



# Rock River Turbidity and Fecal Coliform Reduction



## Clean Water Funds: 2011

Clean Water Grant	\$46,598
Leveraged Funds*	\$21,587
Total Project Budget	\$68,185

\* Leveraged Funds include required 25% local match

**Targeted Water:**  
Rock River

**Project Sponsor:**  
Rock LMO/SWCD

**Partners:**  
US Fish & Wildlife Service, MN DNR, Southwest Prairie TSA, and Local Landowners

**Grant Period:**  
January 2011 - December 2012

**Project Contact:**  
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## Project Narrative

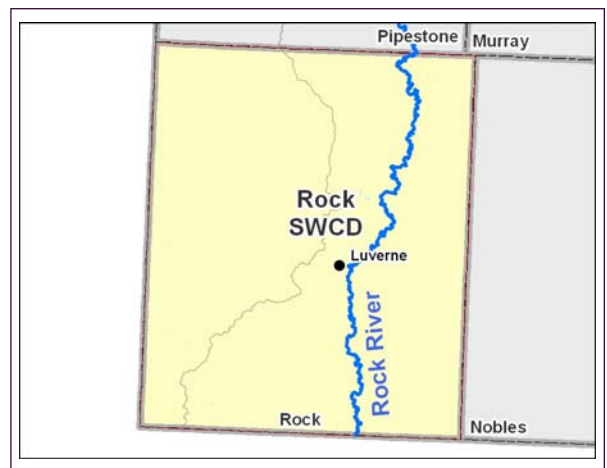
The Rock River is classified as impaired for bacteria and turbidity by the EPA. Local citizens and farmers assisted in writing an Implementation plan that lists stream bank stabilization and city storm water management as priority implementation strategies to address these impairments of the Rock River.

The Clean Water Fund grant provides \$46,598 for these projects but also leverage over \$19,000 of US Fish and Wildlife dollars along with over \$13,000 of local match from the landowners.

Two stream bank projects will eliminate eroding stream bank erosion from 5' to 15' of vertical stream banks along 1600' of the Rock River. Rock j-hooks will be installed to divert the energy of the stream back to the center and then the banks will be back sloped and hydro seeded to stabilize the banks.

Three rain gardens will be installed to filter out bacteria and sediment from parking lots and roofs along with other pollutants while retaining storm water on the landscape. This slowing in the delivery of storm water to the Rock River will reduce stream bank erosion by reducing stream loading during storm events. These rain gardens are built by excavating 2-3 feet of soil and replacing it with a sand/compost mix that creates a "sponge" to soak up and slowly release storm water. The gardens also become a visually pleasing planting that attract butterflies and birds.

One of the rain gardens is a unique project in the fact that it was initiated by a high school student for his church courtyard and was part of his Eagle Scout Project. The rain garden site is not accessible by earth moving equipment and will be totally excavated and back filled by this student and his friends. The project location will be excellent for promotion and education of the positive effects of rain gardens.



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Streambank Stabilization in Progress



Finished Stabilization



Rain Garden Installation