

# Wabasha SWCD

## MONITORING PLAN FOR BUFFER COMPLIANCE TRACKING

§103F.48 RIPARIAN PROTECTION AND WATER QUALITY PRACTICES

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### 1. COMPLIANCE TRACKING OF ALL PARCELS SUBJECT TO THE BUFFER LAW

All parcels in the county are to be reviewed within a 3 year timeframe. The Wabasha SWCD will review 1/3 of parcels in Wabasha County each year. These checks may be conducted via aerial photo review or on-site review depending on availability of updated aerial photos and the practice that is being checked/access to farms.

### 2. Random SPOT CHECKS

Random Spot checks will be done in addition to the tracking of all parcels within a 3 year span. These checks may be conducted via aerial photo review or on-site review depending on availability of updated aerial photos and the practice that is being checked/access to farms. A combination of both aerial and on-site review may also be used.

- a. The Wabasha SWCD will conduct random spot checks on up to 10% of the parcels each year outside of the scheduled area.
- b. Additionally, the Wabasha SWCD will review parcels of emphasis more frequently.
  - Previously non-compliant
  - No-till/Conservation tillage or cover crop alternative practice plans
  - Variable width buffers (i.e. Land O' Lakes buffer tool, Decision Support Tool)
  - Other Alternative Practice Plans
  - Cost-share funded projects (years 1,3,9 of contract)
  - Parcels of further emphasis (potential violators)

### 3. PROCESS TO HANDLE COMPLAINTS

When a complaint from a private individual or entity, or from another public agency is received. The Wabasha SWCD will communicate with the landowner to do an inspection of their buffer. If the parcel is found to be non-compliant the Wabasha SWCD will issue a Notice of Non-compliance to the County and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. If the parcel is found to be compliant the Wabasha SWCD will issue a Validation of Compliance if applicable and requested by the landowner.