

AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FROM YAHARA WINS

The Yahara Watershed Improvement Network, known as Yahara WINS, is a partnership of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District, cities, villages, towns and others to achieve clean water as required in regulatory permits for the Yahara Watershed.

Yahara WINS contracts with Dane County to provide conservation services and practices to help achieve the goals. Additionally, Yahara WINS offers innovation grants for new or untested phosphorus reduction practices. The Land & Water Resources Department successfully applied for a grant to integrate grazing systems in the lower Yahara Watershed.

This project is innovative in that it is approaching the use of grazing on the farm scale by integrating the use of annual cover crops with perennial pastures. By utilizing both sources of feed, farmers can reduce input costs of feed by essentially double cropping their row crops and reduce environmental impacts by increasing soil health through the use of integrated crop and livestock management. By incorporating cover crops into annual rotations, phosphorus will be cycled more efficiently, soil and phosphorus loss will be reduced, and the need for chemical phosphorus fertilizers will decrease. Overwintering cover crops, such as cereal rye are excellent scavengers of nutrients in the fall and help build healthy soils that retain nutrients.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors and the Dane County Executive hereby accept the grant in the amount of \$9,500 from Yahara WINS

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Board of Supervisors and the Dane County Executive hereby authorize Land & Water Resources Department staff to sign and submit the grant agreement, submit reimbursement claims and take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the grant project.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a new revenue and expense account LWRCONSV "WINS grant" be established for \$9,500. These funds shall be carried forward until expended.