



PUBLIC DRAINAGE DITCH BUFFER STRIP REPORTING CALENDAR YEAR 2015 SUMMARY

Beginning with calendar year 2007, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources has collected buffer strip reporting data from Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103E Drainage Authorities, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes Section 103E.067 Ditch Buffer Strip Annual Reporting, which was enacted in 2007. This document summarizes the Ditch Buffer Strip reporting data for calendar year 2015.

On December 21, 2015 the BWSR notified Chapter 103E Drainage Authorities of the Annual Buffer Strip Reporting requirements in Section 103E.067 and provided a form to document the requested information for Calendar Year 2015. This notification was sent via email using a Drainage Authority "point-of-contact" list originally developed from the Public Drainage Ditch Buffer Study, February 2006 and subsequently updated during annual Ditch Buffer Strip reporting. The following Ditch Buffer Strip reporting information was requested:

1) For Calendar Year 2015, please fill in the number of actions for which viewers were appointed for each of the categories below. Also include the number of miles of buffer strip established in accordance with Section 103E.021 under each of the categories:

- a) 103E.212 New drainage system projects. (Establishment)
- b) 103E.215 Improvement of drainage system.
- c) 103E.221 Improvement of outlets.
- d) 103E.351 Redetermination of benefits and damages.
- e) 103E.715 Repair by petition., Subd. 6. Repair by resloping ditches, leveling waste banks, installing erosion control, and removing trees.
- f) Incremental Buffer Strip(s) via 103E.021, Subd. 6

2) Please provide the number of drainage system inspections conducted.

3) Please provide the number of violations of section 103E.021 identified.

4) For each of the violations in (3), identify the enforcement action(s) taken.

BWSR received the following responses:

Counties

Report provided: 75 of 75 that administer Chapter 103E drainage ditches (100%)

No response: 0 of 75

Watershed Districts

Report provided: 21 of 21 that administer Chapter 103E drainage ditches (100%)

No response: 0 of 21

Following are tabulated reporting results:

Calendar Year 2015 Ditch Buffer Strip Report Summary

Total miles of 103E.021 buffer strips established in calendar year 2015: **289.3**
 Total number of drainage system inspections: **1485**
 Total number of 103E.021 violations identified: **189**
 Landowner Violations in a County Drainage Authority **77**
 Landowner Violations in a Watershed District Drainage Authority **112**

Reported Number of Actions Requiring 103E.021 Buffer Strips			
Drainage System Action	County	WD	Total Actions Requiring Buffers
a) Ditch Establishment via 103E.212	0	0	0
b) Ditch Improvement via 103E.215	11	3	14
c) Improvement of Outlet via 103E.221	1	1	2
d) Redetermination of Benefits via 103E.351	78	2	80
e) Repair by Petition via 103E.715, Subd. 6	12	1	13
f) Incremental Buffer Strip(s) 103E.021, Subd. 6	4	11	15
Total	106	18	124

Reported Miles of Ditch Buffer Strips Established			
Drainage System Action	County	WD	Total Miles of Ditch Buffer Strips Established
a) Ditch Establishment via 103E.212	0.0	0.0	0.0
b) Ditch Improvement via 103E.215	9.2	8.7	17.9
c) Improvement of Outlet via 103E.221	0.0	0.0	0.0
d) Redetermination of Benefits via 103E.351	176.9	36.6	213.5
e) Repair by Petition via 103E.715, Subd. 6	16.1	14.4	30.5
f) Incremental Buffer Strip(s) 103E.021, Subd. 6	14.4	12.9	27.3
Total	216.7	72.6	289.3