

# STEVENS SWCD MONITORING PLAN FOR BUFFER COMPLIANCE TRACKING

## §103F.48 RIPARIAN PROTECTION AND WATER QUALITY PRACTICES

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### 1. COMPLIANCE TRACKING OF ALL PARCELS SUBJECT TO THE BUFFER LAW

All parcels within Stevens County are to be reviewed within a 3 year timeframe. Stevens SWCD will conduct compliance reviews on 1/3 of the Counties parcels each year. The attached map shows the county split into three sections (A, B & C), see attachment A. Reviews will start with section A and continue on a three year rotation.

### 2. RANDOM SPOT CHECKS

Random spot checks will be done in addition to the tracking of all parcels within a 3 year span. These checks may be conducted via aerial photo review or on-site review depending on availability of updated aerial photos and the practice that is being checked/access to farms. A combination of both aerial and on-site review may also be used.

- ❖ The SWCD will conduct up to 50 random spot checks each year outside of the scheduled area.
- ❖ Additionally, Stevens SWCD will review parcels of emphasis more frequently.
  - Previously non-compliant
  - No-till/Conservation tillage or cover crop alternative practice plans
  - Cost-share funded projects (years 1,3,9 of contract)
  - Parcels of further emphasis (potential violations)

### 3. PROCESS TO HANDLE COMPLAINTS

All complaints regarding compliance with the Minnesota Buffer Law (Minn. Stat. §103F.48) will be first directed to the Stevens SWCD for review and follow-up. If the complaint is not able to be resolved with an adequate compliance plan the parcel will be forwarded to Stevens County Planning and Zoning and will follow the procedure described in Section 7 (Compliance) of the Stevens County Buffer Ordinance.

# Stevens SWCD Monitoring Plan For Buffer Compliance Tracking

## Attachment A

