

GRANTS – ADD ONE

Farmers for the Upper Sugar River: \$20,000

Making best management practices accessible to the Upper Sugar River Producer Coalition

Collaborating with the UW-Extension, the coalition plans to create a larger scale program to reduce the risks for farmers trying new conservation practices by providing incentives to plant cover crops and renting equipment for low-disturbance manure injection and vertical tillage. The group will also use citizen water quality monitoring to develop baseline phosphorus data.

Contact: Wade Moder, 608-437-7707

Farmers of Mill Creek Watershed Council: \$19,975

Water quality improvement and public outreach in Mill Creek

Working with Portage County UW-Extension, this group will continue research on cover crop effects on soil moisture and temperature, and agricultural drains to improve water management. The group will also offer incentives for planting cover crops and trying no-till planting and host three field days.

Contact: John Eron, 715-498-5222

Horse Creek Farmer-Led Watershed Council: \$15,450

Improving water quality and building soil health in the Horse Creek Watershed

Collaborating with Polk County Land and Water Resources Department, the group will use funding for soil sampling, phosphorus indexing, cover crop planting, manure spreader calibration, corn stalk nitrate testing and stream sampling, and provide outreach about these practices to other farmers.

Contact: Eric Wojchik, 715-485-8699

Milwaukee River Watershed Clean Farm Families: \$20,000

Improving soil health and water quality in the Milwaukee River watershed

Collaborating with Ozaukee County Land Conservation Department and the Milwaukee River Watershed Conservation Partnership, the group sought funding to add financial incentives to farmers for nutrient management planning, conservation tillage and low-disturbance manure injection to its existing cover crop, harvestable buffer and tillage demonstrations. The group will also host field days, workshops and trainings.

Contact: Jim Melichar, 262-206-1731

Pecatonica Pride: \$20,000

Community watershed project

Working with Southwest Wisconsin Regional Planning Council, Lafayette County Land Conservation Department and Southwest Badger Resource Conservation and Development, Pecatonica Pride will use its funding for production of maps, assessments, signage and a manual, with the goal of creating a team of farmers, landowner, and community groups to improve and restore the Pecatonica River.

Contact: Kriss Marion, 608-558-0501

Peninsula Pride Farms: \$20,000

Implementing practices that reduce nutrient and sediment loads in the Kewaunee River Watershed

Collaborating with Wisconsin Center for Agriculture and Environmental Resources, this group will use funding for incentive payments for farmers to try new conservation practices, nutrient management assessments, and demonstrations and field days to help farmers see the environmental and economic benefits of conservation practices best suited for the karst topography in their region.

Contact: Rick Paye, 920-304-0300

South Kinni Farmer-Led Watershed Council: \$10,000

Improving water quality and building soil health in the South Kinni Watershed

Working with the Pierce County Land Conservation Committee, this group will provide incentives to farmers to plant cover crops, develop filter strips, conduct farm walkovers to identify conservation needs, and install grassed waterways and grade stabilization structures.

Contact: Dan Sitz, 608-273-6763

GRANTS – ADD TWO

Trout Creek-Mill Creek Watershed Group: \$18,200

Reducing nutrient and sediment loss in the Trout Creek-Mill Creek watershed

Collaborating with Michael Fields Institute, this previously funded group will provide incentives for no-till cover crop planting, pasture renovation and for new farmer signups to the group, with the provision that members either have or develop nutrient management plans. They also plan to bring in expert speakers, and hold another farm tour and a field day, featuring rotational grazing, no-till, cover crops and other practices.

Contact: Michael Dolan, 608-444-9759

Yahara Pride Farms: \$20,000

Reducing agricultural phosphorus loss to surface waters in the Yahara watershed

Working with UW Discovery Farms, this ongoing group will use its funding to expand its assessment, verification and certification program, which helps farmers identify conservation practices already installed or that could be installed and to find assistance in making the improvements; and to develop a paid-for-performance program for farms that have experimented with new practices and want to continue and improve them. The group also works with many partners for on-farm research including headland stacking and composting of manure, nitrogen use efficiency and cover crops.

Contact: Jeff Endres, 608-279-8991

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