponsor:

Kittson Soil and Water Conservation District

Partners:

Two Rivers Watershed District
Natural Resources Conservation Services
Farm Service Agency
Roseau Soil and Water Conservation District

Grant Period:

January 2011 - December 2012

Project Contact:

Darren Carlson
(218) 843-2619 x3
darren.carlson@mn.nacdnet.net
www.nwmnswcd.org



Project Narrative

Kittson County and the Two Rivers Watershed District both have plans that emphasize the use of Best Management Practices to improve the water quality of Lake Bronson. Lake Bronson State Park is one of only a handful of state parks in the Northwest corner of Minnesota and the "Friends of the Lake Bronson State Park" met with Watershed District staff to explore how to improve the water quality of the lake. The lake is subject to sediment and nutrient loading from several upstream ditches. A significant algae bloom during July of each year, at the height of the seasonal use of the lake, is most likely due to the current inflow conditions.

Two Rivers Watershed District is partnering with the Kittson Soil and Water Conservation District, Roseau SWCD, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Farm Service Agency to help address these algae blooms. The goal is to improve water quality of the lake and upstream ditches/streams by adding native plant diversity (grass filter strips) to these incoming waterways. Contacting landowners began in the fall of 2010. The goal of adding 100 acres of grass filter strips is expected by summer of 2012.

This conservation practice will slow storm water allowing sediment (up to 70%) to be deposited in the grass filter strips rather than in water features that feed Lake Bronson. The project area includes 4,800 acres of crop and pastureland. An acre of installed grass filter strip in this landscape will trap up to 66 tons of soil and 64 lbs of phosphorus each year.



Lake Bronson Watershed Runoff Reduction



An established grass filter strip along a county ditch



A county ditch in need of a grass filter strip



A sensitive water body in need of a grass filter strip