

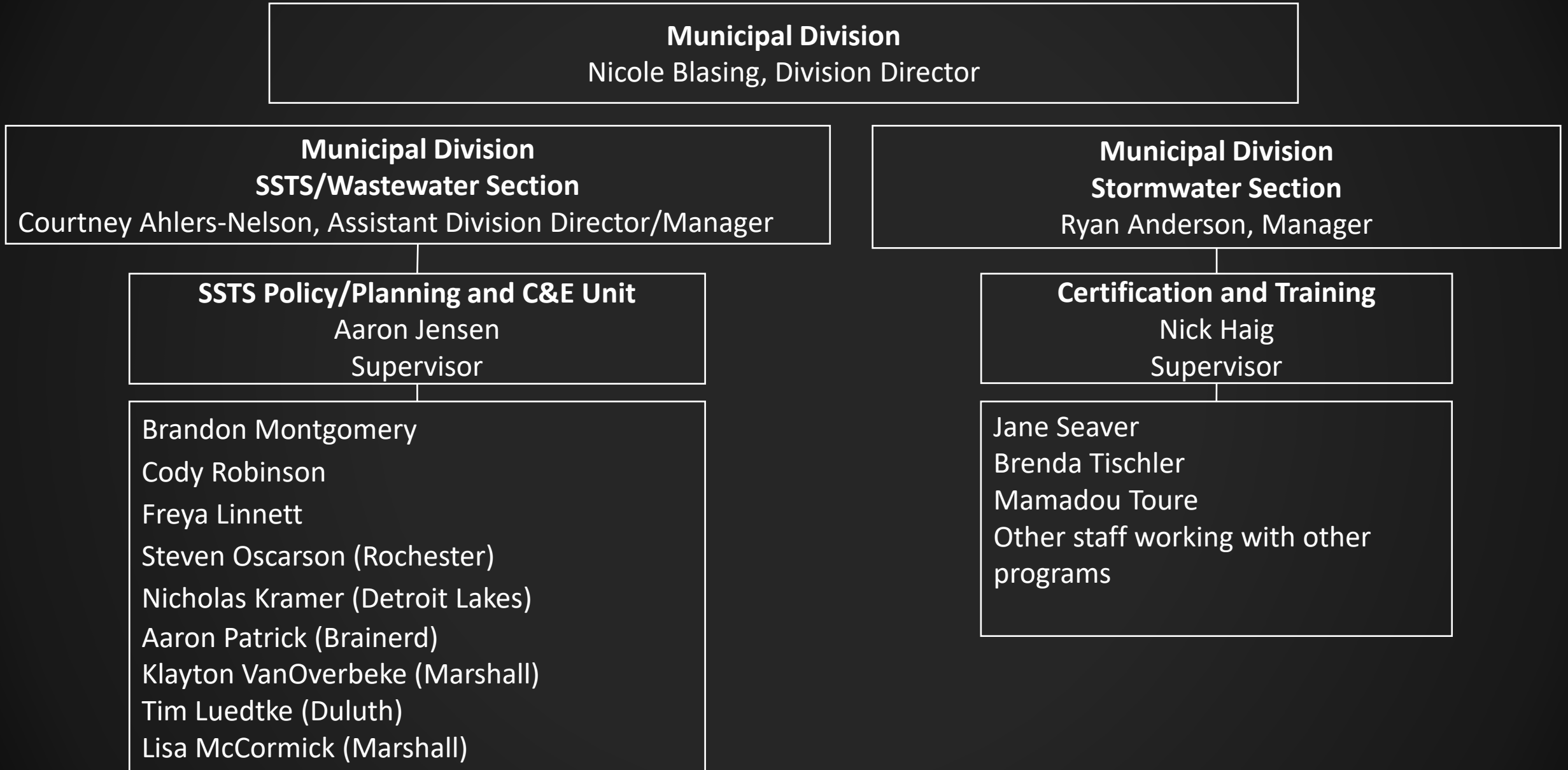


MPCA SSTS Program Update

Brandon Montgomery | SSTS Program Coordinator

October 13, 2022

SSTS Program Organization





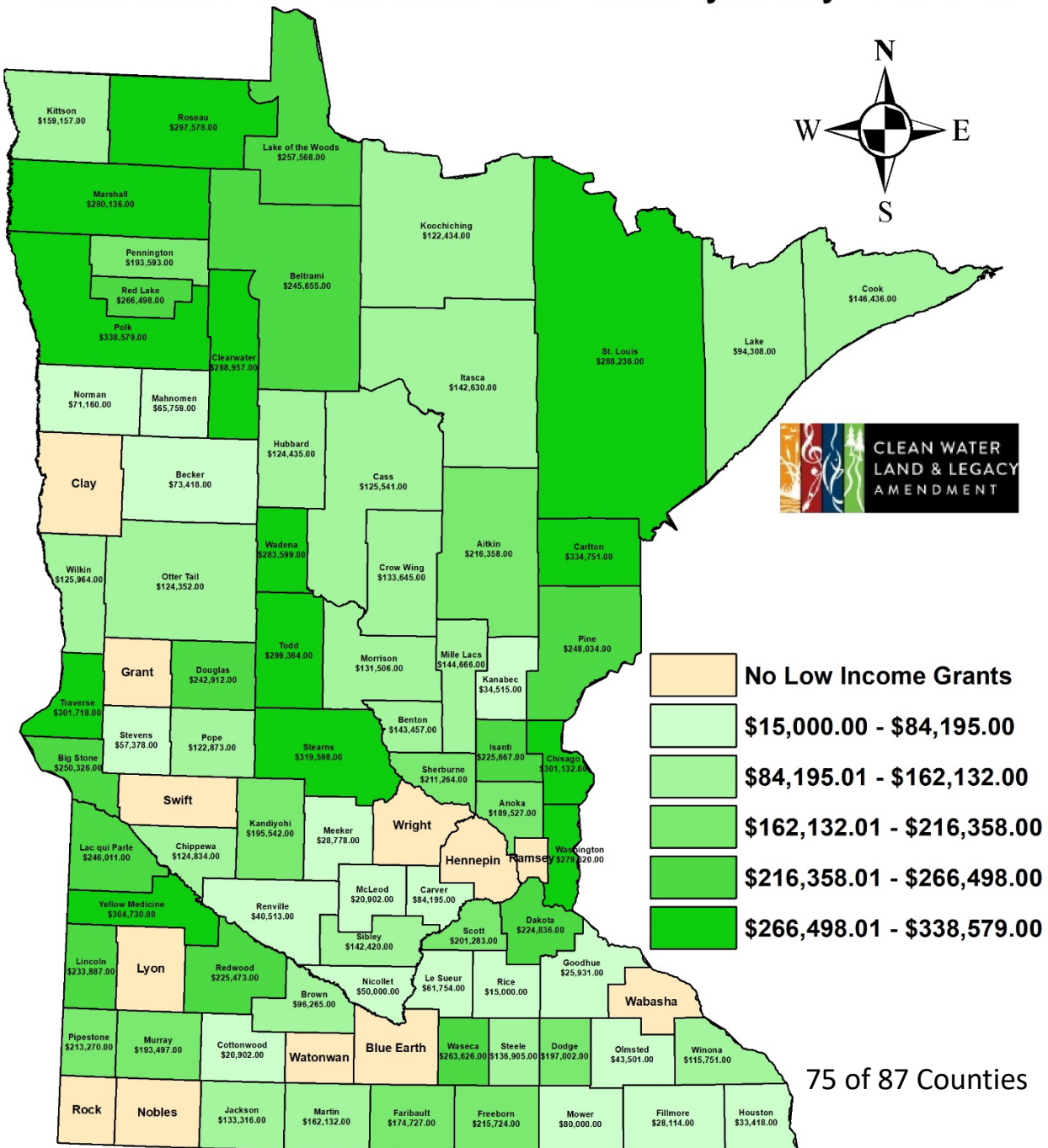
SSTS Grants

Distribution of CWF and Env. fund money to counties

- Total of \$27.3 million
 - BWSR NRBG
- Base Grants
 - 10 years (2014 – current)
 - \$18,600 per county annually
 - \$16 million total
- Incentives
 - 5 years (2014 - 2018)
 - \$1.3 million
 - 62 counties



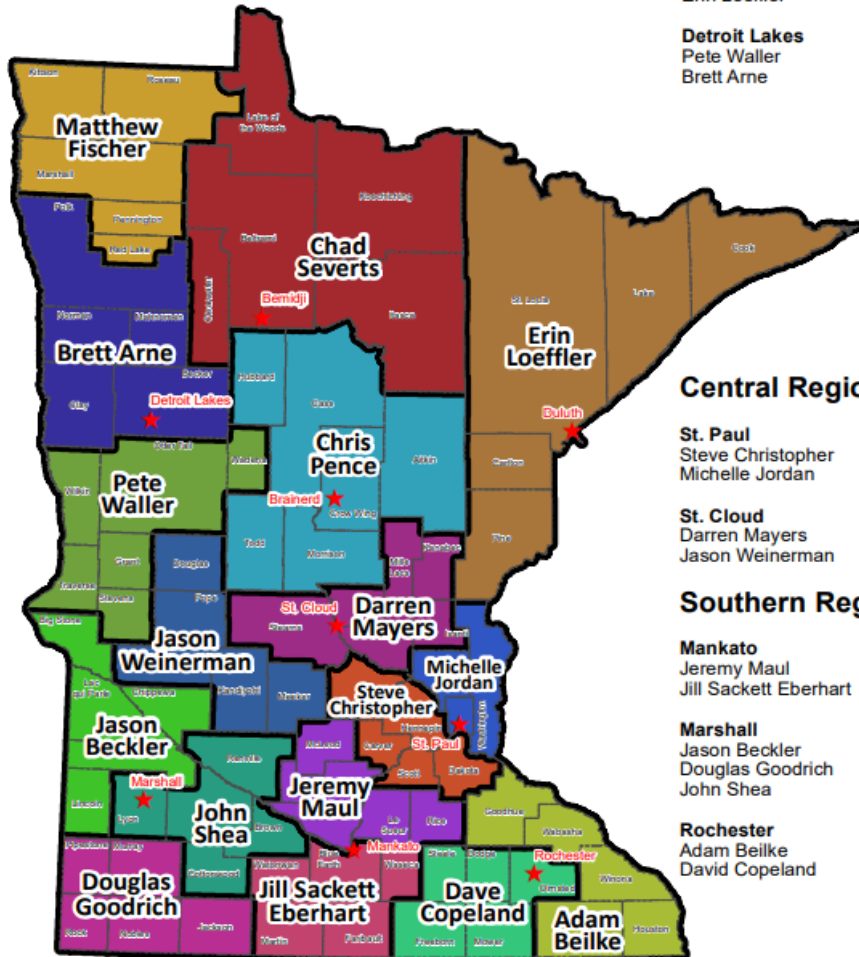
Clean Water Fund Low Income Grant Totals by County FY13 - FY23



SSTS Grants – Low-income

- Since 2013 (11 years)
- \$12.6 million
 - Pass through to counties (BWSR NRBG)
 - Counties to Homeowners/Contractors
 - ≈1,400 systems upgraded (reporting lag)
- FY22/23
 - \$2.7 million
 - FY22 – 1.5 million
 - FY23 – 1.1 million
 - ≈ 400 – Outstanding upgrades
 - Requests higher than available
- FY24/25
 - Pre-Covid + shortfalls
 - 2023 Legislative Session

Board Conservationist Work Areas



Northern Region

Brainerd (218) 203 - 4472
Chris Pence (218) 232 - 3508

Bemidji (218) 755 - 2600
Matt Fischer (218) 766 - 6496
Chad Severts (218) 770 - 9620

Duluth (218) 723 - 4752
Erin Loeffler (218) 850 - 1141

Detroit Lakes (218) 770 - 3802
Pete Waller (218) 850 - 0934

Central Region

St. Paul (651) 296 - 3767
Steve Christopher (651) 249 - 7519
Michelle Jordan (651) 308 - 6724

St. Cloud (320) 223 - 7072
Darren Mayers (218) 290 - 8384
Jason Weinerman (320) 223 - 7074

Southern Region

Mankato (507) 344 - 2826
Jeremy Maul (507) 766 - 9819
Jill Sackett Eberhart (507) 344 - 2825

Marshall (507) 537 - 6060
Jason Beckler (507) 537 - 6615
Douglas Goodrich (507) 537 - 6636
John Shea (507) 838 - 9423

Rochester (507) 206 - 2889
Adam Beilke (507) 206 - 2892
David Copeland (507) 206 - 2891



Grant Extensions

- FY20 and FY21
 - 12/31/2022
- 1 year
- Make sure it is spent or extended!
 - ≈ 23 grants/\$360k
- Contact your Board Conservationist
 - October



BWSR SSTS Grant

Distribution of general fund money to counties



- Only FY22
- Total of \$1.5 million
- Income below 300 percent of the federal poverty guidelines
- Grant shall not exceed the lesser of \$5,000 or 35 percent of the cost of the system
- May be used with other SSTS Upgrade grant funds
 - Criteria for all grant funds met
- Contact your BWSR/Board Conservationist

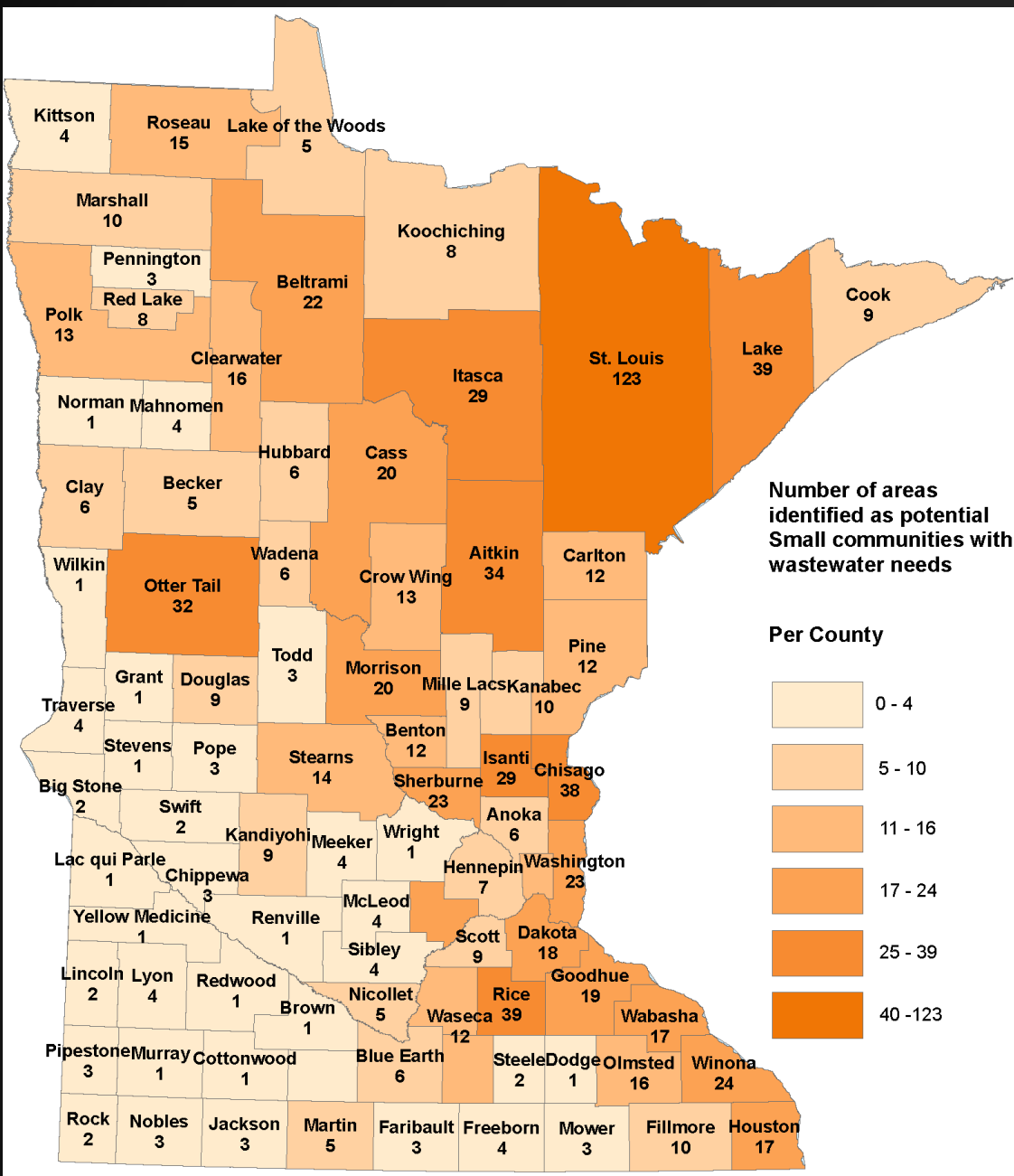
Additional funding?

Loans

- AgBMP Loans
- Clean Water Partnership Loans

Areas and Communities with SSTs Concerns

- Multiple attempts
- Better Data/Maps
- LGU reporting key!!!



ENRTF – LCCMR Grant

- M.L. 2022, Chp. 94, Sec. 2, Subd. 10h
- “\$2,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency to counties for grants to low-income landowners to address septic systems that pose an imminent threat to public health or safety or fail to protect groundwater.”
- Workplan approved by LCCMR
- Competitive solicitation (RFP)
 - Late 2022
 - More to come



LGU Training

Do the SSTS continuing education classes currently offered provide adequate training for LGU SSTS inspectors?



Would your inspectors be interested in attending a continuing education class focused on the role of LGU SSTS inspectors?



- Training Planned for 2023
 - MPCA/U of M Co-taught
 - Long-term



Water Resources Center

Onsite Sewage Treatment Program

Talking Tour

- Modified in 2023
 - In-person/Virtual/Hybrid
 - Number of meetings
 - Locations
- LGU training
 - Resources
- Snap Survey
 - Feedback from LGUs

Comparison Statistics				
	2020 Fully In-person		2022 Fully Virtual	
Number of Counties Attending	64 of 86	74%	64 of 86	74%
Number of Cities Attending	19 of 78	23%	30 of 77	39%
Number of Townships Attending	16 of 53	29%	23 of 47	49%
Number of "Others" Attending	1 of 3	33%	2 of 3	67%
Total number of LGU's Attending	100 of 220	45%	119 of 213	56%
Private Businesses Attending	4		0	
Number of Meetings	12		8	
Total number of Attendees	131		154	

- Jurisdictional questions

- Minn. § 394.24
 - Official Controls

- Minn. § 85.21
 - Obtain or pay for permits

- Minn. § 115.55 & Minn. R. 7080 - 7083

- Still applicable

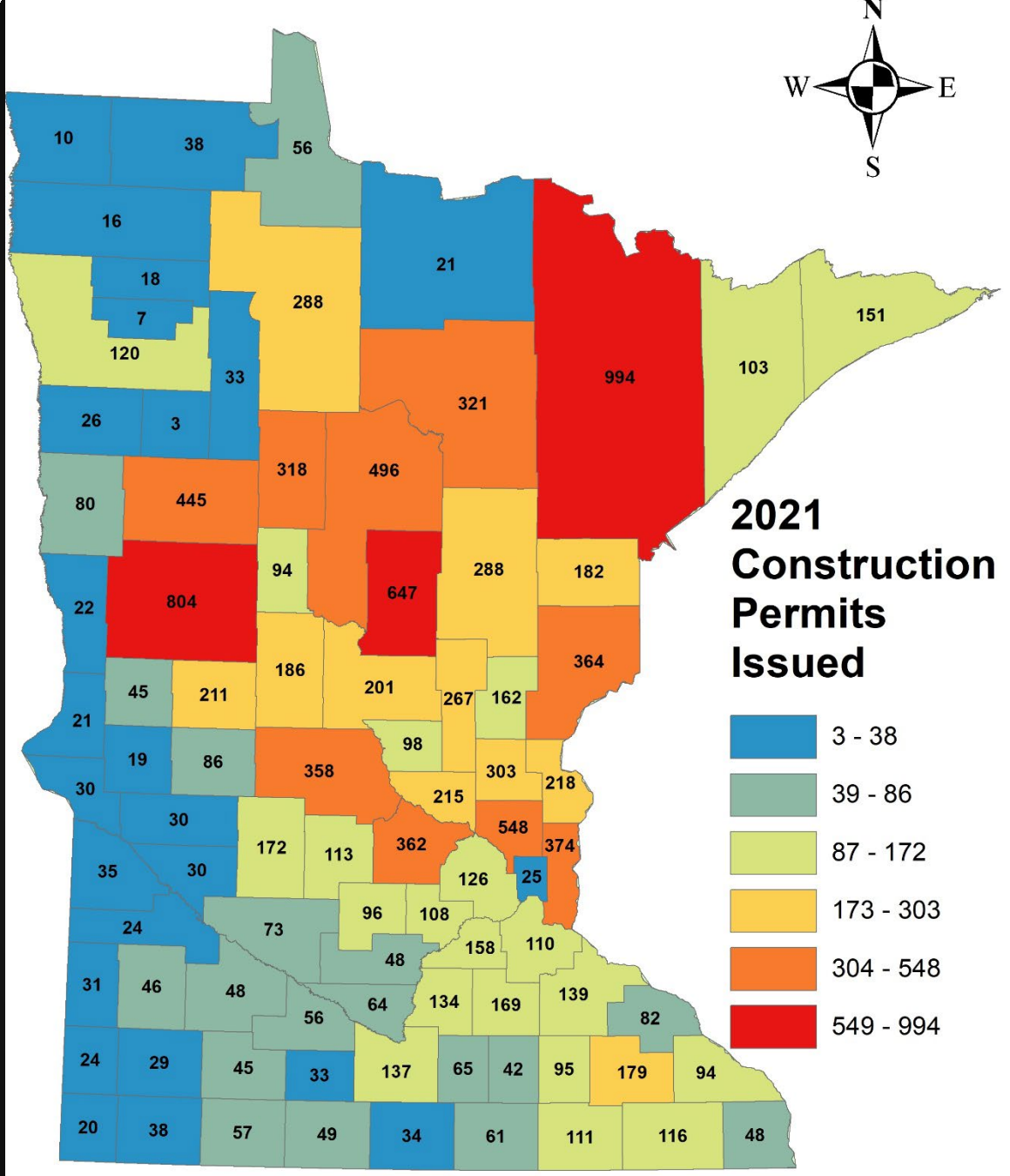
- MPCA – DNR Interagency Agreement

- Systems will follow 7080 – 7081
 - Engineered
- No local permits
- Licensed professionals

- LGU – Informed

MNDNR Owned SSTs





SSTS Statewide Activity

- 2020/2021/2022 have been busy!
 - 2008 ≈ 8,000 systems permitted
 - 2020 ≈ 12,500 systems permitted (25%↑)
 - 2021 ≈ 12,800 systems permitted (5%↑)
 - 2022 ≈ ??? systems permitted
- Increased need for technical assistance
- Increased compliance and enforcement


Compliance vs. Enforcement

- Compliance

- SSTS Professionals come forward first
- Questions about records and processes
- LGU's, homeowners, stakeholders

- Enforcement

- Forum
- Enforcement document(s)
- Penalties
- Corrective actions

 <p>MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY</p> <p>520 Lafayette Road North St. Paul, MN 55155-4194</p>	<p>SSTS Enforcement</p> <p>Referrals from local programs</p> <p>Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS) Program</p> <p><i>Doc Type: Request for Information</i></p>
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Non-Public Data - Enforcement



- Minnesota Government Data Practices Act

- All governmental data is public
- Few exceptions

- Permanently Non-Public

- Complainant Data
- Attorney/Client Privileged Data
- Social Security Numbers

- Temporarily Non-Public

- Civil Investigation (Pending Civil Legal Action) Data/Legal Hold Data
- Criminal Investigation Data

Not public until the investigation has been resolved/completed.

Septic systems



Water Resources Center Onsite Sewage Treatment Program

Home About Workshops Research Resources

Onsite Sewage Treatment Program



OSTP offers hands-on learning

OSTP workshops for septic professionals combine classroom and field instruction for a robust learning experience. [Sign up for one of our upcoming workshops.](#)

The Onsite Sewage Treatment Program (OSTP) protects public health and the environment by improving wastewater treatment through research-based workshops, as well as outreach to homeowners, small communities, professionals and policy-makers. This program is part of the [Water Resources Center](#).

PERMITS & REGULATIONS

Environmental review

Permittee assistance

Air permits

Water permits

Waste and recycling

More than 600,000 Minnesota homes and businesses use septic systems, which treat an estimated 45 billion gallons of wastewater per year. MPCA rules govern how septic systems are designed, installed, and managed. The rules are implemented and enforced through local ordinances by counties, cities, and townships.

SSTS licensed business and certified individual search

Local SSTS program administrators can use the SSTS licensed business search to verify licensure. If you are a system owner, recognize that licensed businesses may work anywhere in Minnesota and are not restricted to the city or county in which they are located. The search results are not intended to be used as advertising.

- [SSTS Search](#)

- Update Bookmarks

- Call with questions

Thank you!