



West Polk Soil and
Water Conservation
District
Crookston MN

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 West Polk County are to be reviewed within a 3-year timeframe. West Polk SWCD will review 1/3 of all parcels subject to MN §103F.48 annually. Attached is a map defining West Polk SWCD's monitoring regions. (*Attachment A*).

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 random spot checks on 25-50 parcels each year outside of each scheduled area.

Additionally, the SWCD will review parcels of emphasis more frequently. Parcels of emphasis may include:

- Previously non-compliant
- No-till/Conservation tillage or cover crop alternative practice plans
- Other implemented Alternative Practice Plans
- Cost-share funded projects (years 1,3,9 of contract)
- Parcels warranting further emphasis (indicators of potential violation)
- Parcels with changes in ownership

3. PROCESS TO HANDLE COMPLAINTS

SWCD process to address/investigate public complaints (buffer compliance).

Public complaints regarding parcel non-compliance with MN §103F.48, received by West Polk SWCD, will be addressed/investigated by all means available to SWCD technical staff (including direct landowner contact and on-site visit) while endeavoring to preserve the anonymity of the party initiating the complaint. West Polk SWCD will determine if any technical assistance relative to the potential non-compliant parcel(s) has been previously sought. In cases where SWCD efforts to achieve parcel compliance by voluntary means prove exhausted, non-compliant parcel owners will be referred to Polk County Planning and Zoning for enforcement proceedings under provision MN §103B.101 and adopted Polk County Ordinances.