Agricultural Practices
For South Central MN

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Rural Advantage/ BERBI
BERBI Prioritization Policy

- **All Projects are located:**
  - Within 1000 feet of surface water; or
  - Within 1000 feet of an open tile intake; or
  - Within the floodplain; or
  - A local priority

- **Practice type priority:**
  - Ag Waste
  - Erosion Control
  - Streambank
BERBI Results:

- ~$ 8,000,000
- 13 years
- **Estimated 9% Reduction in Pollution Load**
  - To the MN River from the Blue Earth River System

*It is not enough!*
  - We do not have 40 years to achieve clean water.
If we are serious about meeting our water quality goals,

Then we need to take our Implementation efforts to a higher level.

- Higher level BMP’s
- Cropping System Change
- Targeting
Martin County Water
Plan 2006 - 2016
Traditional Agricultural BMP’s

• Applied To All Lands in the County
  − < 2% Slope
  − 2 to 6% Slope, Within 200 feet of Surface Water

• BMP’s Included:
  − Residue Management
  − Conservation Tillage
  − Nutrient Management
  − Vegetated Buffers
Precision Conservation

- Higher Level BMP’s
- **Precision Conservation**
  - A term adopted to mean higher level BMP’s that are strategically targeted to environmentally sensitive areas.
Precision Conservation Should Be Applied:

• To the following Landscape Characteristics:
  – Steeper Slopes
  – Droughty Soils
  – Areas of Concentrated Overland Flow
  – Close Proximity to Surface Waters
  – Size of Contributing Watershed Area
  – Seasonal and Intermittent Streams
  – Cropping System
  – Floodplain Areas
  – Within 30 feet of an Open Tile Intake
  – Poorly Drained Soils
2% to 6% [B] Slopes
Within 200 feet of Surface Water

- Waterways for Concentrated Overland Flow
- Terraces
- Cover Crops
- Higher Levels of Residue Management
- Perennial Cropping Systems
- Sediment Control Basins
- Filter Strips of Perennial Vegetation
- Water Storage
6% to 12% [C] Slopes Located Anywhere

- Waterways for Concentrated Overland Flow
- Terraces
- Cover Crops
- Higher Levels of Residue Management
- Perennial Cropping Systems
- Sediment Control Basins
- Filter Strips of Perennial Vegetation
- Adjacent to Surface Waters Establish Filter Strips of Appropriate Width for the Size of the Contributing Watershed Area
12% to 18% [D] Slopes Located Anywhere

- No Till
- Perennial Cropping Systems
- Critical Area Plantings
18% to 25% [E] and 18% to 40% [F] Slopes – Located Anywhere

- Pasture
- Long Term Perennial Cropping Systems
- Wildlife Habitat
Soil Survey Easily Shows Slope
Targeting Tools