



## MASWCD SOUTHEAST AREA 7

Area Director: Randy Smith

June 9, Stewartville American Legion, 1100 2nd Ave NW, Stewartville, MN 55976

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*MASWCD is a nonprofit organization which exists to provide leadership, educational opportunities and a common voice for Minnesota's soil and water conservation districts.*

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### MASWCD SOUTHEAST AREA 7

[Dodge SWCD](#)  
(507) 374.6364

[Fillmore SWCD](#)  
(507) 887.0240

[Freeborn SWCD](#)  
(507) 373.5607 x3

[Goodhue SWCD](#)  
(651) 923.5286

[Mower SWCD](#)  
(507) 434.2603

[Olmsted SWCD](#)  
(507) 328.7070

[Rice SWCD](#)  
(507) 332.5408

[Root River SWCD](#)  
(507) 724.5261 x3

[Steele SWCD](#)  
(507) 451.6730

[Wabasha SWCD](#)  
(651) 565.4673

[Winona SWCD](#)  
(507) 523.2171

### AGENDA

#### 9:00 Registration & Refreshments

#### 9:30 Call to Order and Welcome: Area Director

- Pledge of Allegiance; Action on agenda
- Introduction of Resolutions from Area Member SWCDs
  - *Read only – action taken later in agenda*

#### 10:00 MASWCD 2026 Focus Areas – Area Director and MASWCD Staff (15 minutes)

Each year the MASWCD Board of Directors identifies focus areas which align with the mission, vision and strategic areas of the Association, taking into consideration timely and relevant resolutions and legislative activity, and building off MASWCD's ongoing work plan. Details of the 2026 focus areas will be explained, and SWCDs will be asked for feedback.

#### 10:15 MASWCD Advocacy Campaign for SWCD Aid – MASWCD Staff (20 minutes)

MASWCD has launched a 2-year campaign for SWCD Aid advocacy to lay the groundwork for a 2027 legislative proposal to increase this important state funding source. In conjunction with this campaign, MASWCD formed a cohort of SWCD representatives from across the state who will be building their skills in communication and outreach with lawmakers. Information on this initiative will be shared, followed by discussions around effective advocacy in campaign season.

#### 10:45 Clean Water Council's Budget Recommendation Process for Clean Water Fund Spending in the 2028-2029 biennium – MASWCD Staff and Attendees (30 minutes)

Every two years, the Clean Water Council develops recommendations to the legislature on how to appropriate Clean Water Funding. Learn about the status of the current process, how important items like Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) are being discussed. SWCDs will be asked to share information on the status of their local WBIF efforts.

#### 11:15 BWSR Legislative and Program Updates - BWSR (25 minutes)

Board of Water and Soil Resources staff will share information on legislative outcomes from the 2026 session along with timely and relevant program and implementation updates.

#### 11:30 USDA NRCS Updates (15 minutes)

#### 11:45 Updates on Climate Smart Grant- Fillmore SWCD (15 minutes)

#### 12:00 Lunch (30 minutes)

#### 1:00 Area 7 Resolutions

Please review Resolution Guidelines and "Things to Consider During Resolution Debate"

#### 1:30 Group Discussion (Hot topic Items)

Open time slot for ideas including soil health round-robin, USFWS partnership opportunities, budgets looking ahead, programs supported within SE, etc. Any area wide concerns could be discussed.

#### 2:00 Closing Comments and Adjourn

Area meeting topic suggestion:

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service partnership opportunities with SWCDs**

AnnMarie Krmpotich, USFWS, Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program State Coordinator  
(612) 710-5310 | [annmarie\\_krmpotich@fws.gov](mailto:annmarie_krmpotich@fws.gov)

**Things to consider during resolution debate**

Relevance

- Is the proposed policy relevant to the mission, goals, and objectives of the organization?
- Does the policy address a real need?
- Is the policy consistent with the stated values of the board or program?
- Does it comply with administrative/legal requirements?

Effectiveness

- Will the proposed policy address the problem or need?
- Is this the best approach?
- Are there alternative policies?
- What are the costs/benefits of each alternative?

Capability

- Can the Association and/or members implement the activities suggested by the proposed policy?
- Will additional expertise be needed?

Costs/Resources

- How much will it cost to implement?
- Can funds be found to support it?
- Will the policy require reallocation of funds?
- What are the opportunity costs of this policy?

Ramifications

- What might be the unanticipated consequences of this policy? What might be the consequences of that choice for others? The side effects?
- How would the policy impact staff? Constituents? Funding?
- Is there community support?

Other?

- Supposing you can't have everything, what would you choose?
- Does anyone have a different view?
- What seems to be the key point here?

**How would we know if we were successful in implementing it/what does success look like and is that vision of success articulated in the resolution?**