

CARVER SWCD MONITORING PLAN FOR BUFFER COMPLIANCE TRACKING

§103F.48 RIPARIAN PROTECTION AND WATER QUALITY PRACTICES

1. COMPLIANCE TRACKING OF ALL PARCELS SUBJECT TO THE BUFFER LAW

All parcels in the county are to be reviewed within a 3 year timeframe. Carver SWCD will review 1/3 of the parcels each year by choosing to inspect all parcels in area A, B, or C as indicated on the map below.

2. RANDOM SPOT CHECKS

Random spot checks will be done in addition to the tracking of all parcels within a 3 year span. These checks may be conducted via aerial photo review or on-site review depending on availability of updated aerial photos and the practice that is being checked/access to farms. A combination of both aerial and on-site review may also be used. The SWCD will conduct random spot checks on 30 parcels per year outside of the scheduled area.

- a. Additionally, the SWCD should review parcels of emphasis more frequently.
 - Previously non-compliant
 - Variable width buffers (i.e. Land O' Lakes buffer tool, Decision Support Tool)
 - Alternative Practice Plans
 - Cost-share funded projects
 - Parcels that have recently gone through ownership change or land-use change

3. PROCESS TO HANDLE COMPLAINTS

Carver SWCD will investigate complaints regarding the Minnesota Buffer Law on an as-needed basis. The SWCD will use the tools available (aerial photography, GIS maps, oblique imagery) along with a site visit (if accessible) to determine compliance. If the parcel is deemed compliant, the complaint will be dismissed. If the parcel is not compliant, the landowner will be contacted and informed of the non-compliance. The landowner will be given 60 days to get the parcel into compliance. If the parcel is still non-compliant after the 60 day time period, it will be sent to the MN Board of Water & Soil Resources for enforcement.

