



# Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Grant Program 1-3-18

**Program Purpose:** To establish strong and sustainable CWMA's across Minnesota for the effective control of invasive species and protection of conservation lands and natural areas.

**What is a CWMA?** ...a local organization that provides a mechanism for sharing invasive species management resources across jurisdictional boundaries in order to achieve widespread invasive species prevention and control.

## Reasons CWMA's are Needed Across Minnesota

- 1) They provide effective weed mapping, education, outreach and management leading to the control of emerging and established invasive species.
- 2) They work effectively across geographic and ownership boundaries.
- 3) They develop strong partnerships to leverage expertise and funding
- 4) They help prevent significant ecological and economic losses from invasive species
- 5) They protect the diversity and resiliency of natural areas and conservation lands.



Roseau CWMA working with County Commissioners

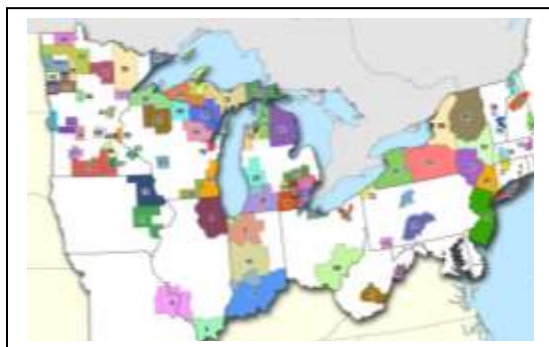
## CWMA and Program Funding History:

CWMA's started in western states to manage grazing lands. Clay County had the first Minnesota CWMA, acting as a model for the BWSR program that started in 2008.

- FY 2008/2009 - \$400,000 (legislative appropriation)
- FY 2010/2011 - \$200,000 (legislative appropriation)
- FY 2012 - \$232,470 (funded with cost-share roll-over funds)
- FY2013 – No funding available
- FY 2014/2015 - \$200,000 (legislative appropriation)
- FY 2016/2017 - \$200,000 (legislative appropriation)
- FY 2018/2019 - \$200,000 (legislative appropriation)
- FY 2020/2020 - \$200,000 (legislative appropriation)

## Current Status of Program

Minnesota CWMA's cover 43 counties, making the state on-par with other Midwest states. Future funding sources will be needed to develop new groups and sustain existing groups.



CWMA's across the Midwest (2013)



**CWMA Models:** The following are three examples of how CWMA's are tackling weed issues across Minnesota:



Marsha Watland of Becker CWMA meeting with landowners

### Becker CWMA

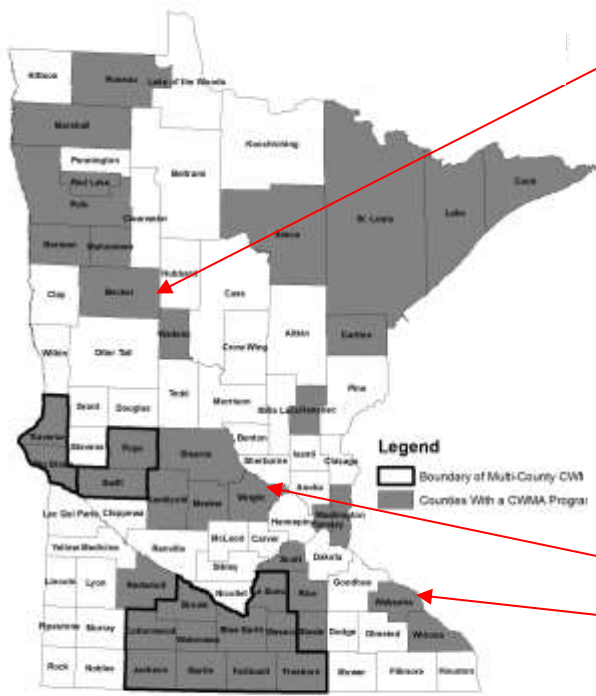
**Focus:** Emerging weed threats- crown vetch, common tansy, spotted knapweed, leafy spurge, wild parsnip.

**Started:** 2006 with a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant (NFWF).

**Mapping:** Conducted baseline GIS mapping of all invasive weeds in the county.

**Management Action:** Combined manual, biological and cultural treatments for target species across the county.

**Strength of Program:** Through mapping, partnering with the County Hwy. Dept., establishment of a gravel pit certification program and developing a landowner cost-share program they have achieved effective control of weeds in the county.



Wild Parsnip

### Wright CWMA

**Focus:** Wild Parsnip control (a significant agricultural, ecological, and human health threat to the county), now adding other species.

**Started:** 2008 with BWSR Funding.

**Mapping:** GIS Mapping of parsnip locations across county.

**Management Action:** Worked with over 100 landowners and treated 11,000 acres.

**Strength of Program:** Partnership with County Hwy. Dept., Townships and Landowners to halt the spread of an emerging weed threat.



Terri Peters of Wabasha CWMA monitoring invasive species

### Wabasha CWMA

**Focus:** Addressing emerging weed threats from Japanese knotweed and Japanese barberry, as well as common buckthorn and invasive honeysuckle shrubs.

**Started:** 2008 with BWSR Funding, developed own cost-share program.

**Mapping:** GIS Mapping of 1000 acres of invasive species populations.

**Management Action:** Over 150 acres have been treated for removal of invasive species in important habitat areas.

**Strength of Program:** Effective control of emerging weed threats. Focus on protecting intact plant communities and re-seeding native vegetation after removal.