

RICE COUNTY LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

*IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE TO FOURTH
GENERATION*



Photos taken by Rice County Staff

**January 29, 2014
Through
December 31, 2019**

Rice County Water Plan Implementation Section Update

Summary

Rice County Environmental Services is currently working on updating the Water Plan. The first (or original) water plan was adopted in 1990, the second in 1997, the third in 2003, and the fourth in 2010. The third generation plan provided great detail of Rice County's existing resources, while the fourth generation water plan was intended as a five year plan that detailed basic priorities and action items to address the county priorities. The fourth generation plan was extended to be effective until December 31st, 2015. The existing plan identifies current and potential problems relating to surface and/or ground water within the county; as well identify opportunities for protection, management and development of water resources.

At this time due to the State moving to a watershed based approach the Rice County Water Plan update requirement is simply to review and update the objectives and action items within the Implementation Section. It is the Implementation Plan that will identify a plan of action to promote the management of water and land resources. Having an updated Implementation Plan is extremely important when applying for various grant funds, including state Clean Water Legacy funds. The updated Water Plan will be valid until December 31, 2019.

The updating of Rice County's Implementation Plan is intended to work towards aligning with state watershed based planning efforts. The goal is to build off the knowledge of existing local water management plans and priorities, existing and new studies/data, and Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPs) as well other state data to create prioritized, targeted, and measureable implementation actions.

The current timeline for the state efforts in these watersheds are as follows:

	Intensive Water Monitoring	Stressor Identification	Draft TMDL	WRAP Document
Zumbro River Watershed	2014-2015	2014-2015	2016	End of 2016
Cannon River Watershed	2013-2014	2013-2014	2015	End of 2015
Lower Minnesota River Watershed	2015	2016	2018	End of 2018

Local Water Management Plan Purpose:

The purpose of the Local Water Management Plan is to address potential and existing water resource related issues and determine how those identified resources can be protected, preserved and enhanced in Rice County. The Comprehensive Local Water Management Act (Minnesota Statutes Sections 103B.301 to 103B.355) encourages counties to develop and implement a Comprehensive Water Plan. Pursuant to the requirements of the law, this plan:

- *Covers the entire area of the County;*
 - *Addresses water problems in the context of watershed units and groundwater systems;*
 - *Is based upon principles of sound hydrologic management of water, effective environmental protection, and efficient management;*
 - *Is consistent with comprehensive water plans prepared by counties and watershed management organizations wholly or partially within a single watershed unit or groundwater system; and*
 - *The comprehensive water plan must specify the period covered by the comprehensive water plan and must extend at least five years, but no more than ten years, from the date the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) approves the comprehensive water plan.*
- This update is intended to enhance the Fourth Generation Local Water Management Plan, and assist in providing updated information.*

Rice County Contributors

The following is a list of those who contributed their time, support, resources, and expertise to the creation of the update to the Rice County Local Water Management Plan for 2015-2019. Without their assistance and knowledge this plan would not be possible.

Prepared By:

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With Assistance From:

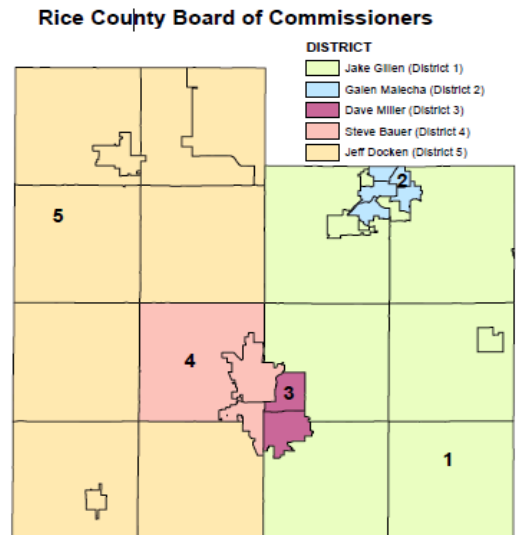
Rice County Soil and Water Conservation District
The Offices and Departments of Rice County
The Rice County Board of Commissioners
Cannon River Watershed Partnership
Zumbro River Watershed Partnership
Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board
Staff from the Cities of Rice County

State and Federal Agency Contributors:

Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)
Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)
Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB)
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
University of Minnesota Extension Service- Rice County
U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Rice County Board of Commissioners

Jake Gillen	District 1
Galen Malecha	District 2
Dave Miller	District 3
Steve Bauer	District 4
Jeff Docken	District 5



Water Plan Technical Committee Members

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Brad Behrens	Rice County- Environmental Technician
Melissa Bokman	Scott County- Senior Planner
Linda Dahl	SE MN Water Resources Board- Director
Marilee DeGroot	Rice County- Environmental Health Administrator
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Tom Gile	Board Conservationist
Dave Miller	Rice County- Commissioner

This Revision of the Rice County Local Water Management Plan was Funded By: Natural Resources Block Grant from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and Rice County

Goals, Objectives, and Implementation Plan

Update: January 1st, 2015

Through

December 31st, 2019

Legend

Cannon River Watershed

Zumbro River Watershed

Lower Minnesota River Watershed

Goal: Surface Water

Protect and Improve the Quality of Surface Water Resources throughout Rice County

Objective 1: Assess Surface Waters in Rice County for their Designated Use

Objective 2: Preserve/Restore Wetlands

Objective 3: Improve/Protect Surface Water Resources

Objective 4: Education

Objective 5: Leadership

Action Item-Implementation Step	Priority	Focus Area	Proposed Timeframe	Responsible Agency/ Coordinator(s)	Possible Funding Source	Estimated Cost
Objective 1: Assess surface waters in Rice County for their Designated use						
1. Continue to enhance a lake and stream monitoring network in Rice County with focused efforts on those with little or no baseline water quality data.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD, BWSR, DNR, MDA, MPCA, CRWP, ZWP, Scott County, Volunteers	MPCA	\$15,000/yr
2. Provide assistance in determination of health and impairment status of water resources.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD, RC Env Svcs, CRWP, MPCA	MPCA	\$2,000/yr

3. Continue submission of water quality data on Rice County water resources to STORET database annually.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD, RC Env Svcs, CRWP, MPCA	MPCA	\$250/yr
4. Assist with state/local monitoring & assessment efforts to further understand water resources.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD, RC Env Svcs, CRWP, MPCA	MPCA	\$1,250/year
Objective 2: Preserve/Restore Wetlands						
1. Promote incentive programs to preserve and restore wetlands.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD, BWSR, RC Env Svcs	BWSR, RC Env Svcs, SWCD	\$3,000/yr
2. Coordinate with partners to reestablish 15 acres of wetlands in areas identified in the restorable wetland inventory.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD	BWSR, SWCD, ENRTF, MN DNR (CPL), EPA Urban Waters Grants	\$40,000/yr
3. Continue to administer the State Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)	High	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD	BWSR, SWCD	\$48,500/yr
4. Promote and market wetland preservation and restoration programs such as CRP, WRP, RIM and BWSR Wetland Banks each year.	High	Sand Creek Watershed (Lower MN)	Ongoing	SWCD, NRCS, FSA, BWSR, Landowners	SWCD; BWSR-NRBG	\$1,500/yr
5. Promote and market 5 acres of wetland preservation and restoration programs such as CRP, WRP, RIM, and BWSR Wetland Banks each year.	High	Zumbro River Watershed	Ongoing	SWCD, NRCS, FSA, BWSR, Landowners	SWCD; BWSR-NRBG	\$3,000/yr

Objective 3: Improve/Protect Surface Water Resources						
1. Aquatic Invasive Species Management. Provide assistance to prevent the further spread and establishment of and for the management and control of invasive species.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	RC Env Svcs, SWCD, MN DNR	DNR Invasive Species Control Grant, legislative allocations	\$50,000/yr
2. Promote and implement agricultural BMPs in the Sand Creek watershed such as: water and sediment basins, grade control, grassed waterways, conservation tillage, nutrient management, wetland restoration, alternative tile intakes, terraces, critical area planting, diversions	High	Sand Creek Watershed (Lower MN)	Ongoing	SWCD, NRCS, FSA, BWSR, Landowner	SWCD	\$20,000/yr
3. Utilize information attained from terrain analysis to work with private landowners and apply for funding on priority projects	High	Cannon River Watershed	2016-2018	Rice SWCD, Rice Co. Env Svcs	BWSR	
4. Implement BMPs based on strategic analysis to provide water quality protection at Kelly, Cedar, and Fox Lakes	High	Kelly, Cedar, and Fox Lakes	2016-2018	Rice SWCD, Rice Co. Env Svcs	BWSR	\$250,000/yr
5. Based on existing water quality data, strategically place BMPs to remediate water quality at Sprague, Mud, and Hunt Lake	High	Sprague, Mud, and Hunt Lakes	2016-2018	Rice SWCD, Rice Co. Env Svcs	BWSR	\$250,000/yr

6. Work with Circle Lake Association to establish ravine stabilization at three existing gully erosion sites	High	Circle Lake	2016	Rice SWCD, Rice Co. Env Svcs	BWSR	\$90,000/yr
7. Repair/Restoration of eroding ravine located on the east side of Cannon River Wilderness Park	High	Cannon River Watershed	2017	Rice SWCD, Rice Co. Env Svcs	BWSR	\$40,000/yr
Objective 4: Education						
1. Provide public education on shoreline BMPs through the use of news articles, website/social media, lectures and workshops for county residents.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD, RC Env Svcs, CRWP	MN DNR, BWSR	\$3,000/yr
2. Provide educational materials to homeowners located in environmentally sensitive areas of Rice County.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	RC Env Svcs	BWSR	\$300/yr
Objective 5: Leadership						
1. Participate in Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy development and Watershed Planning efforts.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	RC Env Svcs, SWCD, CRWP, ZWP, Lower Minn	MPCA	\$4,550/yr
2. Partner with and provide technical assistance to the Rice County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA) and other lake associations/groups on projects to reduce water pollution and improve water quality.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	RC Env Svcs, SWCD, CRWP, Rice County COLA	BWSR	\$2,000/yr

Goal: Erosion Control

Reduce and Mitigate Instances of Erosion and Minimize Pollution Loading to Surface Water Resources in Rice County.

Objective 1: Provide leadership, education, and resources to assist contractors, landowners, LGUs, etc., in developing and implementing sound Best Management Practices

Objective 2: Agricultural/Feedlot Education

Action Item-Implementation Step	Priority	Focus Area	Proposed Timeframe	Responsible Agency/ Coordinator(s)	Possible Funding Source	Estimated Cost
Objective 1: Provide leadership, education, and resources to assist contractors, landowners, LGUs, etc., in developing and implementing sound Best Management Practices						
1. Conduct contractor workshops on pollution prevention BMPs for construction and agricultural projects.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice Co Env Svcs, SWCD, Extension	MPCA, MECA	\$2,500/yr
2. Provide technical assistance to contractors and landowners to implement soil erosion BMPs.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice Co Env Svcs., SWCD	MPCA, MECA	\$3,000/yr
3. Implement 40 Structural BMPs (sediment basins, grade stabilizers, grassed waterways, etc) annually	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice SWCD, NRCS	State and Federal (USDA, NRCS, BWSR)	\$250,000/yr
4. Implement 20 Management BMPs (tillage, cover crops, high tunnels, forestry etc) annually	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice SWCD, NRCS	State and Federal (USDA, NRCS, BWSR)	\$200,000/yr
5. Research methods to address ravine, ditch, stream bank, and shoreline erosion	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice SWCD, Rice Co Env Svcs	BWSR, NRCS, MPCA	\$2,500/yr

6. Seek funding for erosion control demonstration projects	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD, Rice Co Env Svcs.	BWSR, NRCS, MPCA, MECA	\$2,000/yr
7. Offer homeowners workshops on shoreline erosion control and BMPs.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice Co Env Svcs	MPCA, MN DNR	\$2,000/yr
8. Provide educational opportunities for contractors working on development projects	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice Co Env Svcs, Rice SWCD	MECA, MPCA	\$2,500/yr
9. Conduct one public education event showcasing a demonstration project on new and innovative BMPs, each year.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice SWCD	MECA, MPCA	\$5,000/yr
10. Utilizing existing Terrain Analysis Site Suitability Mapping, work with landowners to establish appropriate site BMPs.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice SWCD, Rice Co Env Svcs	BWSR CWF	\$200,000/yr
Objective 2: Agricultural/Feedlot Education						
Action Item-Implementation Step	Priority	Focus Area	Proposed Timeframe	Responsible Agency/ Coordinator(s)	Possible Funding Source	Estimated Cost
Assist three landowners with establishing and demonstrating conservation tillage and rotational grazing methods that provide environmentally sound practices	Medium	Zumbro River Watershed	Ongoing	SWCD, NRCS, ZWP	SWCD	\$2,000/yr

Goal: Ground Water

Protect the Ground Water Resources of Rice County

Objective 1: Provide support on source water protection and general ground water educational efforts

Objective 2: Assist in Well Sealing Efforts

Objective 3: Provide assistance in ground water monitoring and data collection

Objective 4: Assist in County-wide Water Conservation Efforts

Action Item-Implementation Step	Priority	Focus Area	Proposed Timeframe	Responsible Agency/ Coordinator(s)	Possible Funding Source	Estimated Cost
Objective 1: Provide support on source water protection and general ground water educational efforts						
1. Assist LGUs with Wellhead Protection Plan Implementation efforts.	Medium	Rice County Municipalities	Ongoing	RC Env Svcs., Municipalities, SWCD	Rice County Env Svcs, LGUs, MDH	\$2,500/yr
2. Provide/distribute educational materials to general public on ground water issues and well head protection	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Municipalities, SWCD, RC Env Svcs	Rice County Env Svcs, LGUs, MDH	\$2,500/yr
3. Distribute educational materials on ground water resource concerns to homeowners located in Karst regions within the county.	Medium	Sensitive Areas	Ongoing	RC Env Svcs, SWCD	Rice County Env Svcs, LGUs, MDH	\$800/yr
4. Assist Extension in hosting one educational event on protection of rural wells.	Medium	Countywide	2017	RC Env Svcs, SWCD	MDH	\$500
5. Continue to provide nitrate clinics to Rice County residents at no cost, in partnership with MDA	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	RC Env Svcs, MDA	MDA, Rice County Env Svcs, BWSR	\$1,000/yr

6. Distribute education materials to homeowners on well protection during/after flood events.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice Co Env Svcs	Rice County Env Svcs, MDA, BWSR	\$1,000/yr
7. Continue to offer well water quality testing kits to the residents of Rice County	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs.	Landowner	\$1,000/yr
8. Identify all SSTS systems within Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMAs) and seek funding to address non-compliant systems.	Medium	Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMAs)	2017	Rice County Env Svcs	Clean Water Funds, MPCA	\$18,000/yr
9. Provide assistance to one city in Rice County each year to work with landowners and map nutrient applications in Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMAs).	Medium	Drinking Water Supply Management Areas (DWSMAs)	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	Clean Water Funds, MPCA	\$2,500/yr
Objective 2: Assist in Well Sealing Efforts						
1. Seek funding or utilize state cost-share funds to seal three unused wells located in sensitive areas of the county per year.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs, SWCD	Clean Water Legacy, MDH	\$8,000/yr
2. Promote well sealing programs to well owners within WHP areas in one LGU each year.	High	WHP areas	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs, LGU	Clean Water Legacy, MDH, LGU	\$200/yr

Objective 3: Provide assistance in ground water monitoring and data collection						
1. Continue to support and administer the Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring program to obtain long-term water quality data on and determine trends for nitrates and other groundwater contaminants and water quality parameters.	Medium	Environmentally Sensitive Areas	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs, SEMWRB, MDA, MDH	MDA, MDH, BWSR, 319 Grant	\$3,000/yr
2. Coordinate with the Department of Health for storage and management of water quality data and continued ground water monitoring efforts.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	MDH, Rice County Env Svcs	\$2,500/yr
3. Share annual ground water quality and well sealing data with other local and state partner agencies.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	MDH, Rice County Env Svcs	\$100.00/yr
4. Educate 30 landowners on overall groundwater quality in Rice County each year.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	Rice County Env Svcs, BWSR	\$50.00/yr
Objective 4: Assist in County-wide Water Conservation Efforts						
1. Provide education materials to county residents on the importance of water conservation and water conservation practices.	Medium	Countywide	2017	Rice County Env Svcs, SWCD	BWSR, Rice County Env Svcs	\$50.00/yr
2. Coordinate a review team to provide professional and technical expertise on potential large scale ground water extraction projects.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs, SWCD, MN DNR	Rice County Env Svcs, BWSR, SWCD	\$1,500/yr

Goal: Storm Water

Protect and improve the quality of Rice County surface water resources by reducing discharges of storm water runoff and pollutant loads.

Objective 1: Storm water Runoff Reduction and Water Quality Improvement

Objective 2: Educate Public on Sound Storm Water Management Practices

Objective 3: Vegetative Buffer Evaluation

Objective 4: County Drainage System Management

Action Item-Implementation Step	Priority	Focus Area	Proposed Timeframe	Responsible Agency/ Coordinator(s)	Possible Funding Source	Estimated Cost
Objective 1: Storm water Runoff Reduction and Water Quality Improvement						
1. Conduct one demonstration project on native vegetation establishment in rural and/or urban areas.	Medium	Countywide	2017	Rice SWCD, Rice County Env Svcs	Clean Water Funds, 319	\$5,000
2. Provide technical assistance to contractors and property owners.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice SWCD, Rice County Env Svcs	Rice SWCD	\$4,000
3. Attend monthly plat review meetings.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice SWCD, RC Env Svcs	NRBG, Rice SWCD	\$3,000/yr
4. Seek and provide funding and technical assistance for two stream bank restorations and stabilization projects within Rice County.	High	Countywide	2018	Rice County Env Svcs, SWCD	Clean Water Funds, 319	\$45,000
5. Develop one urban storm water BMP demonstration site to display the water quality	Medium	Municipalities	2017	Rice County Env Svcs, SWCD, Municipalities	Clean Water Funds, 319	\$15,000

benefits of practices that reduce runoff and treat storm water.						
6. Utilize storm water retention/infiltration practices to reduce peak flooding events in Northfield and surrounding townships	High	Northfield/Surrounding Townships, Rice Creek Watershed	2016-2018	Rice SWCD, Rice Co. Env Svcs	FEMA, BWSR	\$750,000
7. Provide funding for storm water reduction projects within the Cannon River Watershed	High	Cannon River Watershed, Rice Creek Watershed	Ongoing	Rice SWCD, CRWP, Rice Co. Env Svcs	BWSR	\$30,000/yr
Objective 2: Educate Public on Storm Water Management						
1. Educate the public through rain garden promotion, as well as other low impact development and better site design techniques, infiltration and runoff reduction.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD, CRWP, U of M, Rice County Env Svcs	MECA, U of M Extension, SWCD	\$4,000/yr
2. Conduct a LID/Green Infrastructure Demonstration Project.	Medium	Countywide	2018	SWCD, U of M Extension, Municipalities	MECA, U of M, SWCD, EPA, Municipalities, Urban Waters Grants	\$45,000
3. Provide technical expertise, education and resources for implementation of environmentally sound storm water management practices.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs, SWCD, CRWP, U of M Extension	NRBG	\$4,500/yr

4. Seek and provide funding for five rain garden and infiltration basin retrofits within municipalities in Rice County to help achieve storm water volume and rate reduction.	High	Municipalities	2017	Rice County Env Svcs, SWCD, Municipalities, CRWP	Clean Water Funds	\$25,000
Objective 3: Vegetative Buffer Evaluation						
1. Review agricultural areas to determine whether storm water runoff is discharging through a vegetative buffer system or artificial wetland.	Medium	Countywide	2017	CRWP, SE MN WRB	LCCMR, CRWP, MPCA, Clean Water Legacy	\$4,000
2. Review shoreland areas to determine whether storm water runoff is discharging through a buffer system or artificial wetland.	Medium	Countywide	2017	CRWP, SE MN WRB	LCCMR, CRWP, MPCA, Clean Water Legacy	\$4,000
3. Continue to encourage establishment of quality vegetative buffers on all surface drainage and conveyance systems.	High	Countywide	2018	Rice County Env Svcs, CRWP, SWCD, SE MN WRB	LCCMR, CRWP, MPCA, Clean Water Legacy	175,000
Objective 4: County Drainage System Management						
1. Inventory and assess county drainage system to determine location and condition.	High	Countywide	2018	SWCD	Ditch Groups	\$15,000
2. Ensure that public drainage systems are operating and	High	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD	Ditch Groups	\$30,000

maintained in accordance with the State Drainage Law (M.S. Chapter 103E) and other applicable regulations.						
3. Pursue funds to complete a Drainage Management Study to inventory, map, identify, and prioritize projects within the County's drainage system.	High	Countywide	2016	SWCD, Auditor/Treasurer, Rice County Env Svcs	Clean Water Funds	\$65,000
4. Repair and maintain ditch system.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD	Ditch Group	\$25,000
5. Provide educational, technical, and financial assistance to landowners for alternative drainage demo projects (ex. blind intakes that replace open tile intakes). Assist with installation of one project annually.	High	Countywide	2017	SWCD, Auditor/Treasurer, Rice County Env Svcs	Clean Water Funds	\$25,000

Goal: Waste Disposal/Management

Ensure the proper disposal and management of septic and feedlot waste

Objective 1: Identification of small community wastewater issues-Unsewered

Objective 2: Septic System Upgrades

Objective 3: Septic System Education

Objective 4: Registration of Septage Land Application Sites

Objective 5: Agricultural/Feedlot Education

Objective 6: Provide Financial and Technical Assistance to feedlot owners/operators to achieve compliance

Objective 7: Nutrient Management

Objective 8: Applying GIS to Waste Management

Objective 9: Hazardous/Solid Waste Education and Coordination

Action Item-Implementation Step	Priority	Focus Area	Proposed Timeframe	Responsible Agency/Coordinator(s)	Possible Funding Source	Estimated Cost
Objective 1: Identification of small community wastewater issues-Unsewered						
1. Compile a list and locations of small unsewered communities in Rice County. Research parcel records to identify possible wastewater issues and assist the community in determining viable solutions.	High	Countywide	2016	Rice County Env Svcs	BWSR, Rice County Env Svcs	\$25,000
Objective 2: Septic System Upgrades						
1. Continue to locally administer the County's SSTS Program.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	BWSR, Rice County Env Svcs	\$55,000/yr
2. Work with homeowners to upgrade at least 20 IPHT per year	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	BWSR, MPCA	\$3,000/yr
3. Continue to offer low interest loan program to residents for upgrading septic systems.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	AgBMP	\$50,000/yr
4. Research and work with cities to establish a septage receiving station	Medium	Countywide	2017	Rice County Env Svcs	Rice County Env Svcs	\$50,000

Objective 3: Septic System Education						
5. Educate property owners on septic system maintenance, operation and impacts to surface and ground water resources.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	NRBG, RC Env Svcs	\$750/yr
6. Educate homeowners on the benefits of grey water systems and their environmental impact	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	NRBG, RC Env Svcs	\$6,000/yr
7. Provide information to lakeshore property owners on traditional and non-traditional septic systems for those with limited available space or other site limitations.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	NRBG, Rice County Env Svcs	\$5,000/yr
8. Host periodic educational workshops for licensed Septic Professionals	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	NRBG, RC Env Svcs	\$2,000/yr
9. Coordinate with Realtors, Attorneys, Financial Institutions and closing Agents to inform and educate on the county ordinance requirements for a property deed transfer.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	NRBG, RC Env Svcs	\$2,500/yr
10. Continue collaboration with the Southern Minnesota Wastewater Initiative to provide assistance to communities within the SE Region of MN with inadequate sewage treatment in finding wastewater management solutions.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs., SE MN WRB	Se MN WRB, Clean Water Legacy 319 Funds	\$8,500/yr
Objective 4: Registration of Septage Land Application Sites						
1. Update the Land application site registration process and forms to reflect changing nitrogen requirements due to crop rotation or non-harvested sites and the identification of suitable and unsuitable areas on the sites.	Medium	Countywide	2016	Rice County Env Svcs	RC Env Svcs	\$4,000

Objective 5: Agricultural/Feedlot Education						
1. Continue to locally administer the County's Feedlot Program to assist feedlot operators in obtaining and maintaining compliance with state regulations, and using proper land application techniques.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	Rice County Env Svcs, BWSR	\$60,000/yr
2. Provide education opportunities to farmers on manure setback requirements along streams and sensitive features/areas.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs., SWCD	Rice County Env Svcs., NRBG, SWCD	\$12,000/yr
3. Encourage the updating of 10 manure management plans per year	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs., SWCD	Clean Water Funds	\$7,500/yr
4. Evaluate ten feedlots using MinnFarm software and site evaluation	Medium	Countywide	2017	Rice SWCD	SWCD	\$2,250
Objective 6: Provide Financial and Technical Assistance to feedlot owners/operators to achieve compliance						
1. Continue to solicit funding for 10 low-cost feedlot improvements on feedlots with 300 AU or less yearly	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs., SWCD	Rice County Env Svcs., SWCD	\$1,250
2. Sign letters of intent with at least 2 feedlot owners interested in large feedlot fixes by August of each year for CWF submittals in the fall.	Medium	Countywide	2018	Rice County Env Svcs., SWCD	SWCD	\$500
3. Design and offer solutions to 5 feedlot owners/operators with pollution problems on open lot yearly.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs., SWCD	SWCD	\$12,500
Objective 7: Nutrient Management						
5. Support Public Education Workshops on topics such as Manure Management, Conservation Tillage, Technique Training, Rotational Grazing, etc.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD, CRWP, FSA, U of M Ext	MPCA 319, SWCD, Rice County Env Svcs, FSA, Extension	\$5,000/yr

6. Provide technical assistance to landowners on appropriate disposal of milk house waste.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs, SWCD	Rice County Env Svcs, SWCD	\$6,000/yr
7. Promote and market cost-share programs that assist with development of nutrient management plan and practice installation for two landowners yearly.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD	SWCD, Clean Water Funds	\$1,500/yr
8. Educate 5 feedlot owners/operators annually on the value of manure and importance of record keeping.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD, Rice County Env Svcs	NRBG	\$200/yr
9. Contact two companies annually that apply fertilizers to discuss proper management practices.	Medium	Countywide	Ongoing	SWCD, Rice County Env Svcs	SWCD, Rice County Env Svcs	\$500/yr
Objective 8: Applying GIS to Waste Management						
1. Create a GIS Data layer which identifies the locations of where septage is being land applied.	Medium	County-wide	2016	Rice County Env Svcs	Rice County Env Svcs	\$1,500
2. Maintain a database of the locations where manure is being applied.	Medium	County-wide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	Rice County Env Svcs	\$1,500/yr
Objective 9: Hazardous/Solid Waste Education and Coordination						
1. Distribute educational materials to one hundred homeowners annually informing what can and cannot be dumped, and how to properly dispose of certain materials.	Medium	County-wide	Ongoing	Rice County Environmental Services	Local Funds	\$85.00/year
2. Continue to provide a public education program on proper management of household hazardous waste products, promote the use of less hazardous products, and provide a facility and program to accept these waste products from residents	High	County-wide	Ongoing	Rice County Environmental Services	Local Funds	\$100.00/yr

3. Continue to provide a waste pesticide collection program for both Residential and Farm of unwanted, banned, & unusable pesticides/herbicides in partnership with MDA.	High	County-wide	Ongoing	Rice County Environmental Services	MDA	Disposal \$0 and labor reimbursed by local foundation grants
4. Support river cleanup projects that remove waste from riparian areas	Medium	County-wide	Ongoing	Rice County Environmental Services, CRWP	Carl/Verna Schmidt Foundation	\$2000/yr

Goal: Coordination

Work to ensure the goals of the Water Plan are being accomplished

Objective 1: Committee Meetings

Action Item-Implementation Step	Priority	Focus Area	Proposed Timeframe	Responsible Agency/ Coordinator(s)	Possible Funding Source	Estimated Cost
Objective 1: Committee Meetings						
1. The Rice County Water Plan Technical Committee will meet twice annually to determine/assess plan implementation progress, and what steps need to be taken to accomplish the plan's objectives.	High	Countywide	Ongoing	Rice County Env Svcs	Rice County Env Svcs., NRBG	\$1,000/yr