

## PRESS RELEASE: LOCAL FARMERS' PRACTICES PROTECT OUR WATERS; MORE TO COME

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Annandale, MN – Local farmers around Watkins, MN have implemented practices into their operations that will protect our waters and improve their operations, and more practices are coming.

First there is the landowner who worked with his renter to install 3 acres of buffer strips along a tributary to the Clearwater River. The strip will provide filtering of runoff for adjacent farm fields.

Then there is the farmer who installed five water and sediment control basins in his fields to reduce the amount of erosion occurring during rains. These basins reduce the amount of sediment washing into a nearby tributary to the Clearwater River, and keep the soil where it is needed- in the fields.



Finally, there is the cattleman who installed an animal waste storage system to allow a switch from daily manure hauling. Now manure can be applied in a manner that is more cost-effective and protective of nearby waters.

The result is a reduction of nutrients entering the Clearwater River and downstream lakes of 430 lbs. annually for the life of the practices. And more practices are in the works, thanks to efforts in the watershed to measure nutrients in our waters and prioritize locations for practices to provide the most water quality benefits.

These projects were funded and managed thanks to a collaboration between landowners, the Meeker and Stearns Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Clearwater River Watershed District and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency via its Clear Water Partnership Program. This program was funded by the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment.

Learn more about the project here: [http://crwd.org/tmdl\\_crr&p11.html](http://crwd.org/tmdl_crr&p11.html).