Wisconsin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

LWCB Update - 2020
CREP Program Eligibility:

- Farm Bill Authority
- Fed-State Agr 2001
  - 100,000 acre cap
  - 20% State match
  - 28 million State Funds
  - Continuous Sign-up
- WI Specific Provisions
  - Goals
  - Federal Payment Rates
  - Practices Available
  - Adjustments to CRP Rules
CREP Enrollment Eligibility:

- State-Co Agreements
  - 53 Counties

WI Project Areas
- Riparian
- Southern Grassland
- Northern Grassland
- Lake Superior
Implemented at the Local Level

• Locally Led
• Organized Efforts
• Strategic, Coordinated Targeting
• Farmer buy-in
• Word of Mouth
• Local Partner Relationships
• Using New Tools
What is CREP?

- **Goal** is to reduce ag. runoff along streams/wetlands to protect water quality and provide habitat.

- **Offers** an opportunity to voluntarily stop farming land abutting streams/wetlands & place it into conservation practices.

- **In Return** landowners receive incentive, annual rental, and cost-share payments along with other assistance.

- **Flexible** design practice design options for landowners to choose.

- **Contract** options are 15 year agreement or perpetual easement
What Land is Eligible?

**General Rules for Eligibility**
- Within CREP Project Area
- Cropland 4 out of 6 yrs (2012 – 2017), or meet rotation requirements, or marginal pastureland.
- Within 150ft of eligible stream or water body.
- Min. 20 ft.

**Grassland Areas**
- Both or Either:
  - Within 1000 ft of eligible water body.
  - Highly erodible land (HEL)
Conservation Practices

- **CP1** - Permanent Introduced Grasses & Legumes*
- **CP2** – Permanent Native Grasses*
- **CP8A** - Grass Waterway
- **CP21** - Filter Strip
- **CP22** - Forest Riparian Buffer
- **CP23 & 23A** - Wetland Restoration
- **CP25** – Tall Grass Prairie & Oak Savanna*
- **CP29** – Marg. Pasture Wildlife Habitat Buffer
- **CP30** – Marg. Pasture Wetland Buffer
Flexibility to Fit the Farm

- No minimum acreage
- Resolve resource concern +
- Mix Practices / Programs
- 60% rule
CREP Contract Options

**Federal:** CRP-1, 15 years

**State:**
- 15 Year Agreement (LWR-283)
  - 15 Years
  - Incentive = SRR x 1.5 x Acres (2.5 – Lk Superior)
  - Option to convert to easement later
  - Buyout an option
  - Reenrollment

- Perpetual Easements (LWR-281 & 286)
  - Perpetuity
  - Incentive = SRR x 12 x Acres (24 x – Lk Superior)
  - Not eligible for CRP1 re-enrollment after 15 years

- No Public Access Required
Financial Incentives & Payments

**Annual Payments**
- FSA Rental payments annually for up to 15 years
- Based on soil type, county, and if crop or pasture land.
- Range from $40-$240 per acre.
- Added 35-60% increase for CREP (based on CP)

**Up-front Payments** (one-time)
- FSA signing incentive for new buffer & filter strips or waterway
- DATCP incentive
  - 1.5 times X SRR X Acres for 15 year.
  - 12 times X SRR X Acres for easement.
- Provided soon after signing

**Practice Payments**
- FSA - 50% cost-share
- FSA - 40% practice incentive payment
- State - 20% cost-share

**Use Value Assessment**
Financial Incentives & Payments

**2018 Ave. Base SRR = $130/acre**

**2018 Country Ave. Base SRR**
- Dane: $179 / acre
- Fond du Lac: $181 / acre
- Lafayette: $212 / acre
Enrollment Activity

- Enrollment Period 2019 = June 03 – August 18
- FFY2019 = 280 agr on 3,028 ac. / 863 ac. new
- Cal 2019 = 522 agr on 6,171 ac. / 2,429 ac. new
CREP Participation:

- **Contracts**
  - Agreements – 2,913
  - Easements – 510
  - Landowners – 5,365

- **Land Enrolled**
  - 39,300 + acres
  - Ave 10 acres/site

- **Financial (million)**
  - State: $19.0
  - County: $3.6
  - Federal: $130+

- **Contracts (5th)**
- **Acres (10th)**
Environmental Benefits

- Reduce nutrient runoff & Sediment trapping
- Streambank protection
- Erosion control
- Improve water quality

Environmental Benefits (Annual)

- 878 mi shore buffer
- 11,044 acres grassland
- 94,167 lbs phosphorus
- 50,542 lbs nitrogen
- 46,651 tons sediment
Easement – Monitoring

- Federal CRP-1 (Expired):
  - 359 Perpetual Easements
  - 5,200 acres

- DATCP Letter & Map

- Office: GIS & Aerial Imagery

- Site Visit: By LCD and/or DATCP

- Complete Monitoring Form

- Follow up with Landowner
New Initiatives
### Allocation Adjustment

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### CREP Enrollment by County: FFY2018 & 2019

- **CREP Eligible Area**
- **Country Boundary**
- **City or Village Boundary**

**CREP Agreement Levels**

- **1 - 15**
- **16 - 20**
- **21 - 45**
- **46 - 75**
- **76 - 100**

**Increase**

- Adams: $3,183
- Brown: $526,469
- Dane: $480,000
- Dodge: $36,202
- Jefferson: $8,000
- La Crosse: $29,411
- Manitowoc: $0
- Monroe: $4,088
- Outagamie: $0
- Pepin: $0
- Pierce: $0
- Portage: $0
- Racine: $0
- Richland: $0
- Rock: $0
- Saint Croix: $0
- Sauk: $0
- Sheboygan: $0
- Taylor: $0
- Vernon: $0
- Washburn: $0
- Washington: $0
- Waushara: $0
- Waupaca: $0
- Wauchausa: $0
- Winnebago: $0
- Wood: $0

**Decrease**

- Adams: $45,000
- Brown: $88,252
- Dane: $119,592
- Jefferson: $156,877
- La Crosse: $29,411
- Manitowoc: $0
- Monroe: $0
- Outagamie: $0
- Pepin: $0
- Pierce: $0
- Portage: $0
- Racine: $0
- Richland: $0
- Rock: $0
- Saint Croix: $0
- Sauk: $0
- Sheboygan: $0
- Taylor: $0
- Vernon: $0
- Washburn: $0
- Washington: $0
- Waushara: $0
- Waupaca: $0
- Wauchausa: $0
- Winnebago: $0
- Wood: $0
Thank You