



CLEARWATER SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT | WINTER 2025

Clearwater's Conservation Chronicles



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Rain Barrel Education

Come learn about rain barrels this spring!

This spring Clearwater SWCD will be offering an education class about rain barrels. Join us at Bagley Elementary on Thursday April 10th at 5:30pm to construct and take home your own rain barrel and learn how to use them. Look for the registration on the Bagley School Community Education website (bagley.k12.mn.us/page/community-education) sometime after January 1st, call Corrie Uhler at 218-694-3232, or visit in person at the Community Education Office.

You will learn how you can conserve water by using the water that runs off your roof to water your garden. You will also learn how to construct, select a location, and install your rain barrel. You will receive tips on maintenance, operation, and how to get the most out of your rain barrel. Class size will be limited to 12 participants, so register early to reserve your rain barrel!





Appreciating Harlan Strandlien-

36 Years of Dedication!

Clearwater SWCD wishes to express our sincere gratitude to retiring board member Harlan Strandlien for being a part of the SWCD since 1988!

Thanks to Harlan's wisdom and integrity Clearwater SWCD has managed to accomplish many projects over the years. Harlan, thank you for generously giving your time to make this SWCD the best we can be. Congratulations on a well-deserved retirement!

Congratulations Chester!

SWCD Employee Wins Award

We are proud to announce that our very own Chester Powell was presented with the MASWCD 2024 SWCD Field Staff Appreciation Award for outstanding contribution in implementation of soil and water conservation practices at the MASWCD Annual Convention and Trade Show this year! The whole of the Clearwater SWCD staff and board is pleased to see his work recognized on a larger scale! Congratulations Chester!



2025 Tree Sale

Once again, it's time to think about ordering trees! Each year we sell a variety of native conifers, shrubs, fruiting and deciduous trees. We also offer Orchard, Bird & Grouse and Jam & Jelly packs for a larger variety. Our bare root trees are typically 1-2 feet in height and are locally grown in Minnesota and North Dakota. Most of our species come in bundles of 25 and range from \$20 to \$40 per bundle. We cannot sell bundles of less than 25 trees, unless already noted on the form. The deadline to turn in your tree order form is any time before the first day of tree pick-up.



We are also selling a variety of Minnesota native flowers and grasses. We will be selling our flowers and grasses in specific packs. There are a variety of packs to choose from. The packs are sold as 36 plants with 6 different species. Species included in the packs will vary based on current inventory and availability from the nursery but will have a variety of bloom times and colors. The flowers and grasses are locally grown and from MN Native Landscapes. You can check out what the packs may consist of at their website: <https://mnlcorp.com/product-category/signature-plant-kits/>. Please be aware that the deadline to turn in your flower and grass form is April 1st (and that's no joke!).

We will start accepting order forms in January 2025. Please mail in or visit the office to drop off your order form. A check (preferred method) or cash value of your total amount is expected with your order form. Clearwater SWCD does not accept credit/debit cards. Be sure to provide your email *and* phone number so that we may inform you of any changes. Notifications that tree pick-up dates are nearing are exclusively sent by email. Please remember that all our trees, flowers and grasses are first come, first serve. If you think we will sell out of a specific species, and we do sell out frequently, turn in your order form and payment ASAP. You can always check our website at www.clearwaterswcd.com/annual-tree-sale for updates. We typically announce that certain species are sold out on the online PDF order form daily. If you have a large order or are purchasing trees or flowers to use in a program, it may be easier to give us a call at (218) 694-6845 ext. 4 to make sure all your needed plants are available.

Our pick-up location is at the DNR Forestry building at 36452 State Hwy 92, Bagley, MN 56621. We still enjoy the smoothness of having our pick-ups done by car so please stay in your vehicle during pick up so we can quickly grab everyone's plants with ease. Our pick-up dates are planned as May 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Stay tuned to our Facebook page and website for updates regarding our sale season.

As always please feel free to email us or give our office a call for any questions, concerns, or planting tips!

Annual Flyers: Pages 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10

Custom Services Provided:

Tree Planting:

Staff will plant by hand or machine (tractor not provided).



Brush Mowing:

Staff will mow tall brush with provided ATV and mower.



Broadcast Seeding:

Staff will broadcast seed.



Volunteers Wanted!

Help keep our lakes healthy by
volunteering!

Clearwater SWCD is looking for reliable citizens to help us evaluate the health of our county's lakes that we all enjoy! Volunteers would take a water sample of given lake 5 times a year during the months of June through September. If you or someone you know lives on or near the following lakes and are interested in helping us gather vital data, please contact Brielle Prokosch at the office for more information! We'd love your help next summer!

- ♣ Bagley ♣ Big LaSalle ♣ Falk
- ♣ Johnson ♣ Lone ♣ Rockstad
- ♣ Moose ♣ Minnow ♣ Pine



Soil Health Equipment Rentals:

No-till Drills:

interseed pastures,
plant cover crops &
more! →



Two different
styles of drills to
choose from!

Sprayer:

remove unwanted
plants or prep the
field! →



Aerator:

break up sod &
increase
← infiltration!



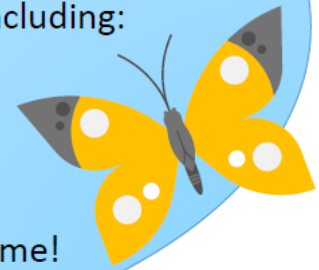
Environmental Education Classes Coming Soon!



Keep an eye out for our classes in the local paper or on our Facebook page!

We are hoping to give classes on a multitude of environmental education classes this year including:

- Rain Barrels
- Composting
- Pollinators
- And more in the years to come!



Thank You

*To all our wonderful volunteers and local partners:
we are sincerely grateful for your support!
Thank you for another fantastic year!*



\$10 Composters for Sale

Lightweight! Expandable! Easy to Use!
Designed for heat and moisture retention to accelerate decomposition.

Purchase one for all your composting needs at our SWCD office or at the Clearwater County Environmental Services office in the courthouse.

Can hold up to 246 gallons at 36 inches tall.

**Only available while supplies lasts.

Did you know the NRCS is available in the same building as the SWCD?



The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is available for forest, pasture, and cropland conservation assistance! Financial and Technical help is available. The Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) financially helps you address a specific set of resource concerns including, but not limited to - improving wildlife habitat, fixing a soil erosion problem, and improving pasture conditions. The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) provides five years of annual payments rewarding you for being good stewards of the land and implementing certain activities to take your conservation above and beyond. Financial programs are competitive and not guaranteed but applicable technical assistance is always available.

Contact Nate Brandt at 218-694-6584 or 320-423-0194 for more info.

50%

Reimbursement of total cost for Bacteria and Nitrates series well test

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Clearwater SWCD will pay 50% of water test costs through RMB labs if the participant is willing to share a copy of the test results.

All participant information
will remain confidential.

Program participants within the Mississippi Watershed pay for their own tests in full, and then Clearwater SWCD reimburses 50% of total cost for Bacteria and nitrates series tests once a copy of the test results from RMB are provided to the SWCD.

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CLEARWATER

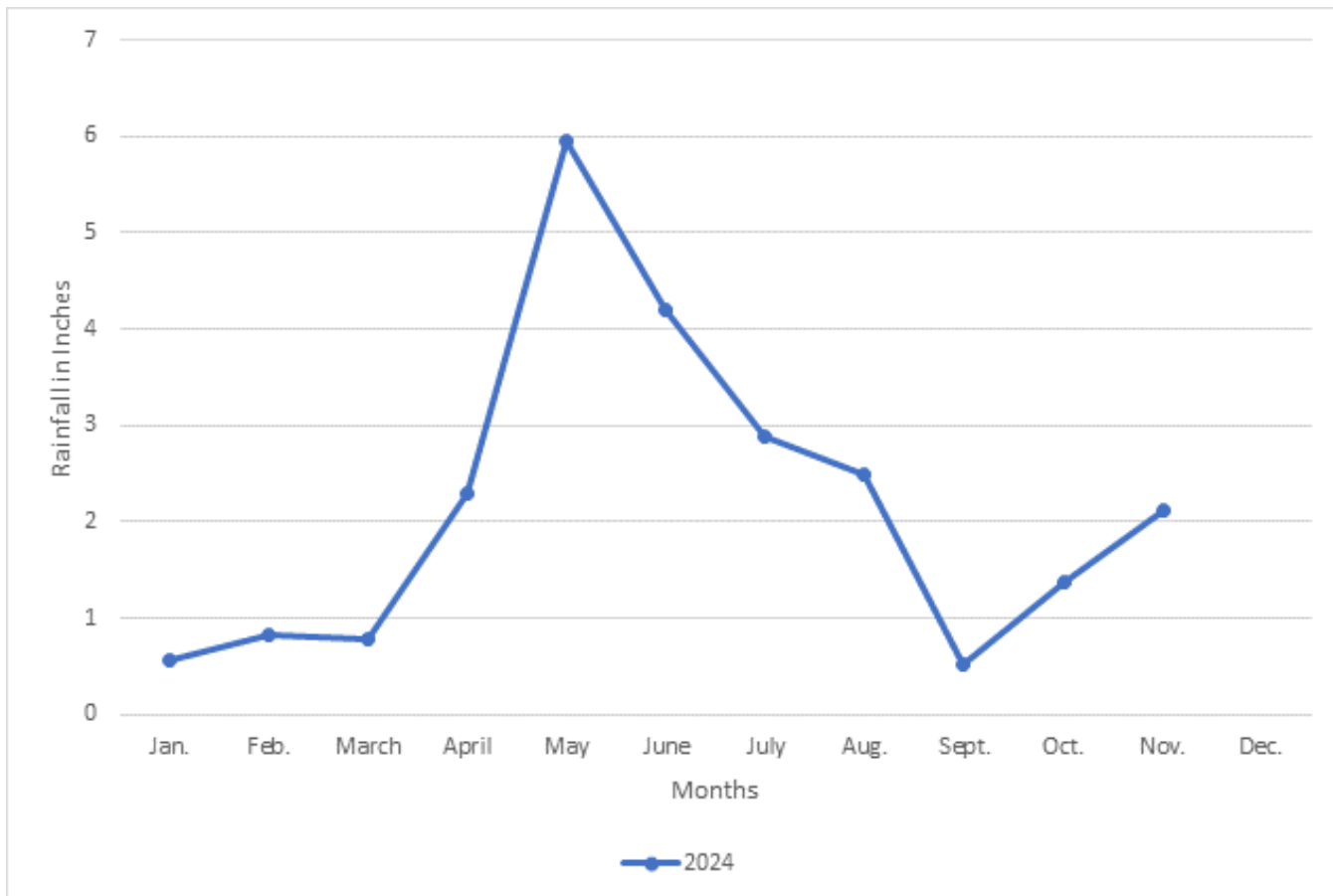
Soil & Water Conservation District

(218) 694-6845

Clearwater County Rain Gauge

Clearwater SWCD, along with local volunteers, have been working with the Minnesota Climatology Network to gather rainfall data since 1978. We currently have volunteers collecting rainfall data in Copley, Eddy, Falk, Greenwood, Itasca, Minerva, Moose Creek, Pine Lake, Popple, and Rice townships.

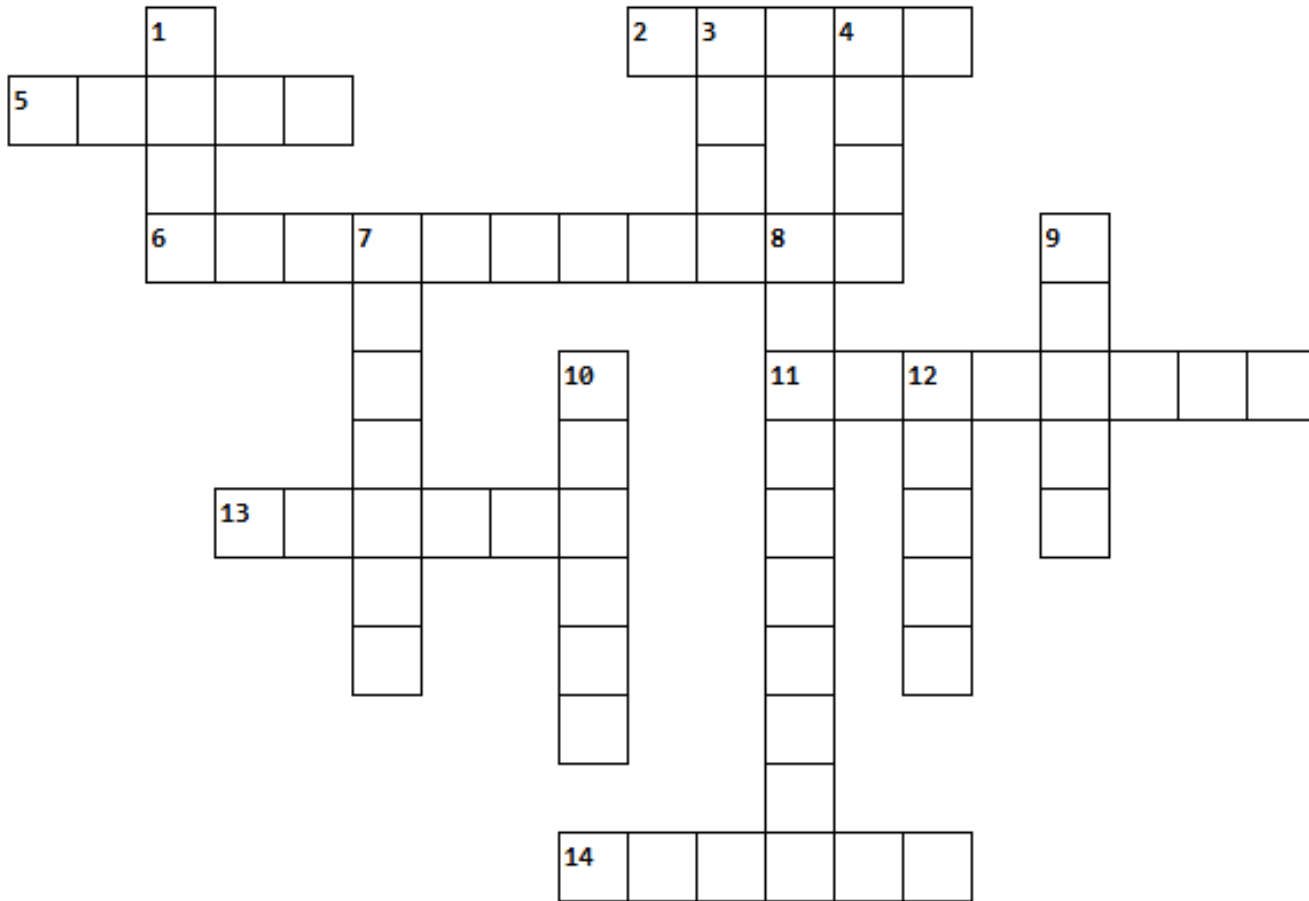
Clearwater County Average Annual Rainfall 2024



✳️ Clearwater's Puzzle Page! ✳️

This newsletter's event: **Cross Word**

Using one word, find the answers based on the newsletter!



Across:

- 2. Thicket
- 5. Shovel
- 6. Academic
- 11. Gardening
- 13. Flora
- 14. Woods

Down:

- 1. Pond
- 3. Shower
- 4. Dirt
- 7. Fertilize
- 8. Acknowledge
- 9. H2O
- 10. Drum
- 12. Trophy

Answers: 1. Lake, 2. Brush, 3. Rain, 4. Soil, 5. Spade, 6. Educational, 7. Compost, 8. Appreciate, 9. Water, 10. Barrel, 11. Planting, 12. Award, 13. Flower, 14. Forest

POSTAGE



CLEARWATER

Soil & Water Conservation District

312 Main Ave N, Suite 3
Bagley, MN 56621

 Find us on
Facebook



CLEARWATER

Soil & Water Conservation District

Visit Our Website



Mission:

Our mission is simple - to promote the wise use and improvement of our county resources, in order that future generations will inherit an economically viable county that has made wise choices in resource management.

312 Main Ave North Suite 3, Bagley, MN 56621
218-694-6845 ext 4 | www.ClearwaterSWCD.com