

# DAKOTA COUNTY SWCD MONITORING PLAN FOR BUFFER COMPLIANCE TRACKING

## §103F.48 RIPARIAN PROTECTION AND WATER QUALITY PRACTICES

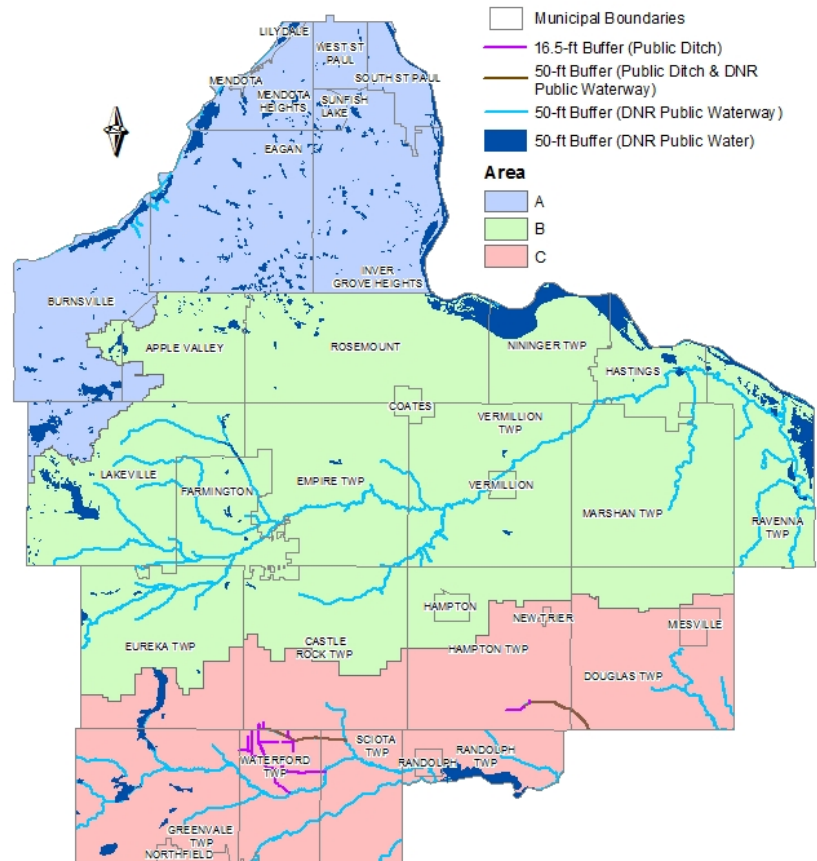
### 1. COMPLIANCE TRACKING OF ALL PARCELS SUBJECT TO THE BUFFER LAW

All parcels in the county are to be reviewed within a 3 year timeframe. Dakota County SWCD staff, in partnership with Dakota County who also administers buffer requirements under local ordinances, strive to inspect all parcels every year. However, at a minimum, 1/3 of the parcels countywide will be inspected each year based on the attached map. Parcels will be inspected for compliance with Buffer Law requirements as specified within Dakota County Ordinance 50.

### 2. RANDOM SPOT CHECKS

Random spot checks will be done in addition to the tracking of all parcels within a 3 year span. The SWCD will conduct a random spot check review on 5-10% of parcels each year outside of the scheduled area. Additionally, the SWCD will review parcels of emphasis more frequently. Examples include:

- Previously non-compliant parcels
- Cost-share funded projects
- Parcels that have recently gone through ownership change or land use change



### 3. PROCESS TO HANDLE COMPLAINTS

- When a complaint is received, SWCD staff will work in conjunction with Dakota County to determine compliance. Available tools (aerial photography, GIS maps, oblique imagery) along with a site visit (if accessible) will be used.
- If a parcel is determined to be in compliance, the complaint will be dismissed and the SWCD may issue a Validation of Compliance if requested by landowner.
- If a parcel is found to be out of compliance, the SWCD will work with the landowner to come into compliance within a specified timeframe.
- If a parcel does not become compliant within the specified timeframe, the SWCD will inform Dakota County and the MN Board of Soil and Water Resources for enforcement.