



# Kandiyohi SWCD

2020 REVIEW



# 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Conservation Poster Contest

Braxton Zimmer, Central Minnesota  
Christian School (CMCS)

- First place winner Kandiyohi County
- First place SWCD Area II contest







# MAWQCP

Over a dozen applications submitted in 2020  
7 were certified  
Several more are in the process  
New applications already coming in for 2021  
Great year for MAWQCP in Kandiyohi County!





# Soil Health Day Ridge Water College

- 6 workshops
- 200+ students
- Producer Q&A panel



# Conservation Day at the Stinger's Game



The Kandiyohi SWCD & Pheasants Forever went to conservation day at the stingers game. We had kids and adults create seed bombs with native seed and flowers and a bee house out of water bottles and straws. It was a successful event with lots of people taking part in the activities.



# 2020 Walk-In-Access Enrollment

- ▶ 12 Sites
- ▶ 1,158 Acres





# 2020 Buffer Law Compliance Reviews

- ▶ 6 townships checked
- ▶ About 500 parcel's checked for compliance
- ▶ Resolved noncompliance parcels
- ▶ So far 99%-100% Compliance in the County





# Cover Crops

- ▶ Cover crop funding is available for farmers in Kandiyohi County
- ▶ \$35/acres for one species, \$40/acre for multispecies
- ▶ Contracts are for 1 or up to 3 years
- ▶ Max of 25 acres
- ▶ Aimed for farmers who are just starting off with cover crops





# Conservation Reserve Program Assistance

CRP 2020

Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist:  
Aaron Wilson



Gray Tree Frog blending in on the leaf of a Spotted Joepeyweed



Painted Lady Butterfly feeding on Purple Coneflower



Bee collecting nectar from a Purple Prairie Clover



Site inspection of completed CRP contract management prescribed burn, along with the inspection of adjacent cropland that was enrolled into CRP. The seeding of native grasses and forbs was completed a spring of 2020.



Site inspection of a hay field that was enrolled into CRP, seeding of native grasses and forbs will occur spring of 2021.



CRP wetland restoration that was re-enrolled in 2020

A Chipping Sparrow nest spotted during the cover check of a re-enrolling CRP contract.



A Field Sparrow nest hidden in a cluster of native prairie grasses.



A "bunch" of Little Bluestem Grass. Site review of field to confirm CRP contract management mowing was completed



Sneezeweed



New England Aster



Blackeyed Susan





# Abandoned Well Sealing

One abandoned well sealing application received in 2020. Cost-share available in 2021 and beyond



# Invasive Species Education and Eradication

- ▶ Coordination of Invasive Phragmites Treatment project.
- ▶ 5 sites completed.
- ▶ CR #41 & CR 24 ROW's
- ▶ Foot Lake Homeowners Association
- ▶ Henjum WPA
- ▶ Brown site
- ▶ Willmar "dry" wetland





# Buckthorn Removal by NRCs







# Creeping Bellflower

2 new infestations  
discovered and  
reported in  
EDDMaps

Dovre and Norway  
Lake townships





Click an image for a larger view. See the [main description](#) for more information.

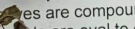
### Detailed Information

Flower:



Dense spikes of clusters  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches long of pea-shaped flowers on a long smooth stalk arising from leaf axils. Flowers are  $\frac{1}{3}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long, creamy white, the upper petal about twice as long as the lower. The tubular calyx holding the flower has several dark green prongs at the tip end, and is usually hairy.

Leaves and stems



Good, oval to egg-shaped, and densely covered in soft hairs (pubescent). It forms a tail at the tip. The seed becomes more stiff and the seed rots.

as: Cicely Milkvetch

Genus: Agalax

Family: Leguminosae (Pea)

Life cycle: perenn

Origin: Europe

Habitat: part shade, s

moist soil; dist

August

Bloom: June - August  
Season:

**Plant height:** 12 to 30 inches

Wetland none

Indicator

Status.

### MN county distribution

(click map to

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National  
distribution

(click map to

enlarge).

Licorice (Glycyrrhiza)

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# Chickpea Milk Vetch

- ▶ First confirmed report of Chickpea Milk-Vetch in Kandiyohi County (Kandiyohi township)



# 2020 Projects







# Howard Johnson Manure Pit Closure

Water plan funds were spent to close a manure pit that was no longer in use. The location of this pit is south of Willmar in Whitefield township.





# Kandiyohi County Park #5 (Green Lake) Shoreline & Beach Restoration





Everson WASCOB





# Schlagel WASCOB's

2 Water and Sediment Control Basins near Lake Wakanda





# Larson Wetland Restoration





# SWCD Native Seed Program 2020

1,089 acres planted/installed  
for 89 Cooperators





Pollinator plantings  
-Ringo Lake;  
Westrich Addition





# Ziegler Caterpillar Pollinator Planting





# Kandiyohi County Field Office Rain Garden

Planted in June 2019, forbs and grasses  
came up great in 2020. The rain garden  
has been successful so far







# Tree Plantings in 2020



# Upcoming Projects

## 2021 MN DNR, Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL) Grant

- Partnership with the City of Willmar
- Enhancement of five City Parks
- Conversion of traditional turf grasses to native Pollinator and Butterfly habitat plantings.
- Self-guided interpretive trails highlighting the importance of Pollinators and native plants.
- Cost savings through reduced future park maintenance







# 2021 Shakopee Stream Bank Project:

- 250 ft Streambank restoration
- Estimated pollution reductions of 38 tons sediment per year  
38 pounds of phosphorus per year



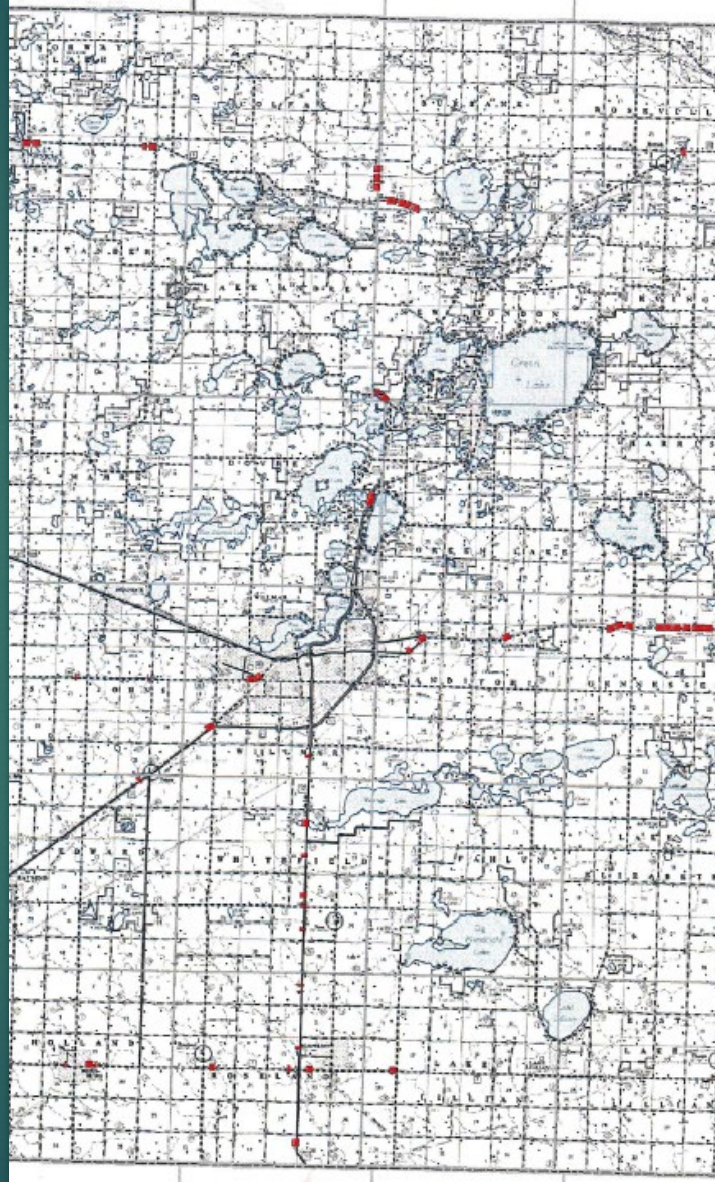
# Idecker WASCOB



3 Water and Sediment Control  
Basins to be installed 2021







# Living Snow Fences

3 Living Snow Fences planned for 2021

- Hwy 7 & 71
- Hwy 4 & 55
- Hwy 12

Areas marked RED on map have been identified as critical priority areas for additional Living Snow Fences.



# Friedlein Wetland Restoration Project Before

- ▶ To be completed in 2021
- ▶ 3 wetlands, total of 7 acres





# We Thank You!

- ▶ The Kandiyohi SWCD staff thanks you all for your support! We look forward to another year of implementing more conservation practices in Kandiyohi County!



Year #2 of Pollinator  
planting at PWELC