

How Do These Practices Protect Water Quality?

STREAM CROSSINGS AND FENCING



Installing fencing around streams and ponds minimizes livestock contact with water, which protects water quality.

COVER CROPS

Cover crops protect the soil during the winter months, reducing soil erosion and adding nutrients to the soil.



RIPARIAN BUFFERS



Planting permanent vegetation along streams filters runoff from adjacent fields and improves wildlife habitat.

HEALTHY SOIL

Controlling erosion keeps soil in the fields where it belongs. Healthy soil leads to healthy crops.



Protecting Lake Monroe

Lake Monroe is the sole source of drinking water for Bloomington and is a huge economic driver for the region. Protecting Lake Monroe requires looking beyond the lake itself and considering its watershed, the 440 square miles of land that drain into the lake. Actions in the watershed impact water quality in the lake and its tributaries.



Helping producers adopt Best Management Practices (BMPs) is one important strategy of the Lake Monroe Watershed Management Plan. Friends of Lake Monroe is excited to fund projects that reduce the amount of sediment, nutrients, or fecal contamination entering nearby water bodies.

Lake Monroe Watershed Conservation Cost-Share Program



"WE CAN HELP YOU SAVE SOIL AND PROTECT STREAMS"



Eligible Practices:

- Cover Crops*
- Conservation Tillage*
- Nutrient Management *
- Riparian Buffer
- Filter Strip or Field Border
- Conservation Cover
- Grassed Waterway
- Water and Sediment Control Basin
- Wetland Restoration, Creation, or Enhancement
- Livestock Exclusion Fencing (to protect water bodies)**
- Heavy Use Area Protection
- Critical Area Planting
- Forage and Biomass Planting
- Roof Runoff Structure
- Compost Facility
- Stream Crossing
- Tree Planting
- Forest Trails and Landings***

* including equipment modification

** including alternate watering systems

*** for forested sites with active erosion

Eligible Locations:

Projects must be located in the Lake Monroe watershed, which spans portions of Monroe, Brown, and Jackson Counties.

See the map below or scan the QR code for a digital interactive map



LEARN MORE TODAY!

Contact Lake Monroe Watershed Coordinator Maggie Sullivan (812-558-0217, watershed@friendsoflakemonroe.org) or your local SWCD to discuss your project and to learn more about the program.

