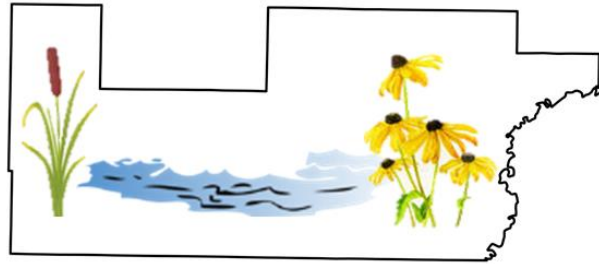


Sibley Soil & Water



Conservation District

2023 Annual Work Plan



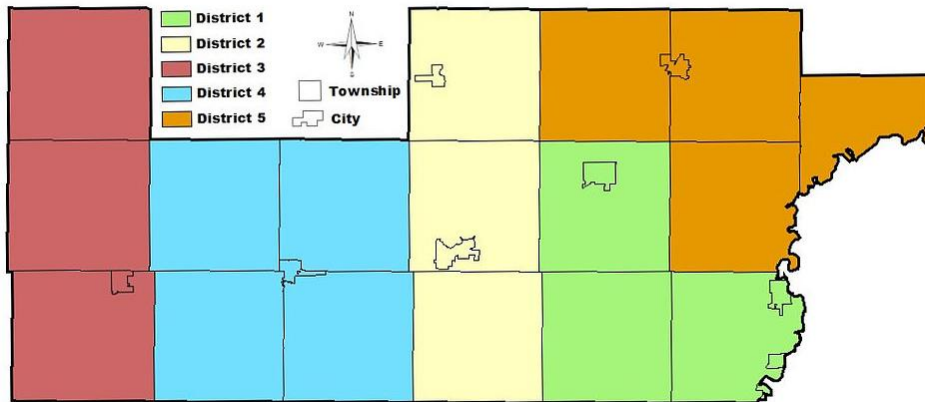
Sibley SWCD Staff	
Joel Wurscher	District Manager
Jeremy Buckentin	District Technician
Jack Bushman	Conservation Technician
Eric Miller	Farm Bill Technician

2023 SWCD Board	
Wayne Grams	Chair
Kathleen Thies	Vice Chair
Loren Evenson	Secretary
Paul Wiemann	Treasurer
Robert Nielsen	Member

Sibley SWCD
112 5th Street, PO Box 161
Gaylord, MN 55334
(507) 702-7077
www.sibleyswcd.org

Sibley SWCD Mission Statement: The Sibley Soil & Water Conservation District is organized for the purpose of assisting landowners with managing and promoting a diversified landscape that is both agriculturally productive yet environmentally sustainable.

Sibley SWCD Supervisor District Boundaries



- **District 1**—Kathleen Thies- Townships of Arlington, Henderson, Kelso, and the cities of Arlington and Henderson.
- **District 2**—Paul Wiemann- Townships of Dryden, New Auburn, Sibley, and the cities of Gaylord and New Auburn.
- **District 3**—Loren Evenson- Townships of Grafton, Moltke, Severance, and the city of Gibbon.
- **District 4**—Wayne Grams- Townships of Alfsborg, Bismarck, Transit, Cornish, and the city of Winthrop.
- **District 5**—Bob Nielsen- Townships of Faxon, Green Isle, Jessenland, Washington Lake, and the city of Green Isle.

2023 Committee Assignments			
Committee	Board Member	Member/Alternate	Meetings
SC SWCD TSA	Robert Nielsen	Kathleen Thies	Quarterly
Personnel	Paul Wiemann	Robert Nielsen	As Needed
Legislative	Loren Evenson	Wayne Grams	Once a Year
Budget	Paul Wiemann	Kathleen Thies	Once a Year
1WIP	Paul Wiemann	Loren Evenson	Bi-Monthly
Buffer	Kathleen Thies	Robert Nielsen	As Needed

Board meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 4:00 PM. Meetings are held at the USDA Conference Room located at 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN 55334.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

South Central Technical Services Area (SCTSA)

Sibley Soil and Water Conservation District will continue to work with the South Central Technical Service Area for technical services and guidance on conservation projects.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Sibley Soil and Water Conservation District will continue to work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) towards their technical assistance program and Farm Bill programs. District cooperates with the Natural Resources Conservation Service under a Memorandum of Understanding whereby assistance furnished to the District by the NRCS local, area, and State Office. In addition, SWCD and NRCS shall work on education and outreach through the semi-annual newsletter, county fair, and events held at local schools.

Sibley Soil and Water Conservation District will continue to work with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) on easement programs such as CREP and CRP.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)

Sibley Soil and Water Conservation District will cooperate with the BWSR on cost share programs, 1W1P planning efforts, Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF), Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) associated activities, local water management (LWM) tasks, Buffer Law, and permanent easement programs (CREP, RIM).

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Sibley Soil and Water Conservation District will cooperate with the DNR on applications of woodland and wildlife conservation projects, the water permit program, observation well monitoring, walk in access, AIS, and CPL grants.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

Sibley Soil and Water Conservation District will continue to work with the MPCA toward land, water, and air quality programs, WPLMN, and 1W1P discussions.

Sibley County, Minnesota

Sibley Soil and Water Conservation District will cooperate with all County Departments to achieve sound natural resource management, including the Sibley County Commissioners, Public Works, Public Health, Assessor/Auditor, and Extension Departments.

Additional Partners:

National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD), University of Minnesota Extension Service, South Central Area VI, Minnesota Department of Ag (MDA), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), High Island Creek Watershed District, Buffalo Creek Watershed District, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Pheasants Forever, Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE), Friends of High Island, MN Soil Health Coalition (MSHC), and neighboring Counties and SWCDs.

Annual Work Plan for 1/1/2023 – 12/31/2024

A. INTRODUCTION

Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) are political subdivisions of the State established under Minnesota Statute 103C. Each SWCD is governed by a board of 5 elected supervisors. Established in 1952, 2023 begins the 71st year of operation for the Sibley Soil and Water Conservation District. The District has developed programs and applied technology to address natural resource issues. The District strives to provide a well-rounded suite of conservation services to meet the needs of Sibley County residents.

B. PURPOSE OF THE DISTRICT AND PLAN

The purpose of the District is to provide a local organization through which landowners and operators in the District may cooperate with each other and with agencies of the County, State and Federal governments on soil and water conservation, watershed protection, flood prevention, farm forestry, wildlife improvement, recreation, rural farm development, and pollution reductions. Assistance made available through the District shall be consistent with the District's priorities and will encourage the use of all land within its capability and its need for protection/improvement.

The Sibley SWCD prioritizes the following activities to achieve the goals and objectives as listed in the Annual Work Plan.

1. Watershed scale planning, 1W1P
2. Provide technical assistance to residents/landowners of Sibley County by request.
3. Promotion of upland storage and water retention practices.
4. Education and outreach – newsletter, website/Facebook, county fair, youth outreach, and participate in appropriate events.
5. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) prevention and awareness within Sibley County.
6. Develop partnerships and pursue new sources of funding.
7. Promote wildlife and pollinator habitat management.
8. Buffer Law implementation/compliance.
9. Administer tree program in which stock is sold for conservation related purposes such as the installation of field and farmstead windbreaks and wildlife plantings.
10. CREP III/RIM Wetland Program – actively promote and implement permanent conservation easements.
11. Continuation of WPLMN grant. This work includes monitoring water quality and quantity at two gauging station along the High Island Creek.
12. Perform RIM related tasks including site inspections.
13. Continue Wetland Conservation Act responsibilities for the county.
14. Groundwater level monitoring of observation wells within Sibley County.
15. Maintain rain gage reader reporting network.
16. Support and promotion of the Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program.
17. Staff and Supervisor Development – both will participate in meeting sessions and appropriate trainings designed to operate the District, administer programs and meet the requirements of local and State reporting needs.
18. Promote and perform duties associated within the Ag BMP loan program.



SIBLEY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

112 5th St. PO Box 161
 Gaylord MN 55334
 TELEPHONE (507) 702-7077
 Website: www.sibleyswcd.org

MINNESOTA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

7/1/2022

EXPENSES	2022 Budget	2023 Budget
Employee Salary	\$ 190,000.00	\$ 190,000.00
Employers Share of PERA & FICA	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Health Insurance	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 40,000.00
Supervisors Compensation & Expense	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
MCIT Insurance	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
National, State & Area Dues	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Office Expense	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Supplies	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
Truck Expense	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Education & Promotion	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Audit	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
New Equipment	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Project Expense	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
State Cost-Share Work	\$ 9,005.00	\$ 9,005.00
Farmbill Tech - Match Contribution	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Rent	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 17,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 392,755.00	\$ 408,255.00
INCOME		
State General Services	\$ 18,868.00	\$ 18,868.00
RIM Easement Services	\$ 4,407.00	\$ 5,600.00
SWCD Base Capacity	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
(EXTRA) SWCD Base Capacity Needs to Be Matched by County	\$ 14,400.00	\$ 14,400.00
State Cost-Share Work	\$ 9,005.00	\$ 9,005.00
AIS	\$ 61,773.00	\$ 61,773.00
Trees	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,500.00
Interest	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00
Buffer Grant	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Other Revenues	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Income Grants, Charges for Services, District Reserves	\$ 234,803.00	\$ 233,496.00
WCA Grant (NRBG) (BWSR Pass Thru Funds Co.)	\$ 13,452.00	\$ 13,452.00
Natural Resource Block Grant (NRBG) (BWSR Pass thru Funds Co.)	\$ 14,615.00	\$ 14,615.00
SWCD Base Capacity County Match	\$ 14,400.00	\$ 14,400.00
County Allocation Plus County Levy (Water Plan) Requested	\$ 137,268.00	\$ 137,268.00
Total County Appropriation's	\$ 179,735.00	\$ 179,735.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 414,538.00	\$ 413,231.00

	Requested	Received
2023	\$ 179,735.00	
2022	\$ 179,735.00	\$ 151,668.00
2021	\$ 179,735.00	\$ 179,735.00

2023 Calendar of Events

January

Regular board meeting
Financial reports and tax statements
Quarterly reports and sales tax due
MASWCD dues
Tree sales

February

1W1P Policy Committee meeting
Regular board meeting
Legislative Day at the Capitol
E-link reporting due
Tree sales

March

Regular board meeting
TSA meeting
Area VI meeting
Local Work Group meeting
Tree sales
Supervisor's 1st quarter per diems

April

1W1P Policy Committee meeting
Regular board meeting
Quarterly tax reports due
Tree sales/tree distribution

May

Regular board meeting
Plant kit distribution

June

Regular board meeting
Area VI meeting
Supervisor's 2nd quarter per diems

July

Regular board meeting
Quarterly tax reports due
Select conservationist of the year
Distribute newsletter

August

Sibley County Fair
Regular board meeting
Develop and submit county budget
Annual SWCD picnic

September

Regular board meeting
Order nursery stock
Supervisor's 3rd quarter per diems

October

Regular board meeting
Purchase nursery license
Quarterly tax reports due
BWSR Academy

November

Regular board meeting
Area VI meeting
NACD dues
Monitor buffer compliance

December

MASWCD annual convention
Regular board meeting
AIS plan and metrics
Distribute newsletter
Supervisor's 4th quarter per diems

