

Goals and Objectives

This section establishes the Goals and Objectives in which will be addressed under each of the priority concerns. The priority concerns include:

- Groundwater Protection for the Verdi Well Field.
- Surface Water Quality Deterioration being Nutrients and Bacteria focusing on two identified TMDL sites: Lake Shaokatan and the South Branch of the Yellow Medicine River.
- Erosion and Sediment Control on agricultural land primarily gully erosion and concentrated flow with several priority areas being the South Branch of the Yellow Medicine River Watershed, Norwegian Creek, Coon Creek, Lake Benton Lake and Dead Coon Lake.
- Lake Management Improvement (water quality) and Recreational Opportunities targeting Lake Benton, Lake Shaokatan and Lake Hendricks.
- Surface Water Runoff and Drainage addressing runoff volume and water quality through drainage management.

Education and Information/Outreach is, for the most part, a component of each of the priority concerns and is therefore under each of the individual priority concerns.

PRIORITY CONCERN: *Groundwater Protection for the Verdi Well Field.*

The Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System has an approved Wellhead Protection Plan for the Verdi Well Field. The goals, objectives and actions identified for implementation in the Verdi Wellhead Protection Plan (WHP) are also a priority for the Lincoln County Water Management Plan. We have listed the goals from the WHP in which we will address some of the objectives and actions under the goals listed. For a complete list of the Wellhead Protection Plan's goals, objectives and actions along with the overall plan refer to the Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water-Verdi Well Field Wellhead Protection Plan located at the Lincoln SWCD Office or request a copy from the Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water Office by calling 507-368-4248.

GOAL: Two of the goals of this priority concern as identified in the Wellhead Protection Plan in which we will focus on are:

- *Protect the public water supply from potential contaminant sources due to land use activities.*
- *Establish and maintain a WHP continuing public education and information program.*

The objectives in which we will focus on from the Wellhead Protection Plan are as follows:

OBJECTIVE 1: Encourage property owners to adopt tillage, chemical and nutrient Best Management Practices (BMP's) for cropland within the Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA).

OBJECTIVE 2: Develop educational programs for property owners regarding the need for having complying onsite sewage treatment systems in the DWSMA.

OBJECTIVE 3: Inventory and prioritize areas within the DWSMA for adoption of set-aside and buffer easement programs.

PRIORITY CONCERN: *Surface Water Quality Deterioration being Nutrients and Bacteria focusing on two identified TMDL sites: Lake Shaokatan and the South Branch of the Yellow Medicine River.*

GOAL: *To restore, protect and improve the deterioration of surface water quality of Lincoln County's lakes, river, and streams.*

OBJECTIVE 1: Protect surface water quality from contamination caused by point and non-point source pollution and properly treat both human and animal waste.

OBJECTIVE 2: Protect and improve existing surface water quality, by addressing nutrient and bacteria issues.

OBJECTIVE 3: Educate property owners, land owners/operators on the importance of protecting our surface waters from deterioration.

PRIORITY CONCERN: *Erosion and Sediment Control on agricultural land primarily gully erosion and concentrated flow with several priority areas being the South Branch of the Yellow Medicine River Watershed, Norwegian Creek, Coon Creek, Lake Benton Lake and Dead Coon Lake.*

GOAL: *To protect and preserve Lincoln County's long-term valuable soil resources.*

OBJECTIVE 1: Protect and improve existing surface and ground water quality, by addressing and reducing soil erosion, sedimentation and potential attached pollutants.

OBJECTIVE 2: Reduce the volume of sedimentation and nutrients reaching County lakes, streams, rivers and wetlands.

OBJECTIVE 3: There are 115 suspected residences with non-conforming septic systems on and around Lake Benton and 162 residences that have suspected non-conforming septic systems that generate a portion of their income from agriculture. The objective in this section is to bring 146 of these non-conforming septic systems into compliance; along with reducing the amount of fecal coliform bacteria in Lake Benton and Coon Creek to achieve TMDL levels; and, to monitor/evaluate the projects progress on Lake Benton, Coon Creek and its effect on the Redwood River. The septic system upgrades started in 2001. Implementation will be dependant on the success of the Extension of the CWP for the Redwood River Watershed, from 2005 through 2007.

OBJECTIVE 4: Increase and protect wildlife habitat.

OBJECTIVE 5: Compile information regarding surface water quality and quantity.

OBJECTIVE 6: Educate landowners/operators about erosion and sediment control, the importance of installing conservation practices and encourage conservation programs that help protect wildlife and recreational benefits in Lincoln County.

PRIORITY CONCERN: *Lake Management Improvement (water quality) and Recreational Opportunities targeting Lake Benton, Lake Shaokatan and Lake Hendricks.*

GOAL: *Increase recreational opportunities by improving the water quality and quantity of Lincoln County's lakes.*

OBJECTIVE 1: Reduce the curly-leaf pondweed in Lake Benton, which has been detrimental to the use and enjoyment of Lake Benton. Work to improve tourism, economic growth and revive the recreational activities that were once abundant in Lake Benton.

OBJECTIVE 2: Reduce the blue-green algae in Lake Shaokatan to improve the economic and recreational activities in the lake.

OBJECTIVE 3: Work with the MPCA to construct a new Waste Water Treatment Facility to improve Lake Hendricks water quality.

OBJECTIVE 4: Educate the residents, owners and operators of the three main lakes on the importance of protecting the recreational benefits of the lakes in Lincoln County.

PRIORITY CONCERN: *Surface Water Runoff and Drainage addressing runoff volume and water quality through drainage management.*

GOAL: *Improve surface water management by decreasing runoff and flooding and maintain the drainage systems already in place while sustaining agricultural productivity.*

OBJECTIVE 1: Apply watershed-based principles in properly managing drainage systems and wetlands and repair small dams in the county.

OBJECTIVE 2: Incorporate flood control benefits into future road and bridge replacements and utilize the Wetland Banking Program.

OBJECTIVE 3: Improve the Drainage Ditch systems in Lincoln County through proper management and implementation of buffers.

OBJECTIVE 4: Educate landowners/operators in Lincoln County on the Drainage programs/issues.