

# 2022 Conservation Progress Report



## Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant Program

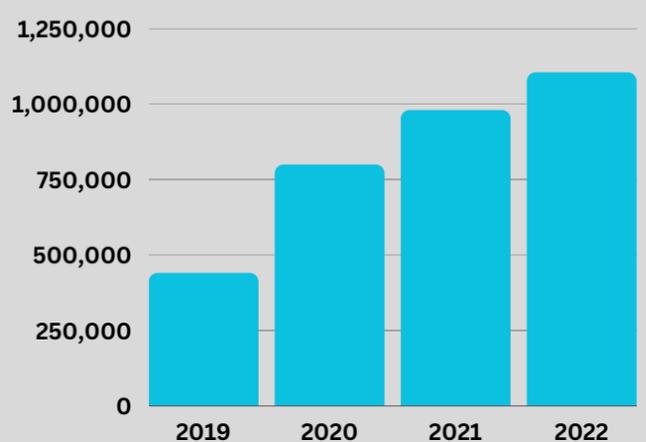
### PARTICIPATION CONTINUES TO GROW



In 2022 there were **36 producer-led groups** funded by the program encompassing **1,893 members** and **643,829 acres of managed farmland**, compared to 807 members and 526,846 acres in 2021.

### CONSERVATION PRACTICES INCREASE BY 13% FROM 2021

In 2022 conservation practices implemented by producer-led groups **grew to over 1.1 million acres.**



## KEEPING SOIL AND NUTRIENTS IN PLACE

**35% increase in no-till practices**



Minimizing disturbance to the soil to help prevent erosion from wind and water.

**30% increase in nutrient management**



Applying nutrients at the right rate, time, and place so they don't run off into waterways.

**27% increase in cover crops**



Keeping the ground covered to hold soil in place and feed soil microbes.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The 127,324 acres of cover crops planted and 112,936 acres of land under no-till management in 2022 potentially reduced an *estimated\**:

### Did you know?

This is comparable to 13,622 gas powered passenger vehicles driven for one year.

**61,214** tons of carbon dioxide equivalents of soil-based greenhouse gas emissions

**218,480** tons of soil erosion occurring on farm fields

**154,367** pounds of phosphorus from leaving farm fields

### Did you know?

One pound of P that reaches a waterbody can feed up to 500 pounds of algae and one dumptruck load can carry as much as 10 tons of soil.

## SOIL HEALTH SYSTEMS

Farmers in producer-led groups are integrating multiple practices onto their farms as part of a larger soil health system, including **innovative or non-traditional soil health practices.**

In 2022, producer-led groups implemented nearly **260,000 acres** of these "other soil health practices", which includes **targeted nitrogen management, managed grazing, and other perennial vegetation practices.**



This report was developed by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection.

\* All estimates are provided from models. Actual reductions in pollutants may be higher or lower.

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