

# OKABENA-CHEDA WATERSHED DISTRICT

## 2008 ANNUAL REPORT



OKABENA-CHEDA WATERSHED DISTRICT  
960 Diagonal Road, P.O. Box 114  
Worthington, MN 56187-0114  
(507) 372-8228  
<http://www.okabenaokedawd.org>

**OKABENA-UCHEDA WATERSHED DISTRICT  
BOARD OF MANAGERS**

President	Les Johnson 28967 Co. Hwy. 35 Worthington, MN 56187
Vice President	Rolf Mahlberg 29403 Paul Worthington, MN 56187
Secretary	Galen Gordon 23797 Oliver Ave. Worthington, MN 56187 (Term ended 10/31/08)
Treasurer	Jeffery Williamson 1638 S. Shore Drive Worthington, MN 56187
Manager	James McGowan 670 West Shore Drive Worthington, MN 56187
Manager	Jeff Rogers 1009 Smith Avenue Worthington, MN 56187 (Term began 11/1/08)

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Dick Duba 1011 S. Shore Dr. Worthington, MN 56187	Norm Gallagher 1108 S. Shore Dr. Worthington, MN 56187
Doug Anton 2355 W. Ridge Rd. Worthington, MN 56187	Robert Rohrer 420 Worthmore Worthington, MN 56187
David Benson 26461 320 <sup>th</sup> St. Bigelow, MN 56117	Scott Rall 1027 Lexington Worthington, MN 56187
Keith Schroeder 30230 230 <sup>th</sup> St. Worthington, MN 56187	Tom Krohn 29268 Plotts Ave. Worthington, MN 56187
Dwayne Haffield City of Worthington P.O. Box 279 Worthington, MN 56187	Don Basche 29235 Plotts Ave. Worthington, MN 56187
Herman Hinders 1010 Park Ave. Worthington, MN 56187	

## OKABENA-OCHEDA WATERSHED DISTRICT 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Clean Water Partnership

1. Contributed \$2,377.74 to the Okabena-Ocheda-Bella Clean Water Partnership Joint Powers Organization (JPO) for operating expenses.
2. Provided administrative and technical assistance to the JPO to manage CWP structures.
3. Conducted water quality monitoring of Lake Okabena monthly from May through October.
4. Splitting the cost with Worthington, provided incentive payments for 150.2 acres of filter strips covering 90 percent of the streams in the Lake Okabena sub-watershed.
5. Conducted turbidity monitoring of Judicial Ditch 6 (Lake Okabena outlet) weekly from May through August. Reported data in STORET.

### Conservation Practices

1. Made 50 CRP filter strip incentive payments totaling \$29,833.50 covering 315 acres throughout the District. These filter strips protect 12.9 miles of stream courses and 16.7 miles of lake and wetland shorelines.
2. Cost-shared to build 8 rain gardens in Worthington.
3. Cost-shared to seal 8 abandoned wells.
4. Cost-shared to replace 3 failing septic systems.

### Wellhead Protection

1. Working with Nobles County Environmental Service staff, disposed of 1000 pounds of hazardous waste from three households in the Malcolm and Bella Wellhead Protection Areas.
2. Worked in partnership with Pheasants Forever to trade approximately 65.5 acres of higher quality cropland on the Hallstrom property to Dean Christopherson for 64.6 acres of drained wetland and marginal agricultural land. A 22 acre wetland was restored on the Christopherson property to protect water quality and enhance ground water recharge in the Lake Bella aquifer. Titles to the Hallstrom and Christopherson properties were transferred to the Department of Natural Resources.
3. Worked with Pheasants Forever to sign purchase agreements for two pieces of property totaling approximately 41.3 acres in the Lake Bella Wellhead Protection Area. With financial assistance from Worthington Public Utilities and the watershed district, Pheasants Forever will complete both land transactions in 2009.

### Public Information and Education

1. Sponsored educational tours for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students using the Prairie Ecology Bus at the Worthington Prairie Wetland Learning Area.
2. Published notices of permit requirements in *On the Farm*.
3. Worked with Worthington to accomplish educational components of the City's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan including:
  - Creating storm water education factsheets and other content for the City of Worthington's website.
  - Installing 200 storm sewer markers in Worthington.
  - Holding a Project NEMO workshop for Worthington and Nobles County

- officials and members of the public.
  - Conducting a stormwater education tour for Worthington, Nobles County and watershed district officials.
4. Worked with the Lake Okabena Improvement Association and Nobles County to:
    - Provide water quality education during Worthington's Windsurfing Regatta using the Prairie Ecology Bus.
    - Print a non-point source pollution prevention advertisement in the Daily Globe's Windsurfing Regatta supplement.
    - Create and distribute placemats to local restaurants and service organizations with a water pollution prevention message.

### **Ocheda and Bella Lakes Assessment Monitoring Grant**

Received a Grant from MPCA to conduct TMDL assessment monitoring of Lake Ocheda in 2008 and Lake Bella in 2008 and 2009. With the help of volunteers from the Ocheda Beavers 4-H Club, completed Secchi disk readings and water sampling at total of eight times during June through September for each lake. Reported data to be uploaded into STORET.

### **District Property Maintenance**

1. Re-shingled roof and repaired the Bella Park restroom building. Installed screen to keep bird from nesting in the building.
2. Installed riprap and removed trees to protect the Lake Bella dam emergency spillway.
3. Planted approximately 1500 trees on the west side of Lake Bella to stabilize the eroding shoreline.
4. Picked up litter and mowed weekly at Bella Park.
5. Sprayed to control thistles on the Ocheda Dam and Bella Park properties.
6. Removed obstructions from the Lake Ocheda dam.
7. Cleaned up litter and began removal of cottonwood trees from the St. John Property wetland.

### **Joint Nobles County Comprehensive Water Management Plan, SWCD Comprehensive Plan and Watershed District Management Plan Update**

Worked with the Nobles County Environmental Services Department, Nobles SWCD, Kanaranzi-Little Rock Watershed District, Southwest Regional Development Commission and members of the Water Planning Taskforce to create a plan for water management. The plan, scheduled to be approved in early 2009, will be the revised Management Plan for the OOWD for the next 10 years.

### **Permits**

Monitored erosion control activities on 36 construction sites. Approved 57 permit applications including:

- 33 permits to install tile for agricultural drainage (358,749'),
- 2 permit for storm water control facilities,
- 19 permits for construction site erosion control,
- 1 permit for a grassed waterway repair,
- 1 permit for removing sediment from a drainage ditch, and
- 1 permit for a culvert replacement.

## Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District 2008 Income and Expenses

### Ordinary Income/Expense

#### Income

CD Interest	309.74
Checking Interest	19.73
CWP Reimbursements	9,510.15
District Levy	117,351.63
Insurance Premium Refund	695.00
Local Government Aid	19,152.37
Money Market Account Interest	315.17
Permit Inspection Fees	500.00
Property Rent	4,500.00
Storm Water Education	5,800.00
Water Quality Monitoring Grant	3,673.00

**Total Income** 161,826.79

#### Expense

Audits	1,000.00
Bank Fees	49.00
Bank Transfer	0.00
BMP Cost-Share	7,035.00
CREP Easement Incentive	10,896.82
CWP Board Expense Contributions	2,593.00
Education Expenses	950.06
Filter Strip Incentives	29,833.50
Insurance and Bonds	2,315.00
MAWD Dues	2,000.00
MAWD Meeting Expenses	546.03
Miscellaneous	109.09
Office Expenses	4,016.56
Payroll Expenses	60,692.55
Property Maintenance	4,948.16
Property Taxes	15.86
Public Notices	871.94
Staff and Managers Training	60.00
Storm Water Education Expenses	747.43
SWCD Services	3,000.00
Water Sampling	2,377.74

**Total Expense** 134,057.74

**Net Ordinary Income** **27,769.05**

## Balance Sheet December 31, 2008

<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
District Checking	19,468.50
Wgtn Federal Money Market	<u>53,777.19</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>73,245.69</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>73,245.69</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>73,245.69</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	193,655.50
Retained Earnings	-148,178.86
Net Income	<u>27,769.05</u>
Total Equity	<u>73,245.69</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>73,245.69</u></b>