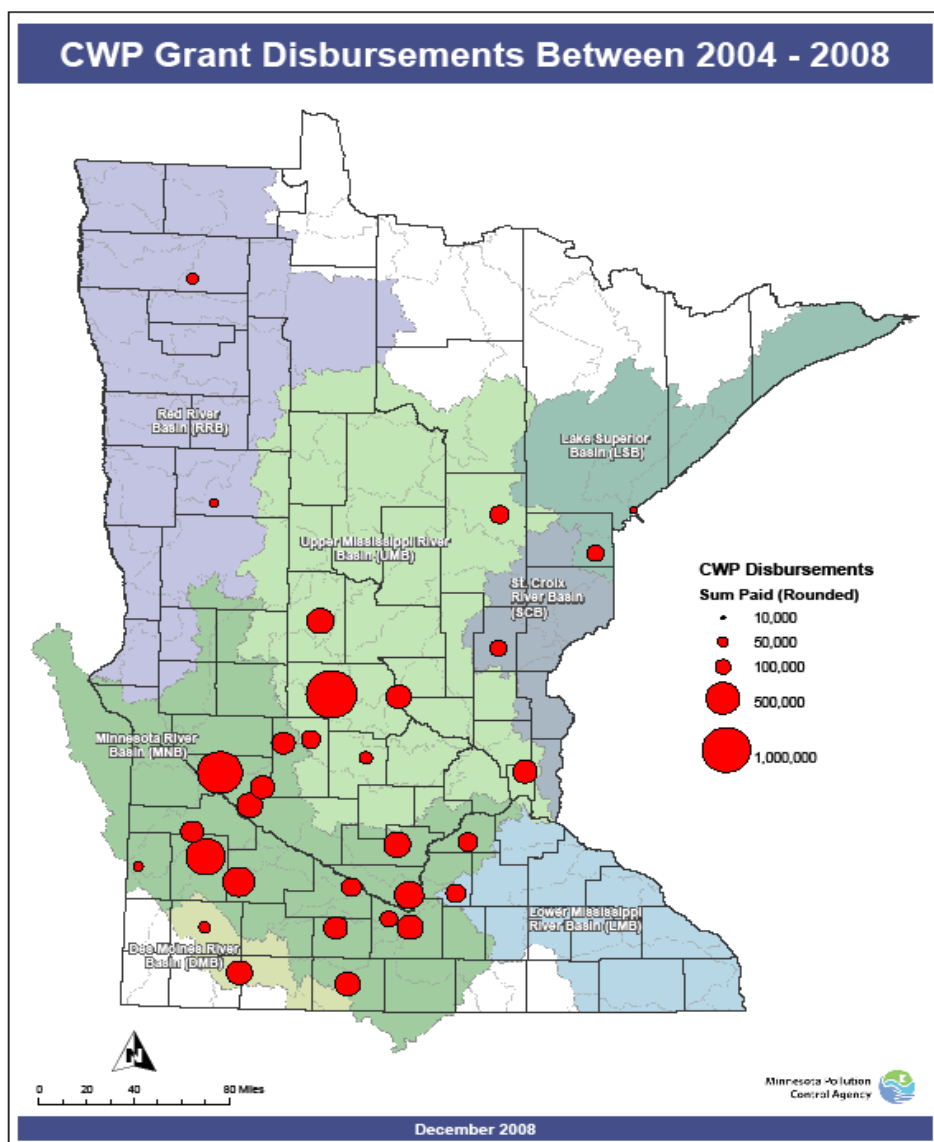


# An Overview of the Clean Water Partnership Program

## Program Purpose

The Clean Water Partnership (CWP) Program was created in 1987 by the Minnesota Legislature to address surface and ground water pollution from agricultural and urban sources. Through the program, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) supports the efforts of local units of government and citizens by providing financial and technical assistance to:

- diagnose problems and threats to water resources
- develop solutions for addressing these problems
- and implement these solutions to fix the problems that negatively impact lakes, streams and ground water, as well as to protect waters in good condition



Partners may receive funding from two separate sources to address nonpoint source water pollution associated with runoff from agricultural and urban areas and other sources. The state CWP Program and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency funding through Section 319 of the Clean Water Act allow local governments to assess and clean up water resources, promote public awareness, share information, and leverage resources to achieve greater environment benefits.

## Types and Sources of Pollution Addressed by the CWP

Pollution that negatively affects our water resources comes in the form of:

- nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen, that grow algae in our water
- bacteria that can make waters unhealthy to drink or swim in
- soil that makes our waters cloudy and dirty

Some sources of these pollutants addressed by the Clean Water Partnership Program include:

- urban and agricultural runoff
- feedlots
- failing septic systems

The CWP Program is administered in tandem with the Clean Water Act Section 319 Program. This federal grant program also addresses pollution sources, such as runoff, excess nutrients and bacteria.

## Results of the CWP Program

In the 21 award cycles of the CWP Program, the MPCA has awarded over \$33,000,000 in grants and over \$50,000,000 in loans to watershed projects all over the state. The project partners match CWP funds at least one-to-one. The CWP Program has leveraged over \$150 million in state, local and federal grant, and loan programs.

An analysis of environmental results of the program was recently performed for the period of 1996 to 2008.

These pollution reductions were achieved by public and private partners working together to establish best land-use and water management practices, through the CWP Program, other assistance programs and the federal Clean Water Act.

## Results that Count

### Reduction in erosion and phosphorus in Minnesota's watersheds

#### LARS and eLINK results from Section 319 & CWP projects 1997–May, 2008

The table following shows progress through May 2008 based on previous Local Annual Reporting System (LARS) reporting (1997-2002) and reporting data from eLINK (2003 – May 2008). Based on LARS/eLINK reporting by Clean Water Partnership (CWP) and Section 319 Project Partners, these projects are estimated to have reduced soil loss from 1998 through May 2008 by more than 180,000 tons/year. During the same period, sedimentation was estimated to have been reduced by over 70,000 tons/year. Phosphorus loading was estimated to have been reduced by over 265,000 pounds/year.

Pollution reduction estimate type	# of BMPs	Estimated soil loss reduction (tons/yr)	Estimated sediment reduction (tons/yr)	Estimated phosphorus reduction (pounds/yr)
Feedlot	159	0	0	6,190
Filter Strip Project	573	64,567	30,829	35,514
Gully Stabilization	196	11,878	7,643	8,354
Sheet & Rill Erosion Control	312	43,331	28,386	35,833
Stream & Ditch Stabilization	101	5,190	5,190	4,815
Wind Erosion	54	52,629	0	555
Other	2,069	2,817	0	175,104
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,464</b>	<b>180,412</b>	<b>72,048</b>	<b>266,366</b>

For more information about the CWP Program, contact the MPCA at 651-296-6300 or 800-657-3864. Find case studies of specific CWP projects at: [www.pca.state.mn.us/water/cwp.html](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/cwp.html).