

Local Water Protection Act Fact Sheet

U.S. Rep Angie Craig

To help reduce harmful pollutants in our water resources, the *Act* would:

- **Reauthorize** the Environmental Protection Agency's successful Section 319 Grant Program.
- **Increase** the grant funding level to \$200 million per fiscal year available to state and local governments for technical assistance, financial assistance, education, training, technology transfer, demonstration projects and monitoring the success of specific nonpoint source implementation projects.

Local examples of Section 319 Grants in action:

- *Scott County*: Scott Soil and Water Conservation District saved native plants and the shoreline protecting McMahon Lake. The grant also significantly helped reduce pollution throughout the County by planting filter strips, building control grade structures, lining waterways with grass and planting native grass.
- *Dakota County*: The County created and implemented projects to validate, demonstrate, and refine best management practices for nitrogen fertilizer for corn production that will lower nitrate levels in Dakota County's groundwater and surface water.
- *Goodhue County*: Goodhue County Soil and Water Conservation District is currently working to reduce the pollutants in the Mississippi River-Lake Pepin Watershed by 20%.
- *Wabasha County*: The Whitewater Watershed Project worked with communities to increase awareness of water contamination and provided low-interest loans to improve residential infrastructure and help farmers come into compliance with pollution standards.
- *Washington County*: The South Washington Watershed District integrated a stormwater reuse plan that captures roadway stormwater into two existing ponds, integrates the water into two existing golf course irrigation systems and provides new water amenities within the public golf courses. This is estimated to reduce potable water usage by more than 40 million gallons annually.
- *Rice County*: The Cannon River Watershed Partnership is working to engaging local, regional and state programs and organizations to develop a way for their local community to engage in pollution reduction in a meaningful and long-term way.