

Approved by Isanti SWCD board on 1/17/2023

Updated 9/27/2023

## Green Lake Watershed 319 Program-Federal funding

The purpose of this program is to delist Green Lake from the impaired waters list.

Rates are based on available funding. Rates listed are the maximum.

### Project Ranking Criteria

Program participants are selected and prioritized based on proximity to surface water, cost-effectiveness to reduce pollution, leveraged funding, and funding availability. Land within North Brook (CD 16) and Wyanett Creek (CD23) is priority for rural projects.

### Design Standards

All eligible projects must be designed according to the USDA Field Office Technical Guide or other recognized standard as described below.

#### Urban and Residential Practice Funding:

Depending on the availability of funding, cost share may be approved to cover up to 75% of the actual project cost. Non-Federal funding sources may be used to fund any project at 100% if consistent with the administrative requirements of the funding source.

Examples of projects include shoreline erosion control/restoration, rain gardens, infiltration basins, and check dams.

#### Rural Practice Funding

Depending on the availability of funding, cost share may be approved to cover up to 75% of the actual project cost. Non-Federal funding sources may be used to fund any project at 100% if consistent with the administrative requirements of the funding source.

Examples of projects include water and sediment control basins (WASCOB), wetland restorations, livestock exclusions, and grassed waterways.

#### Non-Structural Practice Funding

See nonstructural practices specific policies and rates below.

#### Non-structural practice specific policies and rates:

Non-structural BMPs for the purpose of Soil Health will be planned and implemented according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) standards and specifications found on the Electronic Field Office Technical Guide (EFOTG). However, seeding dates for cover crops will follow the Midwest cover crop council seeding guide recommendations. Design standards for all practices must include specifications for operation and maintenance for the effective life of the given practice, including an inspection schedule and procedure.

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Nonstructural Ag BMPs (management BMPs) must be an enhancement of existing management practices that will reduce soil erosion, improve soil health from existing levels, and have a benefit for water quality. A practice must implement a higher level of conservation than what has been implemented on the field in the past 3 years.

The following practices may be implemented on the same acres for the three-year period alternating practices per year: Cover Crops, Residue and Tillage Management – No-Till & Strip Till, and Residue and Tillage Management – Conservation Tillage.

#### Contracts:

- Incentives to install or adopt land management practices will have the option of a 1 or 3-year contract length.

#### Payment:

- The applicant must certify, by signing the Flat Rate Voucher, and Practice Certification form, that the practice was completed according to plans and specifications developed by the district.
- The technician with the proper Job Approval Authority shall verify if the practice is complete and meets standards and specifications before final payment is issued.
- The Landowner/Applicant is responsible to pay, in full, all receipts and invoices directly to the contractor or vendor.
- One-time, upfront payment shall be made after certification of implementation by the technician. The practice must be certified and inspected by the Member annually (for three-year contracts) to ensure implementation. If the practice is not continued in years 2 & 3 as required, the Partner shall recover funds for those years.
- **Cover Crops** - Must follow NRCS Practice Standard 340
  - Three-year contract
  - 1-2 species \$50/acre/year
  - 3+ species \$60/acre/year
  - Implementation can occur on different acres within the three-year contract or on the same acres consecutively but must be implemented on the same amount or greater acres in years 2 and 3.
  - Must follow NRCS Practice Standard 340 (except for the seeding date which will follow the Midwest Cover Crop Council Seeding Guide recommendations)
  - Seeding dates will follow the Midwest Cover Crop Council Seeding Guide recommendations (the latest date allowed to plant a cover crop is November 20th).
  - One or three-year contract option
  - Cover crop must be applied to an annual crop, eligible crops include corn, soybeans, or small grains.
  - Prevent plant acres are not eligible for this program.
  - Cover crop cannot be terminated until after January 1 of the following year.

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- **Residue and Tillage Management – No-Till & Strip Till**
  - Must follow NRCS Practice Standard 329 for No-Till/Strip-Till
  - Three-year contract
  - \$20/acre/year
  - Implementation can occur on different acres within the three-year contract or on the same acres consecutively but must be implemented on the same amount or greater acres in years 2 and 3.
  
- **Residue and Tillage Management - Conservation Tillage**
  - Must follow NRCS Practice Standard 345 for Conservation Till
  - Three-year contract
  - \$10/acre/year
  - Residue cover following a corn crop at the time of planting the subsequent crop must be 60% or greater.
  - Residue cover following a soybean crop at the time of planting the subsequent crop must be 30% or greater.
  - Residue cover following a small grain crop at the time of planting the subsequent crop must be 60% or greater.  
Implementation can occur on different acres within the three-year contract or on the same acres consecutively but must be implemented on the same amount or greater acres in years 2 and 3.
  
- **Filter Strips:**
  - \$450/acre for NRCS minimum width (Native Species).
  - \$370/acre introduced species.
  - \$100/acre beyond minimum up to 75’.
  - \$150/acre harvestable.
  - Contract length is 5 years.
  - Payment: made after successful completion of the 1st year.
  
- **Conservation Cover - Must follow NRCS Practice Standard 327**
  - max 20 ac, contract duration 10 yrs, practice lifespan 10 yrs
  - Introduced species \$200/ac
  - Native species \$350/acre
  - Pollinator species \$500/ac.
  - Stand-alone practice