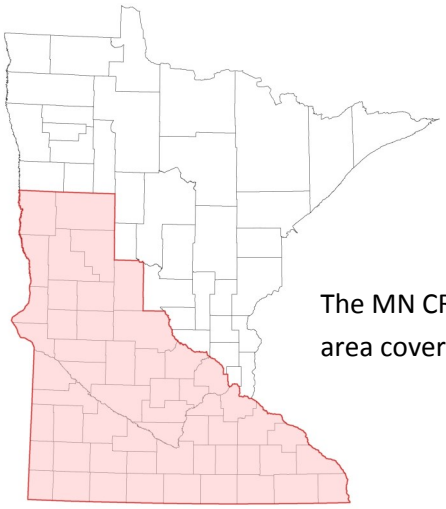
Approved Practices

The Minnesota Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (MN CREP)

What is MN CREP?

MN CREP is a voluntary, federal-state funded natural resource conservation program that uses a science-based approach to target environmentally sensitive land.

Landowners will enter into a 14-15 year Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract administered by the USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA), and a Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve perpetual conservation easement administered by the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR).



The MN CREP project area covers 54 counties.

Native Seedings a Priority

Native vegetation tailored to each site will be established according to state and federal practice standards.

These native plantings provide additional perpetual benefits—specifically as it relates to pollinators, nesting, food and other habitat needs.

MN CREP Practices

Four CRP Practices (CPs) have been approved to install filter strips, restore floodplain wetlands and restore depressional wetlands for water quality and habitat. Sensitive wellhead protection areas will also be protected.

Accepted parcels will incorporate FSA program guidelines, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) practice standards and BWSR RIM program and technical standards. See the other side of this page for more detailed information on the four CPs.

Grass Filter Strips (CP21)

- 30’ to 350’ width.
- NRCS standard 393 criteria for water quality, wildlife, flooding, farmability
- Acreage Goal: 30,000 acres

Wellhead Protection Areas (CP2)

- Wellhead protection areas mapped by the Minnesota Department of Health as high or very high vulnerability
- Acreage Goal: 3,000 acres

Wetland Restoration—100-Year Floodplain (CP23)

- 3:1 upland to wetland ratio
- Acreage Goal: 9,000 acres

Wetland Restoration—non 100-Year Floodplain (CP23a)

- 4:1 upland to wetland ratio
- Acreage Goal: 18,000 acres

Enrollment

Enrollment for MN CREP will begin in Spring 2017 and continue until funds are exhausted or the 60,000 acre goal is reached.

Many choices for landowners

MN CREP is just one option for landowners who wish to install conservation practices on their land. The local FSA/NRCS/Soil and Water Conservation District office can provide numerous strategic, voluntary, long-term solutions to directly address resource problems. Contact them directly for more information.

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

www.bwsr.state.mn.us/crep