

# MINNESOTA'S COASTAL NONPOINT PROGRAM

## IMPLEMENTATION GRANT ACTIVITIES



The task of preventing nonpoint source pollution seems overwhelming: How do we control the pollution that comes from virtually *everywhere*? In Minnesota, our Coastal Nonpoint Program grants have enabled local entities to offer technical, engineering, and forestry-related assistance in order to reduce non point source pollution to Lake Superior. Nonpoint Program implementation grant activities address Management Measures relating to Agriculture, Forestry, Urban/Rural Areas, Hydromodification and Streambank and Shoreland Erosion, Wetlands, Riparian Areas and Vegetated Treatment Systems.

### Technical Assistance

Coastal Nonpoint grant have allowed Lake Superior Watershed Soil Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) strengthen their roles as leaders in erosion and stormwater runoff issues. SWCDs provide Technical Assistance and site visits to landowners on non point source issues such as lake shore erosion, stream bank stabilization, forest buffer planting, and pasture management. SWCDs also help to ensure that new and innovative technical information is disseminated around the watershed by providing trainings and workshops for engineers, contractors, managers, and other resource professionals. Local projects are highlighted at roundtable discussions, workshops, and tours. Highlighted projects include construction sediment and erosion control Best Management Practices, rain gardens, grassed swales, pervious pavement, and biofiltration trenches.



Pasture Management assistance in Carlton County



Stormwater projects featured in Duluth newspaper



Construction BMP demo at Lake/Cook County Workshop



Site visit related to lake shore erosion in Carlton County



Lake shore stabilization site



Tour stop at the UMD Rain Garden

### Engineering Assistance

Shared engineering services in the basin provide resources and assistance for several local projects to reduce non point source pollution. One project was initiated by a North Shore Elementary School class learning about watersheds. Students noticed a gully actively eroding and providing sediment to a local stream. Engineering assistance was critical to designing and building a 1,000 square foot rain garden to treat curb erosion and treat stormwater runoff from a newly paved parking lot at the school.

North Shore Community School Rain Garden Engineering Assistance



**Before:** an eroding gully causing non point source pollution



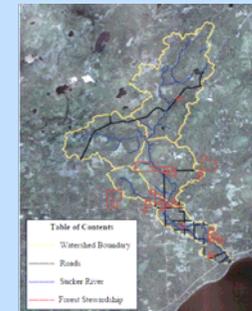
**After:** a rain garden is planted to treat stormwater runoff



Joint Powers Board Engineer Keith Anderson explains biofiltration to a tour group

### Forestry Assistance

Coastal Nonpoint grant funding was used to implement Forest Stewardship planning and implementation assistance in the Lake Superior Watershed. A searchable, GIS-based database of private forest stewardship plans was developed. The database is used by SWCD staff to target forestry assistance to landowners with Forest Stewardship Plans. Forest management, conifer restoration, riparian buffer planting, and other forestry assistance is offered via the Lake Superior watershed SWCDs.



Forest Stewardship Plans in the Sucker River Watershed



Forestry assistance offer from the South St. Louis SWCD



Manual and Mechanical Tree Planting Activities in Carlton County

