



## CWF Community Partners Grant for FY 2013

### Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District

**Clean Water Fund Grant  
Awarded** \$ 45,240

**Grant Period (incl. extensions)**  
From: February 13, 2013  
To: December 31, 2015

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



The Community Partners Storm-water Mini-Grant project provided citizens and local organizations access to Clean Water Funds to construct practices or host education and outreach events to improve the infiltration, storage and treatment of urban storm water. Although agriculture dominates the landscape in Fillmore County, storm water from urban and residential sources are among the non-point sources that contribute to sediment loading of surface waters. In 2011, interviews were conducted with all of the cities in Fillmore County to assess interests and needs for storm water management and education; revealing opportunities to promote the use of rain barrels, rain gardens and other practices both on private and public lands. An application process was developed to award mini-grants through the SWCD as a method to achieve the goals and objectives in the Local Water Management (LWM) Plan of reducing runoff volumes and turbidity in surface waters to help meet water quality standards.

### Outputs and Outcomes

### Budget and Expenditures by Budget Category

Expenses as of 12/31/2015

	Budget	Expenses
<b>Grant Management and Reporting</b>	\$ 1,140.00	\$ 1,140.00
<b>Project Development</b>	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Technical Assistance and Engineering</b>	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,062.43
<b>Construction</b>	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 42,037.57
<b>Total</b>	\$ 45,240.00	\$ 45,240.00
<b>Total Match from Project Applicants</b>	\$ 17,750.00	\$ 39,887.16

Outputs: Four mini-grants were awarded and on-the-ground projects completed in three communities.

Outcomes: Calculated estimated volume reduction (at full capacity) of 0.94 ac-ft/yr or over 300,000 gallons/yr for all projects.

Projects completed include:

**Kingsland Courtyard:** 1400 ft<sup>2</sup> rain garden with native plants, and four 137-gallon cisterns to collect rooftop runoff. Community involvement included the Kingsland Courtyard Committee, science and horticulture teachers, ECFE Coordinator, Spring Valley Greenhouse, and 25 public volunteers. Publicity: Spring Valley Tribune article, Fillmore SWCD newspaper insert, signage at site.

**Harmony Library Community Gardens:** 12,000 ft<sup>2</sup> rain garden, removal of impervious surface, and ten 50-gallon rain barrels for the roof of the building. Community involvement included the Harmony City Council, Harmony Area Community Foundation, Harmony Lions Club, Girl/Boy Scouts, Garden Club, and 700 hours of public volunteer time. Publicity: article in Fillmore County Journal, outreach displays, site signage, and educational materials created.

**Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center:** two rain gardens, three 300-gallon cisterns, one rain chain, and a terrace stabilization structure using native plants. Community involvement included the Eagle Bluff staff, multiple school groups and public guests. Publicity: workshop and educational curriculum developed, site signage.

**Friends of the Root River Rain Barrel Workshop:** Hosted a public rain barrel workshop (14 barrels created), supplies to complete a total of 100 barrels. Community involved included the FORR Board/volunteers, Eagle Bluff Env. Center. Publicity: news release, flyers, website, decal stickers for the rain barrels.

### PROJECT CONTACT

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*Prepared by Fillmore SWCD  
for BWSR Website Reporting Requirements*



From this → to this!



Above: In the courtyard of Kingsland Public School, existing turf grass was replaced with a rain garden and cisterns to collect roof-top run-off. This project will reduce run-off by over 30,000 gallons per year.

Below: A large rain garden and ten rain barrels were included in the bigger Harmony Community Gardens Project, which required the removal of an old basketball court and many soil amendments before the site will be suitable for full planting in 2016. Total run-off reduced will be over 250,000 gallons per year.



Before



After



After



The drawings for and the final terrace structure that will reduce run-off and erosion of a steep sloping site.



Volunteer labor to create rain gardens and the installed rain chain add extra storm water value to the learning center.

Above: At Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center, two rain gardens will intercept parking lot run-off, a structural terrace with native plants will stabilize an active erosion site and three cisterns will collect roof-top run-off. Collectively, Eagle Bluff will mitigate over 7800 gallons of run-off per year.

Below: Friends of the Root River (FORR) hosted their first rain barrel workshop in October 2015, attended by 12 people who completed 14 barrels. The FORR bought supplies to complete a total of 100 barrels to be distributed throughout the watershed in 2016. Collectively, these barrels can capture up to 5,000 gallons per rain event.

