

MINNESOTA CONSERVATION FEDERATION
ANNUAL MEETING

September 14, 2014

Resolution #1

Deerwood, Minnesota

Larger Drainage Ditch Buffers Required and Stronger Enforcement Needed

WHEREAS, drainage ditches are a strong component of agricultural practices in Minnesota, and

WHEREAS, farming machinery has gotten bigger and requires more space to turn the machinery around, and

WHEREAS, state law calls for a rod (16 and 1/2 feet) of buffer measured from the both outside edges of a drainage ditch, and

WHEREAS, drainage ditches, in addition to providing necessary drainage of the land owners land also provide much needed habitat for fish and wildlife, and

WHEREAS, buffers around ditches provide needed grassy habitat for bees and other pollinators.

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that The Minnesota Conservation Federation meeting at its annual meeting in Deerwood, Minnesota on September 14, encourage the Minnesota Legislature, state, and local governments to more strongly enforce the one rod grassy buffer law in every county of the state, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MCF encourages the State Legislature, state and local governments to recommend that the buffers be seeded with native seed mixes and or managed to minimize invasive species.

Submitted by Jim Legg