



Goodhue County SWCD  
 104 East 3rd Ave, P.O. Box 335  
 Goodhue, MN 55027  
 651-923-5286 Ext. 4  
[www.goodhueswcd.org](http://www.goodhueswcd.org)

Andrea Benck  
 Goodhue County Administration  
 509 W 5th St.  
 Red Wing, MN 55066

Re: 2026-2027 Outside Agency Funding Requests

The table below shows the Goodhue County Outside Agency Request Form summarizing the Goodhue SWCD's estimated 2026 and 2027 budget. Also included is the detailed version of the 2026 budget showing the various sources of revenue and expenditures, a brochure highlighting 2024 projects and a leveraging report created by the USDA on the Economic Impact of Funding our Conservation work in MN.

The focus of the SWCD is to assist landowners and local units of government with a wide range of environmental impacts, including: improvements to surface and ground water quality, soil health and stability, agricultural sustainability and wildlife habitat.

Goodhue County landowners benefit from the SWCD's ability to leverage large amounts of state and federal funds to offset the costs of the above-mentioned improvements. Most of the leveraged dollars go towards the cost of constructing on-the-ground conservation projects. But unfortunately, many of these funds restrict the amount of dollars that can contribute to keeping the lights on or to paying the salaries of our technical staff, equipment, software, and so on.

| Goodhue SWCD Budget Summary   |   | Estimated 2026     | Estimated 2027     |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>               |   |                    |                    |
|                               | Fees:(Envirothon/Misc)  | \$ 2,750           | \$ 2,805           |
|                               | Federal: (Assistance on CRP)                                  | \$ 3,000           | \$ 3,060           |
|                               | State Funding: BWSR   | \$1,854,527        | \$1,891,618        |
|                               | State Funding: MPCA/Fedlot/Grants/SWCD Aid                    | \$ 317,535         | \$ 323,886         |
|                               | Local: BCWD/TSA Admin   | \$ 25,434          | \$ 25,943          |
|                               | Charges for Services: Wetland/Feedlots/Tree Sale/Drill Rental | \$ 48,350          | \$ 49,317          |
|                               | <b>Total Revenues:</b>  | <b>\$2,251,596</b> | <b>\$2,296,628</b> |
| <b>Expenses</b>               |   |                    |                    |
|                               | Salaries:   | \$ 641,675         | \$ 582,018         |
|                               | Benefits: (Employee+Supervisors)                              | \$ 216,724         | \$ 187,631         |
|                               | Professional Services: SWCD Annual Audit                      | \$ 6,500           | \$ 6,825           |
|                               | SWCD Operations/Services:Office/VehicleExp/Education          | \$ 106,824         | \$ 110,029         |
|                               | SWCD Project Expenses (GIS Contract/Drill Expenses/etc)       | \$ 34,200          | \$ 35,226          |
|                               | Project Expenses - BWSR Grants - Pass Thru                    | \$1,581,644        | \$1,613,277        |
|                               | Project Expenses - MPCA/Nitrate Grants, SWCD Aid - Pass Thru  | \$ 167,000         | \$ 170,000         |
|                               | Capital Equipment:  | \$ -               | \$ 75,000          |
|                               | <b>Total Expenses:</b>  | <b>\$2,754,567</b> | <b>\$2,780,005</b> |
| <b>County Funding Request</b> |   | <b>\$ 462,000</b>  | <b>\$ 485,100</b>  |
| # of Staff                    | 2026 Sucession planning - onboarding a replacment Dist. Tech. | 8                  | 7                  |

The recent influx of State and Federal conservation project dollars in 2023 and 2024 has led to many conservation practices being put on the ground here in Goodhue County. Our SWCD was able to leverage over \$790,000 in federal and \$801,000 in state conservation dollars over the past 2 years.

That's a 3.6 to 1 return on the county's investment in the SWCD and the programs that they support!



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The Goodhue SWCD would like to thank the County leadership for granting our 2024 and 2025 outside agency budget request of **\$440,000**. The 2026 request for the Goodhue SWCD is **\$462,000**, a 5% increase over our previous years' allocations. This increase will allow us to implement succession planning in 2026 for a retiring staff person with over 30 years of experience. Onboarding a qualified replacement technician is extremely important for the SWCD to continue to provide a high level of service and expertise to the citizens of Goodhue County. Therefore, those staff will be overlapping for a portion of 2026 which is reflected in our budget increase. As noted in the 'Estimated 2027' budget column; the number of staff reverts back to 7. Knowing that this is a short-term impact, the SWCD Board has elected to utilize reserve funds, which are currently dedicated for purchasing shed space/office space, to cover the cost of onboarding replacement staff in 2026. The Goodhue SWCD Board's approach to having a nearly balanced, fiscally responsible and stable budget heading into the next few years is reflected in this funding request.

The Goodhue SWCD Supervisors are appreciative of the past and continued support that the Goodhue County Commissioners provide the SWCD. Beau Kennedy, Goodhue SWCD District Administrator and an SWCD Elected Supervisor, plan to attend the Budget Committee meeting on June 10th. If asked, we can present our budget request and answer any questions the Committee may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BK", written over a horizontal line.

Beau Kennedy  
Goodhue SWCD

# Supporting Local Conservation with the Goodhue Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)



**(ABOVE)** Two sediment basins surveyed and designed by SWCD and built by a local contractor near Frontenac. These basins are a typical practice landowners request to solve gully issues.

**(BELOW L)** Typical CRP native grass burning, coordinated by the SWCD. **(BELOW R)** SWCD hosting it's annual 6<sup>th</sup> grade field day in the Belle Creek Watershed District



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Be sure to check out our Facebook or our webpage for great conservation stories and upcoming events!

## **Goodhue SWCD Provides a Wide-Range of Services**

- **Boots-on-the-Ground** service to landowners with soil erosion and water related issues.
- Provide technical and financial services to landowners with costly erosion problems.
- **Stimulates local economy** by utilizing state/federal fund to implement projects for Ag. Producers.
- Assist Ag. Producers with low-interest loans.
- Locally administer MN Rule 7020 Feedlot Rule and provide feedlot fix solutions.
- Provide local source for **tree & shrub purchases**.
- Provide a no-till drill rental service for native grasses, cover crops and conservation practices.
- Host environment educational field days for area schools.

## **SWCD's can Leverage Large Amounts of Federal Dollars through our Partnership with the USDA**

- *Leveraging for federal USDA programs such as CRP and EQIP is only possible if SWCD's are supported by their County and State governments.*



# Goodhue SWCD Serving the Landowners of Goodhue County



*Installing cover crops for soil health and erosion reduction benefits*



*Above: Provide Landowners a Local Source of Trees/Shrubs for planting windbreaks, timber production and areas for wildlife*



*Provide Local knowledge on the status of our streams quality and fish habitat.*

## LOCAL Cost-Share Programs

*We excel at Investigating stream and field erosion issues and offering solutions to landowners. We are the **boots-on-the-ground***



*Right: Landowners surrounding the town of Goodhue doing their part to improve soil health and reduce nitrate leeching into the groundwater*

## 2024 Highlights!



*Goodhue SWCD hosted the annual Conservation Farmer of the Year Award at the local County Fair. Seen Below is our 2024 award winner Sogn Valley Farm (Dana & Karin Jokela) of Cannon Falls, posing for a photo next to a few of our SWCD Board members and County Commissioner. Also, the County Fair is a great venue for hosting stream table demonstrations and free drinking water tests for Nitrates*



*County-Wide effort to reduce tillage and keep more residue on the surface*





# The Economic Impact of Conservation Funding

2021 IMPLAN Report Results



## The 2021 IMPLAN Report

When a landowner enters into a Farm Bill agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) or a state-funded agreement with one of its partners, the entire community benefits. This is demonstrated in the IMPLAN report for NRCS Minnesota and its partners' conservation work in 2021. To get an accurate picture of the economic impact of conservation funding, NRCS Minnesota, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), and local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) worked together to find an answer.

## What is IMPLAN?

IMPLAN is an economic impact analysis and modeling program that measures the economic impact of actions taken by government agencies, business and other institutions to understand their direct and indirect effects in an area.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service utilizes IMPLAN to understand how it and its partners' financial assistance benefits not just producers, but their surrounding communities. The 2021 IMPLAN report has just recently been completed.

## Results

In 2021, NRCS Minnesota, BWSR, and local SWCDs spent \$228,448,531 on conservation programs. Some of this money left the state for a variety of reasons, but when all said and done, \$186,916,423, over 80 percent, directly benefited the Minnesota economy.

This influx of funding in Minnesota, through direct effects (such as buying cover crop seed) and indirect effects (such as a seed supplier buying gas) resulted in an output of \$413,692,920 generated in Minnesota from conservation-related expenditures. This meant that for every \$1 spent by the NRCS and its partners, \$1.81 was generated in the local economy. This funding also supported new jobs for Minnesotans. According to the analysis, 2,527 jobs were supported in 2021 as a result of conservation expenditures.

Whatever numbers you pull from the IMPLAN report, one thing is clear throughout: conservation work amounts to substantial benefits for the state of Minnesota. Yes, the work landowners do with the NRCS and its partners helps the land and improves the efficiency of individual agricultural operations; but it does so much more than that. It puts money in the pockets of Minnesotans across the state.

**\$228,448,531**

**Spent on conservation programs**

**\$413,692,920**

**Output into the Minnesota economy**

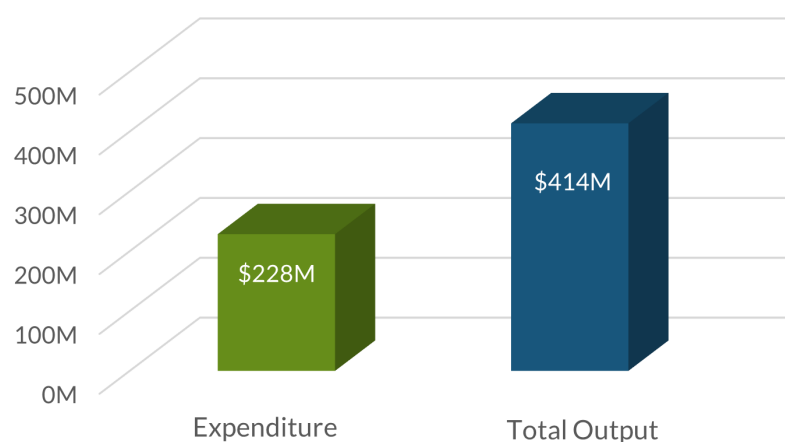
**\$1.81**

**Generated for every \$1 spent**

**2,527**

**Jobs supported**

Conservation Expenditure and Total Output



**Goodhue County SWCD**  
**Yearly Budget**  
 January through December 2026

|   | <b>Jan - Dec 26</b> |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>              |                     |
| <b>Income</b>                               |                     |
| <b>Charges for Service</b>                  |                     |
| Drill Rental (No-Till)                      | 8,000.00            |
| Drill Rental (Truax)                        | 3,000.00            |
| Drone Services                              | 200.00              |
| Feedlot Registration Fees                   | 3,000.00            |
| Krimper - Crimper                           | 200.00              |
| Kubota Pendulum Spreader                    | 500.00              |
| Seed for John Deere Drill                   | 9,000.00            |
| <b>Tree &amp; Plant Program Sales</b>       |                     |
| Fertilizer Sales                            | 200.00              |
| Plant Sales                                 | 1,500.00            |
| Tree Mat Sales                              | 400.00              |
| Tree Planter Rental                         | 50.00               |
| Tree Sales                                  | 18,000.00           |
| Tree Shelter Sales                          | 3,000.00            |
| Tree Survey Flags                           | 100.00              |
| <b>Total Tree &amp; Plant Program Sales</b> | 23,250.00           |
| <b>Wetland Fees</b>                         | 1,200.00            |
| <b>Total Charges for Service</b>            | 48,350.00           |
| <b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE</b>            |                     |
| <b>County Revenue</b>                       |                     |
| County Regular Allocation                   | 462,000.00          |
| <b>Total County Revenue</b>                 | 462,000.00          |
| <b>Federal Revenue</b>                      |                     |
| 2026 CRP Contribution Agreement             | 3,000.00            |
| <b>Total Federal Revenue</b>                | 3,000.00            |
| <b>Local Revenue</b>                        |                     |
| Belle Creek Watershed Admn                  | 1,500.00            |
| TSA7 Grant Admin.                           | 20,000.00           |
| TSA7 Rent-Goodhue SWCD                      | 3,934.00            |
| <b>Total Local Revenue</b>                  | 25,434.00           |
| <b>State Revenue.</b>                       |                     |
| <b>BWSR Grants</b>                          |                     |
| 1W1P Cannon                                 |                     |
| 1W1P Cannon - Cost Share                    | 100,000.00          |
| 1W1P Cannon - Tech/Admn                     | 15,000.00           |
| <b>Total 1W1P Cannon</b>                    | 115,000.00          |
| <b>Buffer Law 2023 (P23-2555)</b>           |                     |
| FY23 Buffer Law - Edu/Outreach              | 2,000.00            |
| FY23 Buffer Law - Tech/Admn                 | 18,000.00           |

**Goodhue County SWCD**  
**Yearly Budget**  
 January through December 2026

|  | <b>Jan - Dec 26</b> |
|--|---------------------|
| Total Buffer Law 2023 (P23-2555)       | 20,000.00           |
| Conserv Contract 2026 (P26-____)       |                     |
| FY26 Conserv Contract-Tech/Admn        | 5,000.00            |
| FY26 Consrev Contract-CostShare        | 23,644.00           |
| Total Conserv Contract 2026 (P26-____) | 28,644.00           |
| Conserv Delivery 2026(P26-____)        | 20,054.00           |
| Goodhue DWSMA (C23-1732)               |                     |
| DWSMA - Cost Share                     | 80,000.00           |
| DWSMA - Education & Outreach           | 1,000.00            |
| DWSMA - Grant Adminstration            | 1,000.00            |
| DWSMA - Technical Assistance           | 10,000.00           |
| Total Goodhue DWSMA (C23-1732)         | 92,000.00           |
| Local Water Plan 2026(P26-____)        | 12,878.00           |
| RIM Easement                           | 3,550.00            |
| Soil Health 2025 (P25-0504)            |                     |
| FY25 Soil Health - Cost Share          | 40,000.00           |
| Total Soil Health 2025 (P25-0504)      | 40,000.00           |
| Soil Health RCPP - Cost Share          | 200,000.00          |
| Soil Health TechStaff(C24-0136)        | 69,948.00           |
| WAGZ 2024 (C24-0109)                   |                     |
| FY24 WAGZ - Cost Share                 | 200,000.00          |
| FY24 WAGZ - Education/Outreach         | 25,000.00           |
| FY24 WAGZ - Grant Admn                 | 40,000.00           |
| FY24 WAGZ - Project Development        | 20,000.00           |
| FY24 WAGZ - Tech/Eng Asst              | 40,000.00           |
| Total WAGZ 2024 (C24-0109)             | 325,000.00          |
| WAGZ 2026 (C26-____)                   |                     |
| FY26 WAGZ - Cost Share                 | 500,000.00          |
| FY26 WAGZ - Education/Outreach         | 50,000.00           |
| FY26 WAGZ - Grant Admn                 | 30,000.00           |
| FY26 WAGZ - Tech/Eng Asst              | 300,000.00          |
| Total WAGZ 2026 (C26-____)             | 880,000.00          |
| WAGZ CRP 2025 (P25-0456)               | 25,000.00           |
| WCA 2026 (P26-____)                    | 22,453.00           |
| Total BWSR Grants                      | 1,854,527.00        |
| Other - State Revenue                  |                     |
| 319 Wells Creek Project - MPCA         |                     |
| 319 Wells Creek Prj - CostShare        | 15,000.00           |
| 319 Wells Creek Prj - Equipment        | 50,000.00           |
| 319 Wells Creek Prj - Tech/Admn        | 40,000.00           |
| Total 319 Wells Creek Project - MPCA   | 105,000.00          |
| Aquatic Invasive Species               | 1,000.00            |

**Goodhue County SWCD**  
**Yearly Budget**  
 January through December 2026

|  | <b>Jan - Dec 26</b> |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>County Feedlot Program</b>          |                     |
| Feedlot Performance Credits            | 15,000.00           |
| MPCA Feedlot Base Grant                | 58,535.08           |
| <b>Total County Feedlot Program</b>    | 73,535.08           |
| McNamara Tile Monitoring               | 4,000.00            |
| MN Ag WQ Certification Program         | 500.00              |
| Well Nitrate Monitoring                | 3,500.00            |
| <b>Total Other - State Revenue</b>     | 187,535.08          |
| <b>SWCD Aid</b>                        |                     |
| SWCD Aid C/S                           | 70,000.00           |
| SWCD Aid Equip/OR/Material             | 30,000.00           |
| SWCD Aid T/A                           | 30,000.00           |
| <b>Total SWCD Aid</b>                  | 130,000.00          |
| <b>Total State Revenue.</b>            | 2,172,062.08        |
| <b>Total INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE</b> | 2,662,496.08        |
| <b>Miscellaneous Revenue</b>           |                     |
| Envirothon Income                      | 1,750.00            |
| Misc. Revenue                          | 1,000.00            |
| <b>Total Miscellaneous Revenue</b>     | 2,750.00            |
| <b>Total Income</b>                    | 2,713,596.08        |
| <b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>              |                     |
| <b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>              |                     |
| Plant COGS                             | 1,500.00            |
| Tree COGS                              | 7,500.00            |
| Tree Fertilizer COGS                   | 250.00              |
| Tree Flag COGS                         | 100.00              |
| Tree Mat COGS                          | 250.00              |
| Tree Shelter COGS                      | 2,500.00            |
| <b>Total Cost of Goods Sold</b>        | 12,100.00           |
| <b>Total COGS</b>                      | 12,100.00           |
| <b>Gross Profit</b>                    | 2,701,496.08        |
| <b>Expense</b>                         |                     |
| <b>DISTRICT OPERATIONS</b>             |                     |
| <b>Other Services and Charges</b>      |                     |
| Adv./Pub./Subs.                        | 900.00              |
| CopyUse/Internet/Phone/Web Fee         | 3,440.00            |
| Education/Field Day/Public Outr        | 3,200.00            |
| Employee Conf/Trg/Mtg/Miles            | 10,100.00           |
| Fees and Dues                          | 18,275.00           |
| Insurance (MCIT)                       | 12,337.20           |
| Office/Field Supplies/Msc              | 5,200.00            |
| Postage                                | 1,200.00            |



**Goodhue County SWCD**  
**Yearly Budget**  
 January through December 2026

|   | <b>Jan - Dec 26</b> |
|---|---------------------|
| Professional Services                   | 6,500.00            |
| Rent (Office Building/Shed)             | 38,972.00           |
| Supervisor Milage/Conven/Msc            | 3,500.00            |
| SWCD Payroll Service Fee                | 400.00              |
| Vehicle/Equipment                       | 8,100.00            |
| Wix Credit Card Processing Fees         | 1,200.00            |
| <b>Total Other Services and Charges</b> | <b>113,324.20</b>   |
| <b>PERSONNEL SERVICES</b>               |                     |
| DEED - MN Leave Tax                     | 5,646.74            |
| Employee Salaries                       | 641,674.86          |
| Longevity Pay                           | 2,825.00            |
| MNDP Employer Match                     | 4,000.00            |
| Supervisors Per Diem                    | 13,600.00           |
| SWCD Health, Disability Ins.            | 93,038.49           |
| SWCD Share-FICA                         | 39,783.84           |
| SWCD Share-PERA                         | 48,125.61           |
| SWCD Share Medicare                     | 9,304.29            |
| SWCD Share Supervisor-PERA              | 400.00              |
| <b>Total PERSONNEL SERVICES</b>         | <b>858,398.83</b>   |
| <b>Total DISTRICT OPERATIONS</b>        | <b>971,723.03</b>   |
| <b>PROJECT EXPENDITURES</b>             |                     |
| County Expense                          |                     |
| GIS Contract with County                | 8,000.00            |
| <b>Total County Expense</b>             | <b>8,000.00</b>     |
| District Expense                        |                     |
| Copier Lease                            | 2,500.00            |
| Envirothon Expense                      | 2,000.00            |
| No-Till Drill Expense                   | 500.00              |
| No-Till Drill Seed Expense              | 8,000.00            |
| Survey Flags Expense                    | 200.00              |
| Tree Msc Expense                        | 500.00              |
| Truax Drill Expense                     | 400.00              |
| <b>Total District Expense</b>           | <b>14,100.00</b>    |
| State Expense.                          |                     |
| BWSR Grant Expense                      |                     |
| 1W1P - Cannon Cost Share                | 100,000.00          |
| Buffer Law 2026 (P26-____)              | 2,000.00            |
| Conserv Contract 2026(P26-____)         | 23,644.00           |
| Goodhue DWSMA (C23-1732)                |                     |
| DWSMA - Cost Share                      | 80,000.00           |
| DWSMA - Education & Outreach            | 1,000.00            |
| <b>Total Goodhue DWSMA (C23-1732)</b>   | <b>81,000.00</b>    |

**Goodhue County SWCD**  
**Yearly Budget**  
 January through December 2026

|  | <b>Jan - Dec 26</b> |
|--|---------------------|
| Soil Health 2025 C/S (P25-0504)        | 40,000.00           |
| Soil Health RCPP - Cost Share          | 200,000.00          |
| WAGZ 2024 (C24-0109)                   |                     |
| FY24 WAGZ - Cost Share                 | 200,000.00          |
| FY24 WAGZ - Education/Outreach         | 25,000.00           |
| FY24 WAGZ - Grant Admn                 | 20,000.00           |
| FY24 WAGZ - Project Development        | 15,000.00           |
| FY24 WAGZ - Tech/Eng Asst              | 35,000.00           |
| Total WAGZ 2024 (C24-0109)             | 295,000.00          |
| WAGZ 2026 (C26-____)                   |                     |
| FY26 WAGZ - Cost Share                 | 500,000.00          |
| FY26 WAGZ - Education/Outreach         | 50,000.00           |
| FY26 WAGZ - Grant Admn                 | 15,000.00           |
| FY26 WAGZ - Tech/Eng Asst              | 250,000.00          |
| Total WAGZ 2026 (C26-____)             | 815,000.00          |
| WAGZ CRP 2025 (P25-0456)               | 25,000.00           |
| Total BWSR Grant Expense               | 1,581,644.00        |
| Other - State Expense                  |                     |
| 319 Wells Creek Project - MPCA         |                     |
| 319 Wells Creek Prj - CostShare        | 15,000.00           |
| 319 Wells Creek Project - MPCA - Other | 50,000.00           |
| Total 319 Wells Creek Project - MPCA   | 65,000.00           |
| McNamara Tile Monitoring               | 2,000.00            |
| SWCD Aid                               |                     |
| SWCD Aid C/S                           | 70,000.00           |
| SWCD Aid Equip/OR/Material             | 30,000.00           |
| Total SWCD Aid                         | 100,000.00          |
| Total Other - State Expense            | 167,000.00          |
| Total State Expense.                   | 1,748,644.00        |
| Total PROJECT EXPENDITURES             | 1,770,744.00        |
| Total Expense                          | 2,742,467.03        |
| Net Ordinary Income                    | -40,970.95          |
| Other Income/Expense                   |                     |
| Other Income                           |                     |
| Interest Earnings                      | 30,000.00           |
| Total Other Income                     | 30,000.00           |
| Other Expense                          |                     |
| District Fund Balance Budget           | -10,970.95          |
| Total Other Expense                    | -10,970.95          |
| Net Other Income                       | 40,970.95           |
| Net Income                             | <b>0.00</b>         |