



BWSR Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program Grant for FY 2016

Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District

BWSR Grant Awarded
\$ 6,000

Grant Period (incl. extensions)
From: November 17, 2015
To: May 31, 2016

Funds Returned to State
Type \$0
Date Fund Returned: N/A

Expenditures by Category

As of 12/31/2015

Administration/Coordination	
Project Development	
Technical and Engineering	\$ 622.03
Construction	
Total Expenditures	\$ 622.03

PROJECT CONTACT
Donna Rasmussen, Administrator
507-765-3878, ext 3
donna.rasmussen@fillmoreswcd.org

Prepared by Fillmore SWCD for BWSR Website Reporting Requirements



The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) transferred to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Clean Water Fund (CWF) funds appropriated to the agency to implement the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program statewide.

The funds are being used by Fillmore SWCD to promote the program and provide assistance to landowners and operators who wish to enroll in the program.

Outputs and Outcomes

Outputs:
2015: SWCD staff planned and conducted a meeting on December 14, 2015 in Preston attended by 15 farmers who are leaders in local ag and producer groups. Mark Root, AWQCP certifier, presented information about the certification process. Attendees shared ideas for promoting the program with members of ag and producer groups. Staff time: Two technicians (4 hrs x \$46.22/hr. and 8.75 hrs x \$49.96/hr.)

Outcomes:



The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) is a voluntary opportunity for farmers and agricultural landowners to take the lead in implementing conservation practices that protect our water. Those who implement and maintain approved farm management practices will be certified and in turn obtain regulatory certainty for a period of ten years.

Through this program, certified producers receive:

- **Regulatory certainty:** certified producers are deemed to be in compliance with any new water quality rules or laws during the period of certification
- **Recognition:** certified producers may use their status to promote their business as protective of water quality
- **Priority for technical assistance:** producers seeking certification can obtain specially designated technical and financial assistance to implement practices that promote water quality

Through this program, the public receives:

- Assurance that certified producers are using conservation practices to protect Minnesota's lakes, rivers and streams