

ANNUAL PLAN

- The Annual Plan is developed as an outline for the District as an entity to stay organized and progress forward with a distinct set of goals and objectives in mind. To effectively manage the resources within the county, it is beneficial for staff, the board and participating stakeholders and agencies to have a mutual understanding of the direction the SWCD intends to travel to satisfy its management objectives.

PRIORITIES OF THE LYON SWCD

Prevent Wind, Water and Soil Erosion

- **Improve Water Quality and Promote Water Conservation**
- **Promote Conservation and Resource Programs**
- **Promote Energy Conservation**
- **Improve Wildlife Habitat**

These priorities reflect the concerns described in the Lyon County Local Comprehensive Water Management Plan.



2026

LYON SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Lyon SWCD is to:

- Establish programs that assist in the protection of the public health, safety and welfare through Soil & Water Conservation and Protection.
- Encourage land occupiers to conserve and protect our water and soil resources, implement erosion, sediment control and water quality practices.
- Promote conservation through education, trained personnel and supervisors.
- Seek and implement conservation practices and programs that will benefit the landowner, the county, local watersheds, and the nation.



LYON SWCD SUPERVISORS

LYON SWCD AREA SUPERVISORS

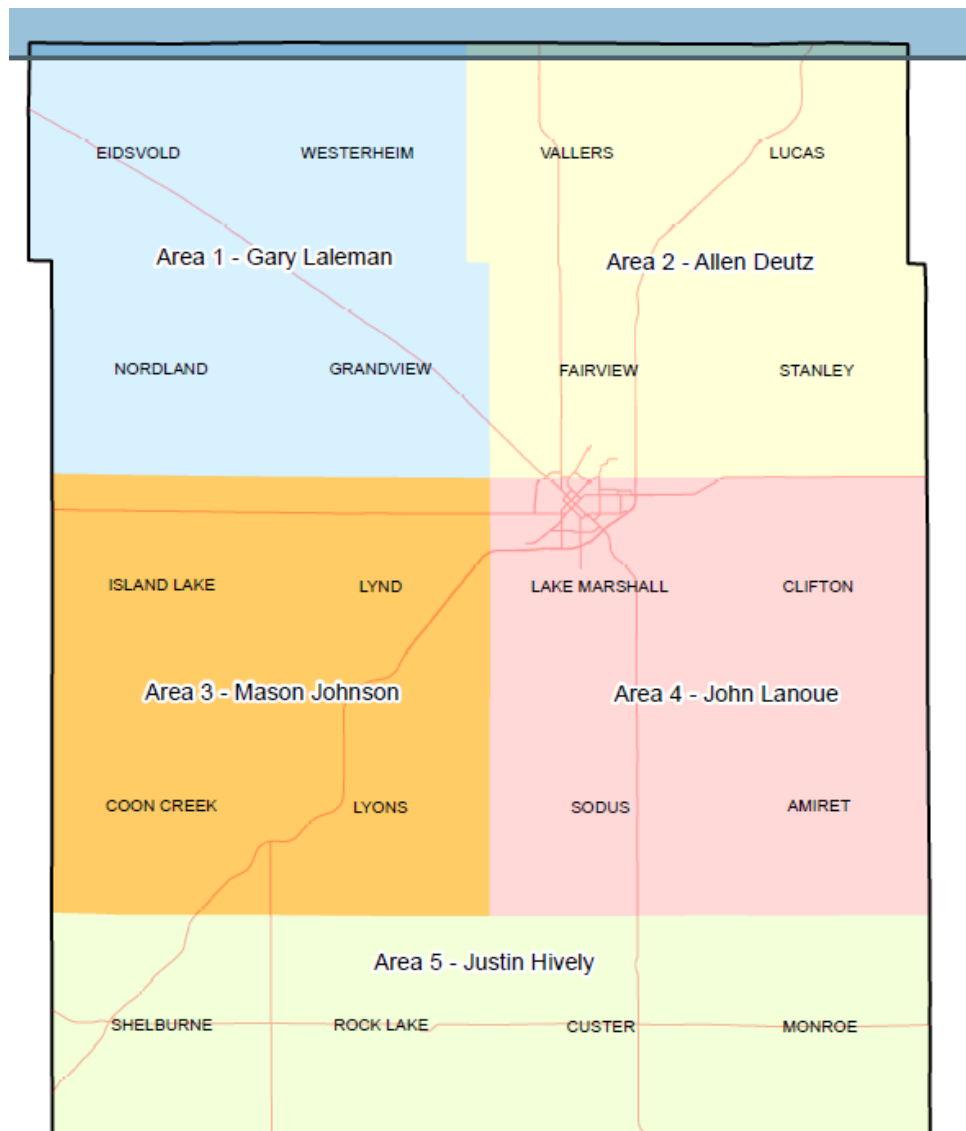
GARY LALEMAN - AREA 1

ALLAN DEUTZ - AREA 2

MASON JOHNSON - AREA 3

JOHN LANOUE - AREA 4

JUSTIN HIVELY- AREA 5



LYON SWCD & NRCS STAFF

SWCD STAFF:

JOHN BIREN - DISTRICT/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

BROCK BOERBOOM - CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN

BEN SKORCZEWSKI - CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN

VACANT – CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN

MARK PEPPER - FARM BILL PHEASANTS FOREVER BIOLOGIST

ANITA CAUWELS - ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

NRCS STAFF:

KELLY HEATHER – DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST -TEAM LEAD

HAILEY CARON – DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

OWEN COLLINS - AGRONOMIST

JEREMY LARSON – CIVIL ENGINEER TECHNICIAN – STATE OFFICE



From Left to Right: Back – Brock Boerboom, Lyon SWCD – Owen Colline, NRCS, Jeremy Larson, NRCS – Blake Giles, Lyon SWCD

Front – Hailey Bornitz, NRCS – Courtney Williams, Lyon SWCD, John Biren, Lyon SWCD – Kelly Heather, NRCS – Anita Cauwels, Lyon SWCD

2026 LYON SWCD ANNUAL PLAN

The SWCD was established in 1945, as a result of the devastation to soil resources in the 1930's. The District works closely and cooperatively with the local staff from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to implement programs and activities. In the past 60+ years, beneficial partnerships have been established with watershed management organizations, and other local, state and federal agencies.

The District has had many changes within the last few years. There were two major factors that contributed to the current structure and direction of the SWCD: the abrupt shift in staff and the District becoming a department of the county, rather than a separate public entity. Through these changes, the District has continued to address conservation issues based on the fundamental guidelines presented in its mission.

OBJECTIVES

- Maintain efficient SWCD operations
- Provide assistance to land users in high priority wind, soil and water erosion areas of the county and watershed areas.
- Provide assistance to land users in the high priority areas of the county and watersheds to improve the quality of water in areas that have been identified as impaired.
- Provide information and education to the public on the benefits and need to protect and reduce use of our resources.
- Implement EEO and Civil Rights Responsibilities

The Lyon SWCD Board of Supervisors has, under staff recommendation, agreed up a focused set of conservation practices to ensure that objectives of the SWCD are met. These practices largely correlate to available funding for projects that will provide measureable solutions to resource degradation issues. While promoting all practices that will remediate resources management issues on the ground, the SWCD will provide focus on the following practices: Grass Waterways, Livestock, Waste Management, Filter Strips, Sediment Basins, Soil Health

Practices, Streambanks/Shoreland and Roadside Protection, Terraces, Unused Well Sealing (upon SWCD board approval).

Cost share priority will still be broken down based on the program requirements previously established in the work plan:

COST SHARE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- High Priority Erosion Problems
- High Priority Sedimentation Problems
- High Priority Feedlots
- High Priority Water Quality Problems

Projects and studies will also gravitate towards priority areas within the county that need concentrated focus to see results. These areas have been identified also in the District's State Cost Share Policy: Lower Yellow Medicine River Watershed, Yellow Medicine River Watershed (lower MN dissolved oxygen TMDL), Redwood River/Cottonwood River TDML, and Des Moines Watershed TMDL. TMDL refers to 'Total Maximum Daily Load' and reflects the amount of inputs entering a watershed from the surrounding landscape while still maintaining clear water standards.

The SWCD will also be taking a proactive approach in providing outreach to youth, stakeholder, participating agencies, and other parties with an interest in conserving the county's resources. Similar to past years, funding and man-hours will be delegated to ensuring that the youth of the county are exposed to wise stewardship and the aspect of resource management. The District intends to provide this through involvement in, but not limited to - The Environmental Fair, field day experiences provided by environmental educators and Prairie Ecology Bus visits to area schools.

2026 COST SHARE PROJECT FUNDING

Water Planning	\$13,689
Conservation Delivery	\$19,224
Wetland Conservation Act	\$8,778
SWCD Aid	\$132,923
Soil Health Delivery	\$100,000
Soil Health Practices (RCPP)	\$180,000
Conservation Contracts	\$16,930