

- Technical Training and Certification Program -

September 20, 2021

To: Minnesota NRCS staff, Minnesota SWCD staff

From: BWSR, MACDE, MASWCD, NRCS

Individual Development Plans (IDPs)

The purpose of this joint memorandum is to reaffirm expectations for NRCS and SWCD managers and technical staff to complete or update their Individual Development Plans (IDP) annually. The annual IDP process is used to collect technical training needs across the partnership among the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Minnesota's Soil and Water Conservation Districts (referred to in this memo as "the Partnership").

Establishing conservation practices on private lands in Minnesota is critical to achieving state and federal goals for clean and sustainable water resources, healthy and sustainable soil resources, and abundant fish and wildlife. Conservation Technical Assistance requires statewide, core technical assistance capabilities, as well as capabilities tailored to the local priority resource concerns and conservation practices found in the diverse landscapes of Minnesota. Training and certification are key quality assurance elements of an effective conservation delivery system.

The Partnership utilizes the Individual Development Plan tool in eLINK to gather technical training needs throughout Minnesota. Obtaining an accurate representation of technical training needs is vital for training development and delivery. The Technical Training and Certification Program (TTCP) relies on training needs collected through the IDP process as the primary source of information when determining priority trainings and locations where trainings are held.

Information and resources for completing and updating IDPs can be found on <u>TTCP's Individual Development Plan</u> website.

For additional assistance please <u>contact TTCP</u>.

John Jaschke, Executive Director, BWSR

Nicole Bernd, President, MACDE

Paul Krabbenhoft, President, MASWCD

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Troy Daniell, Minnesota State Conservationist, NRCS

September 10, 2021

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September 10th , 2021

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