



Grant Progress Report

Projects and Practices Drinking Water 2025

Grant Title: Phase II: Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing

Grant ID: C25-0236

Grantee: Anoka CD

Fiscal Agent: Anoka CD

Grant Day-to-Day Contact: Chris Lord

Grant Award (\$): \$70,000.00

Required Match (%): 10

Required Match (\$): \$7,000.00

Grant Execution Date: 03/24/2025

Grant End Date: 12/31/2027

	Total Budgeted	Total Spent	Balance Remaining*
Grant Funds	\$70,000.00	\$23,014.50	\$46,985.50
Match Funds	\$7,000.00	\$9,638.00	(\$2,638.00)
Other Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$77,000.00	\$32,652.50	\$44,347.50

*Grant balance remaining is the difference between the Awarded Amount and the Spent Amount. Other values compare budgeted and spent amounts.

Project Abstract	<p>In Anoka County, 330,000 residents (94%) depend on groundwater for drinking water, using about 12 billion gallons annually. Wells (residential, commercial, agricultural, and industrial) that are unused and unsealed pose a significant health and safety hazard by creating a direct, unmaintained conduit to introduce contaminants (e.g. pesticides, nutrients, pathogens) into groundwater supplies.</p> <p>Historically, Anoka County was one of the few counties in Minnesota without a cost-share program to assist landowners with sealing unused wells. In response to this gap, the Anoka Conservation District (ACD) received a Clean Water Fund (CWF) grant in FY20 to establish a well sealing cost-share program. This initiative, the first of its kind in the county, was developed from scratch. As awareness grew, demand for the program increased, highlighting the need and desire for such financial assistance.</p>
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Over the past four years, the well sealing program has made significant progress. ACD has worked with hundreds of landowners promote and educate on well sealing, resulting in the sealing of 63 unused wells since 2020. Despite this, the issue of abandoned wells remains pressing. The current CWF grant is set to expire on December 31, 2024 Without additional funding, the momentum gained is in jeopardy, and future efforts to address this issue may be severely hampered. To build on the success of the initial grant and address the continued risk presented by abandoned wells, we are requesting another round of grant funding to continue and expand the well sealing cost-share program. The proposed grant will enable ACD to seal up to an additional 30 unused wells, targeting those within DWSMAs and deep wells intersecting multiple aquifers.

To maximize the benefits of this program, we'll promote cost-share funds to targeted landowners primarily through mailings and door knockings.

Proposed Measurable Outcomes

This program will provide financial incentives to seal up to 30 unused wells. Wells within DWSMAs will be prioritized first, followed by those that are larger in diameter, deeper, and/or older and therefore more likely to pose contamination risks.

Budget Details

<i>Activity Name</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Source Type</i>	<i>Source Description</i>	<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>Spent</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>Match Fund?</i>
Grant administration and reporting	Administration/Coordination	Current State Grant	Phase II: Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	\$4,900.00	\$1,867.14	\$3,032.86	N
Well Sealing Cost-Share Funding	Groundwater	Current State Grant	Phase II: Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	\$35,000.00	\$14,382.00	\$20,618.00	N
Project Management and Technical Support	Project Development	Current State Grant	Phase II: Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	\$7,000.00	\$2,403.25	\$4,596.75	N
Supplies/Equipment	Supplies/Equipment	Current State Grant	Phase II: Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	\$5,600.00	\$1,286.87	\$4,313.13	N

<i>Activity Name</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Source Type</i>	<i>Source Description</i>	<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>Spent</i>	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	<i>Match Fund?</i>
Project Implementation	Technical/Engineering Assistance	Current State Grant	Phase II: Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	\$17,500.00	\$3,075.24	\$14,424.76	N
Well Sealing Cost-Share Funding	Groundwater	Landowner Fund	Lanowner	\$7,000.00	\$9,638.00	(\$2,638.00)	Y

Indicator Summary

<i>Indicator Category</i>	<i>Proposed Indicator</i>	<i>Total Value</i>	<i>Unit</i>
Pollution Prevention	Prevention	1	Count

<i>Indicator Category</i>	<i>Final Indicator</i>	<i>Total Value</i>	<i>Unit</i>
Pollution Prevention	Prevention	10	Count

Grant Activities

Activity Name: Grant administration and reporting
Activity Category: Administration/Coordination Staff time?: Yes
Description: Staff time for grant administration and reporting. Tasks include elink reporting (e.g. activity progress updates and budget updates), coordination of expense reports and payments, and project tracking.
Key staff include:
Kris Larson, Water Resource Specialist. BS in Environmental Studies.
Chris Lord – Dist. Mgr. – BS Nat. Res. & Env. Sci.
Kathy Berkness – Office Admin.
Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Phase II: Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	\$4,900.00	\$1,867.14	\$3,032.86	12/31/2025	N

Actual Results

<u>Results</u>	<u>Date Added</u>
2025 Staff time for grant administration and reporting. Tasks include elink reporting (e.g. activity progress updates and budget updates), coordination of expense reports and payments, and project tracking.	1/21/2026 12:45:28 PM

Activity Name: Project Implementation

Activity Category: Technical/Engineering Assistance

Staff time?: Yes

Description: Management of applications, communication with applicants, contract development, project approval, and distribution of cost-share funds.

Key Staff: Kris Larson, Water Resource Specialist. BS in Environmental Studies.

Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Phase II: Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	\$17,500.00	\$3,075.24	\$14,424.76	12/31/2025	N

Actual Results

<u>Results</u>	<u>Date Added</u>
2025 staff time spent towards management of applications, communication with applicants, contract development, project approval, and distribution of cost-share funds.	1/21/2026 12:48:05 PM

Activity Name: Project Management and Technical Support

Activity Category: Project Development

Staff time?: Yes

Description: Print and mail targeted mailings, maintain well sealing webpage, create posters/flyers, and promote with groundwater brochures and displays.

Key Staff: Kris Larson, Water Resource Specialist. BS in Environmental Studies.

Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Phase II: Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	\$7,000.00	\$2,403.25	\$4,596.75	12/31/2025	N

Actual Results

Results Date Added

In 2025, targeted mailing lists were created, and promotional letters were prepared and mailed to landowners with possible high-priority unused wells on their property. 1/20/2026 11:58:24 AM

Activity Name: Supplies/Equipment

Activity Category: Supplies/Equipment

Staff time?: No

Description: Materials and supplies integral to program success, including postage, envelopes, and paper.

Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Phase II: Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	\$5,600.00	\$1,286.87	\$4,313.13	12/01/2025	N

Actual Results**Results****Date Added**

In 2025, purchased materials and supplies integral to program success, including postage, envelopes, and paper.

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Activity Name: Well Sealing Cost-Share Funding

Activity Category: Groundwater

Staff time?: No

Description: Phase II will focus on high-priority areas where unused wells are larger in diameter, deeper, and/or older and therefore more likely to pose contamination risks, or within a DWSMA. Cost-share funds will offer financial incentives to seal up to 30 wells within the grant period. The funding available is 60% of the total eligible project costs with the remaining 40% as landowner match. Once the well is sealed, the landowner will provide ACD with a copy of the official Well and Boring Sealing Record and a copy of the paid invoice. Once documents are received a reimbursement check will be approved and mailed to the applicant's residence.

Key Staff: Kris Larson, Water Resource Specialist. BS in Environmental Studies.

Budget Details

<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Last Transaction Date</u>	<u>Match Fund?</u>
Current State Grant	Phase II: Protecting groundwater quality in Anoka County through targeted well sealing	\$35,000.00	\$14,382.00	\$20,618.00	12/31/2025	N
Landowner Fund	Landowner	\$7,000.00	\$9,638.00	(\$2,638.00)	12/31/2025	Y

Actual Results**Results****Date Added**

In 2025, well sealing grant funds were utilized to seal 10 high-priority unused wells.

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Final Indicators

<u>Indicator</u>	<u>Total Value</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Prevention	10	Count

Activity Action Name: CWFWS-2025-1-CoonRapids-Pendroy				Activity Count: 1
Practice Type: 351 - Well Decommissioning				Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA: Private Consultant				Lifespan: In Perpetuity
Practice Description: Sealed Unused Well				Install Date: 04/30/2025
				Mapped: Yes
Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name: CWFWS-2025-2-Andover-Yangi				Activity Count: 1
Practice Type: 351 - Well Decommissioning				Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA: Private Consultant				Lifespan: In Perpetuity
Practice Description: Sealed Unused Well				Install Date: 04/24/2025
				Mapped: Yes
Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name: CWFWS-2025-3-Anoka-Heuring				Activity Count: 1
Practice Type: 351 - Well Decommissioning				Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA: Other				Lifespan: In Perpetuity
Practice Description: Sealed Unused Well				Install Date: 05/07/2025
				Mapped: Yes
Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name: CWFWS-2025-4-Centerville-Countryman				Activity Count: 1
Practice Type: 351 - Well Decommissioning				Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA: Private Consultant				Lifespan: In Perpetuity
Practice Description: Sealed Unused Wells				Install Date: 05/01/2025
				Mapped: Yes
Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name: CWFWS-2025-5-ColumbiaHeights-Hoch				Activity Count: 1
Practice Type: 351 - Well Decommissioning				Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA: Private Consultant				Lifespan: In Perpetuity
Practice Description: Sealed Unused Well				Install Date: 06/27/2025
				Mapped: Yes
Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name: CWFWS-2025-6-LinoLakes-BRFEnterprises				Activity Count: 1
Practice Type: 351 - Well Decommissioning				Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA: Private Consultant				Lifespan: In Perpetuity
Practice Description: Sealed Unused Well				Install Date: 07/25/2025
				Mapped: Yes
Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name: CWFWS-2025-7-Fridley-Beine				Activity Count: 1
Practice Type: 351 - Well Decommissioning				Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA: Private Consultant				Lifespan: In Perpetuity
Practice Description: Sealed Unused Well				Install Date: 07/24/2025
				Mapped: Yes
Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name: CWFWS-2025-8-Stacy-Haffely				Activity Count: 1
Practice Type: 351 - Well Decommissioning				Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA: Private Consultant				Lifespan: In Perpetuity
Practice Description: Sealed Unused Well				Install Date: 09/25/2025
				Mapped: Yes
Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name: CWFWS-2025-9-Blaine-Jorde				Activity Count: 1
Practice Type: 351 - Well Decommissioning				Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA: Private Consultant				Lifespan: In Perpetuity
Practice Description: Sealed Unused Well				Install Date: 10/27/2025
				Mapped: Yes
Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater

Activity Action Name: CWFWS-2025-10-Fridley-Johnsen				Activity Count: 1
Practice Type: 351 - Well Decommissioning				Size/Units: 1 - Count
TA Provider/JAA: Private Consultant				Lifespan: In Perpetuity
Practice Description: Sealed unused well.				Install Date: 12/23/2025
				Mapped: Yes
Indicator Name	Units	Value	Calculation Tool	Waterbody
Prevention	Count	1	Other	Groundwater