



NEWS RELEASE

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BWSR Seeks Comments on Buffer, Soil Loss Program Implementation

St. Paul, Minn. —The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is charged with overseeing program implementation of the buffer law. The agency is currently seeking public comment on key components of its Buffer and Excessive Soil Loss programs.

The Requests for Comment and supporting documents are available on the BWSR Buffer Program website: <http://bwsr.state.mn.us/buffers/> and include specific questions related to program development. BWSR is looking for feedback on:

- Program timeline
- Technical aspects of the program
- Administrative processes
- 'Other Waters' – waters not covered under the DNR's mapping process as determined by the local soil and water conservation district
- Process for the Soil Erosion law implementation

Comments from stakeholders are a key part of the process, and will be considered during program development. The BWSR Board will review draft policy and guidance for the buffer program at its June 2016 Board meeting. The Soil Loss program will undergo rulemaking in the fall. For information on the DNR Buffer Mapping Project, visit <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/buffers/index.html>.

Information and comments on buffer and soil loss program implementation will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on May 4, 2016. Comments may be submitted via email to buffers.bwsr@state.mn.us or via U.S. mail to David Weirens, Asst. Director for Programs and Policy, BWSR, 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155.

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