

OKABENA-OCHEDA WATERSHED DISTRICT

2010 ANNUAL REPORT



50th Anniversary Celebration

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

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

President	Les Johnson 28967 Co. Hwy. 35 Worthington, MN 56187
Vice President	Rolf Mahlberg 29403 Paul Avenue Worthington, MN 56187
Secretary	Jeff Rogers 1627 Fairway Lane Worthington, MN 56187
Treasurer	Jeffery Williamson 1638 S. Shore Drive Worthington, MN 56187
Manager	James McGowan 670 West Shore Drive Worthington, MN 56187

STAFF

Administrator	Dan Livdahl 960 Diagonal Road, Box 114 Worthington, MN 56187
---------------	--

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dick Duba 1011 S. Shore Drive Worthington, MN 56187	Norm Gallagher 1108 S. Shore Drive Worthington, MN 56187
Doug Anton 2355 W. Ridge Road Worthington, MN 56187	Robert Rohrer 420 Worthmore Street Worthington, MN 56187
David Benson 26461 320 th Street Bigelow, MN 56117	Scott Rall 1027 Lexington Avenue Worthington, MN 56187
Keith Schroeder 30230 230 th Street Worthington, MN 56187	Tom Krohn 29268 Plotts Avenue Worthington, MN 56187
Dwayne Haffield City of Worthington P.O. Box 279 Worthington, MN 56187	Don Basche 29235 Plotts Avenue Worthington, MN 56187
Herman Hinders 1010 Park Avenue Worthington, MN 56187	Galen Gordon 23797 Oliver Avenue Worthington, MN 56187
Gene Foth 1611 South Shore Drive Worthington, MN 56187	

OKABENA-OCHEDA WATERSHED DISTRICT 2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Clean Water Partnership

1. Contributed \$2,319.95 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 board affairs and structures.
3. Surveyed W-9 basin and forebays to measure sediment accumulation. Due to wet fall weather and early snows, the sediment was not removed from the forebay before the end of the year.
4. Conducted water quality monitoring of Lake Okabena monthly from May through October.
5. In partnership with Worthington, provided incentive payments for 150.2 acres of filter strips covering 90 percent of the streams in the Lake Okabena sub-watershed.

Conservation Practices

1. Issued 53 CRP filter strip incentive payments totaling \$30,405.50 covering 318.5 acres throughout the District. These filter strips protect 12.9 miles of stream courses and 13.6 miles of lake and wetland shorelines.
2. Made one cost-share payment of \$900 to build a three tier rain garden in Worthington.
3. Made cost-share payments totaling \$1675 to seal six unused wells.
4. Made cost-share payments totaling \$843.10 to replace two failing septic systems.
5. Cost-shared \$1200 to build a waterway in a high priority sub-watershed of Lake Okabena.
6. Made conservation use acre payments totaling \$2000 to facilitate construction of two conservation practices.

Wellhead Protection

1. Contributed \$12,742.09 to Nobles County Pheasants Forever to reimburse them for the appraisals, surveys and legal costs of a land trade and a land purchase in the Lake Bella Wellhead Protection Area. The properties together will create a permanent grass buffer along a wetland and the stream flowing from the east into Lake Bella. Pheasants Forever completed the land trade, acquiring 8.39 acres during 2010. The land purchase of 8.6 acres will be completed in 2011. The land will be donated to the DNR and will become part of the Wachter Wildlife Management Area.
2. Entered a partnership with Nobles County Peasants Forever and Worthington Public Utilities to purchase 27.8 acres of property to create a permanent grass buffer along the Ochedan River. The land acquisition will be completed in 2011. The property will be donated to the DNR and become part of the Peterson Wildlife Management Area.
3. Received a Conservation Partners Legacy Grant to pay 90 percent of the cost of enhancing 68.4 acres of grassland in Lake Bella Park. The enhancement will increase the value of the land as wildlife habitat, reduce the amount of herbicide needed for weed control, suppress gopher populations and reduce the long-term maintenance costs for the park area protecting Lake Bella. Land preparation began in 2010. Seeding will be completed in 2011.

Public Information and Education

1. Sponsored and led educational tours for 5th grade students using the Prairie Ecology Bus at the Worthington Prairie Wetland Learning Area.
2. Paid for a Prairie Ecology Bus session at the Prairie Wetland Learning Area for the Worthington Montessori Preschool students and parents.
3. Led watershed tours for high school agriculture and wildlife classes, and Minnesota West Community and Technical College students.
4. Gave classroom presentations to Minnesota West students on soils and watershed management.
5. Worked with Pheasants Forever volunteers to help the Ocheda Beavers 4-H Club build and install birdhouses on public land in the district.

6. Worked with the Ocheda-Beavers 4-H Club to create a native plant garden.
7. Provided information to Daily Globe reporter for articles about algae blooms in Lake Okabena, the Lake Ocheda Landowners meeting and the Conservation Legacy Grant for Bella Park.
8. Updated District website monthly.
9. Worked with Worthington to accomplish educational components of the City's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan including:
 - Distributing two pollution prevention factsheets to Worthington Public Utilities customers.
 - Installing 200 storm sewer markers in Worthington.
10. Gave water quality presentation to the Lake Okabena Improvement Association board and participated in the annual meeting.
11. Helped organize a meeting of the Lake Ocheda riparian landowners in February. Gave a PowerPoint presentation on water quality in Ocheda, shallow lakes management and the upcoming impaired waters listing.

Construction Site Inspections

Completed semi-weekly inspections of construction sites with NPDES stormwater permits in Worthington during April through November. Communicated regularly with Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan responsible parties about installation and maintenance of Best Management Practices required by their plans.

District Property Maintenance

1. Repaired and painted Bella Park picnic tables.
2. Picked up litter and mowed weekly at Bella Park.
3. Sprayed to control thistles on the Ocheda Dam, St. John, and Bella Park properties.
4. Cleaned up litter multiple times at the St. John Property.
5. Installed live willow fascines on approximately 60 feet of eroding shoreline. The willows grew and survived fluctuating lake levels during 2010 and appeared to slow erosion during high water conditions. The fascines will be monitored in the future to see whether they survive ice action and spring lake levels.
6. Built and installed a prototype fish barrier in one stoplog bay at the Ocheda Dam. The barrier will remain in place for a year to see how it functions. If it works well, the district will apply for a permit to install barriers in the other nine stoplog bays.

District Rules Update

Completed the watershed district rules revision in May.

Permits and Drainage Project Notification

Monitored erosion control activities on thirteen permitted construction sites. Approved twenty-nine permit applications including:

- Two shore land stabilization projects
- Five street reconstruction projects
- One highway reconstruction project
- Six small construction site projects
- Seven NPDES stormwater permit site projects
- One drainage ditch repair project
- Eight agricultural tile drainage projects

Received and reviewed notification forms for sixteen tile drainage projects.

Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District 2010 Income and Expenses

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Checking Interest	8.10
CWP Reimbursements	9,324.10
District Levy	116,771.22
Insurance Premium Refund	1,101.00
Local Government Aid	12,959.75
Money Market Account Interest	965.97
Permit Inspection Fees	275.00
Property Rent	6,736.00
Storm Water Education	10,520.00

Total Income	158,661.14
---------------------	-------------------

Expense

Audits	1,400.00
Bank Fees	26.00
BMP Cost-Share	6,893.10
CWP Board Expense Contributions	2,319.95
Education Programs	1,771.19
Equipment Purchase	1,000.00
Filter Strip Incentives	30,405.50
Insurance and Bonds	2,843.00
MAWD Dues	834.07
MAWD Meetings	1,079.38
Miscellaneous	46.00
Office Expenses	5,041.61
Payroll Expenses	64,033.61
Wellhead Protection Projects	12,742.09
Property Maintenance	1,407.76
Property Taxes	15.86
Public Notices	805.35
Staff and Managers Training	314.04
Storm Water Education	527.71
SWCD Services	3,000.00
Water Sampling	810.67

Total Expense	137,316.89
----------------------	-------------------

Net Ordinary Income	21,344.25
----------------------------	------------------

Other Expense/Income

Conservation Partners Legacy Grant	
Legacy Grant Expenses	2,482.00
Total Other Expense	2,482.00

Net Other Income	-2,482.00
-------------------------	------------------

Balance Sheet

December 31, 2010

CASH ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

District Checking	50,853.50
-------------------	-----------

Wgtn Federal Money Market Acct.	<u>64,341.13</u>
---------------------------------	------------------

Total Checking/Savings	<u>115,194.63</u>
------------------------	-------------------

Total Current Assets	<u>115,194.63</u>
----------------------	-------------------

TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>115,194.63</u></u>
--------------	--------------------------

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

Net Income	<u>18,862.25</u>
------------	------------------

Total Equity	<u>115,194.63</u>
--------------	-------------------

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>115,194.63</u></u>
----------------------------	--------------------------