

Conservation Reserve Program

CP-39

FARMABLE WETLANDS PROGRAM, CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS

Improve Water Quality | Enhance Wildlife Habitat | Sequester Carbon



Why Choose CRP? You Benefit. Land, Water and Wildlife Benefit.

The Farmable Wetland Program (FWP) constructed wetlands remove nitrogen from agricultural drainage runoff improving water quality while creating wildlife habitat. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) provides farmers and landowners with practices like this to achieve many farming and conservation goals. Whatever the conservation challenge - soil conservation, water quality protection or wildlife habitat enhancement - CRP is a proven land performance and management solution.

Why Constructed Wetlands?

Wetlands are an efficient way to remove nutrients and pesticides from cropland runoff. They reduce sediment loading and downstream flooding, resulting in improved water quality. Restoring wetland functions also enhance vital habitat for wildlife, especially ducks and other waterfowl, upland game birds and songbirds. Offered in **continuous sign-up**, CP-39:

- Removes large amounts of nitrogen from agricultural drainage water
- Provides vital habitat for waterfowl, grassland birds, and other wetland species
- Sequesters carbon

Financial Benefits

CP-39 participants are guaranteed:

- 10-15 years of annual rental payments with an additional 20% Rental Rate Incentive
- Payments covering up to 90% of the eligible costs of establishing the wetland restoration practice
 - 50% from a Cost-Share Payment and
 - 40% from a Practice Incentive Payment (PIP)
- Sign-up Incentive Payment (SIP) up to \$100/acre
- Mid-Contract Management Cost Share



Eligible Land

- Planted or considered planted 4 out of 6 years between 2008 and 2013
- Capable of being planted to an agricultural commodity
- Compliant with USDA's highly erodible land and wetland provisions
- Receives flow from a row crop agricultural drainage system

Practice Requirements

- At least 25% of the offered land's upstream watershed must be row cropped
- The size of the wetland plus associated buffer cannot exceed 40 acres
- The maximum size of the associated buffer cannot exceed 4 times the size of the wetland
- Noxious weeds and other undesirable plants, insects, and pests shall be controlled
- Practices shall be maintained without additional cost-share payments
- Design provides nitrogen removal and other wetland functions

For More Information:

Contact your local USDA, Farm Service Agency:

<http://offices.usda.gov>

FSA will ultimately determine participant and land eligibility.

Owner/Operator Eligibility

Participants must:

- Have owned or operated the land for more than 12 months prior to program sign-up
- Be in control of the land for the length of the contract
- Meet USDA payment eligibility provisions

Obligations

Participants will:

- Not harvest or graze the practice area
- Work with USDA-approved conservationist to develop a conservation plan
- Perform periodic management activities according to the conservation plan
- Complete construction of the practice within 12 months of the effective date of the contract

Proven Conservation Benefits

- Constructed wetlands in Iowa have been shown to remove an average of over 5 tons of nitrate per year
- CRP contributes to an estimated net increase of 1.5 million ducks per year
- In 2014, CRP lowered greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of 43 million metric tons of CO₂ – the same benefits as taking nearly 8 million cars off the road for a year