

FINAL REPORT SUMMARY

PRAP

Performance Review and Assistance Program

2009 Level II Review: Dodge County Local Water Management (*Dodge County*)

Why BWSR did this review

BWSR conducts Level II performance reviews to help local government water management entities to be the best they can be in plan implementation and overall operational effectiveness. In 2009 BWSR conducted Level II performance reviews of nine different local water management entities.

BWSR has conducted a routine Level II performance review of the **Dodge County Environmental Services Department** because they are near the midpoint in implementing their 10-year watershed management plan.

This document includes findings and recommendations to enhance the overall operation and effectiveness of the county's local water management. The county is responsible for taking any actions they deem necessary in response to this report.

Dodge County Environmental Services Local Water Management Summary of Performance Review Results

What BWSR Found

The Dodge County Environmental Services Department is making good progress in implementing the core activities of its local water



management plan. Moreover, the county has been able to pursue and apply resources to make progress on a majority of the accessory activities in the plan.

The county staff has taken a leadership position in the delivery of water management and land conservation services in Dodge County. They can point to successes in their engagement with citizens and landowners in the water monitoring program, expansion of capacity in their feedlot program, in expanded zoning authority, and in general environmental education. The county has also demonstrated the ability to work collaboratively with other local government entities to accomplish planned objectives.

The Dodge County Environmental Services Office is commended for meeting these high performance operational standards.

- ★ Annual plan priorities based on water quality trend data
- ★ Data are collected to track outcomes for priority concerns
- ★ Water quality trends tracked for priority water bodies
- ★ Obtained stakeholder input within last 5 years
- ★ Partnerships with SWCDs/watershed district on projects
- ★ Track outcomes for public education objectives
- ★ Local water plan is linked on the county website
- ★ Water management ordinances on the county website

BWSR recommends that the county consider an annual reporting mechanism that ties accomplishments to planned objectives.

The county submitted comments to correct information that was contained in the draft of this report.