

# WADENA



## Full-time Forestry Land Use Specialist for the Wadena Soil & Water Conservation District

**Waters of Concern**  
Crow Wing and Red Eye Watersheds

### Clean Water Legacy Funding 2007-2009

#### Technical Assistance Funds

Hired Positions	\$ 45,000
<b>Total CWL Funding</b>	<b>\$ 45,000</b>

#### Partner Funding

DNR Forestry Cost share	\$ 53,667
MFRC Projects	\$15,000
DNR Forestry Plan writing	\$ 8,100
Landowner Inputs	\$ 53,667
<b>Total Partner Funding</b>	<b>\$130,434</b>

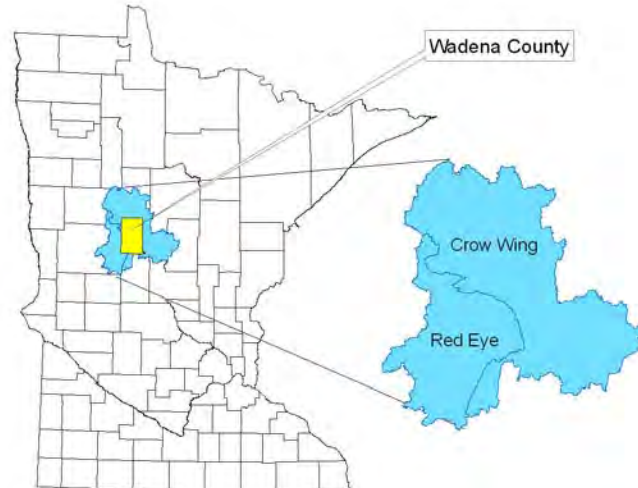
### PROJECT CONTACT

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Project Number:  
7P44



### Overall Project Description

To protect valuable water resources in Wadena County, the Wadena SWCD worked with the MN DNR Forestry and the MN Forest Resources Council to place as many privately owned forested acres as possible under Forest Stewardship Plans and to assist private landowners with implementing on-the-ground management activities in the plans.

#### Healthy Forests = Clean Water

Forest Stewardship Plans are valuable tools to improve and protect natural resources while meeting landowner goals. This includes a face-to-face meeting with the landowner, inventorying their land, talking with them about long-term goals, and preparing a detailed Forest Stewardship plan that meets their needs and goals while assessing the health, capability, and care of the property. To accomplish more plans and implementation, the Wadena SWCD received these funds to dedicate full-time hours for the certified plan writer on staff, who had one-third of her time devoted to Forest Stewardship assistance. The SWCD hired a full-time clerk to take over her education duties. Of the 27 plans written, 11 plans included management actions to increase healthy forested watersheds.

Our goals were to complete plans for 20 landowners, to identify additional landowners who would like plans, to assist 35 landowners in implementing forestry projects, and to educate landowners on the importance of forest stewardship and the benefits forests provide in protecting water quality.

*Prepared by Board of Water and Soil Resources  
Fiscal Year 2007-2009 Clean Water Legacy Project*

## On-the-Ground Conservation Practices Implemented

Name of Conservation Practices Installed	Number of Acres	Total Cost
Tree Planting and Site Preparation	519	\$ 45,602
Bud Capping	526	\$ 7,430
Pruning	29	\$ 635
Landowner Inputs		\$ 53,667
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1074 ACRES</b>	<b>\$ 107,334</b>

## Increasing Healthy Forested Watersheds

Many landowners in Wadena County desire to keep their forests healthy and diverse, practicing sound land stewardship in order to ensure a healthy environment for future generations. Comprehensive planning is an essential tool that the Wadena SWCD offers landowners in order to maintain clean and abundant water.

Water Resource Protected	Number of Plans Written	Total Acres in Plans
Lakes	2	597
Rivers/Creeks	5	471
Wetlands Type 5 or 8	4	341.5

## Contributing Partners

Partner	Description	Project Contribution
DNR Forestry	CWL Cost Share Implementation Funding	\$ 53,667
Private Landowners	CWL Cost Share match	\$ 53,667
Minnesota Forest Resources Council	Pilot Project Funding: Outreach & Education Implementation Monitoring	\$ 15,000
DNR Forestry	Forest Stewardship Program Grant	\$ 8,100

## Project Informational/Educational Activities

Type of Activity	Newsletters, Brochures, Posters, Etc.	Work with Kid Groups	Tours, Demos, Etc.	Presentations Given
Landowner Survey	Forestry Newsletter to 3500 Landowners	Conservation Days	Buckthorn Field Day	2 Garden Clubs
Radio Programs	County Fair Booth  Expo Booth  Woodland Landowner Informational Packets	Recycled Crafts	Biomass Tour  SWCD Anniversary Tour  Forest Stewardship Field Day  Tree Open Houses	4 Township Meetings  Forestry Planning  Buckthorn ID & Control  Annual Banquet  Windbreaks  Wadena Rotary

## Project Outcomes: specific project outcomes that worked towards meeting Protection (local water plans) water quality goals

- 27 new comprehensive forest stewardship plans for 3,115 acres were written for private forest landowners in Wadena County.
- Assisted 51 landowners with 70 cost share projects, including tree plantings, bud capping, and pruning.
- Assisted 9 landowners in applying for the Sustainable Forestry Incentive Act and the new 2C Managed Forest Land classification.
- Assisted 15 landowners with forestry practices in the federal Environmental Quality Incentives Program.
- Assisted 11 landowners with the Cooperative Weed Management Area grant program to control buckthorn.
- Educated several landowners on the benefits of forested acres for water quality protection.
- Forest Stewardship Field Day to promote forest stewardship and implementation.
- Buckthorn Identification and Control Field Day to educate private landowners on the importance of controlling this invasive forest species and the need for species diversity in their forests to protect water quality.
- 869 surveys about technical and financial assistance needs were sent to four townships in the county with a 20% return rate. A list was created of 74 landowners who were interested in the Forest Stewardship Program.

## Project Photos



Tree Planting



Pruning



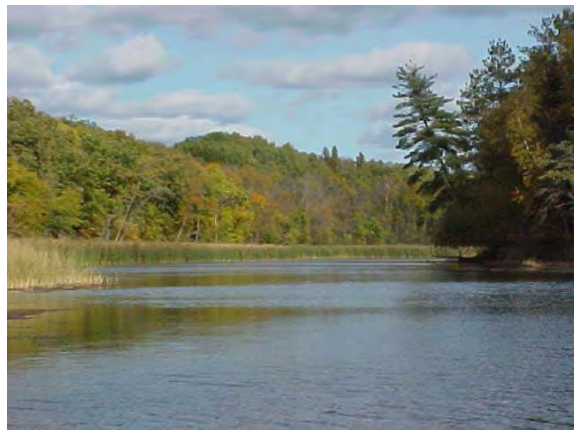
Buckthorn Field Day



Stewardship Field Day



Conservation Days with 5th Graders



Trees Protect Our Water Quality