

## 502. Agricultural Incentive Program

**Purpose:** This policy provides the standards and procedures for the CRWD’s Agricultural Incentive Program. This program provides cost-share for the adoption of practices (commonly referred to as BMPs) on parcels that provide water quality benefits to CRWD waters.

**Standard 1:** Unless otherwise noted in standard 3 below, all parcels in the Clearwater River Watershed used for agricultural purposes are eligible for enrollment in this program.

**Standard 2:** The CRWD will provide a contract form for interested parties to use for enrolling their parcels into this program. Procedures and requirements for enrollment will be contained on said form.

**Standard 3:** Subprograms and their applicable structures are as follows:

Type	Category	Terms, Requirements, Notes								
<b>Drainage system</b>	Controlled Drainage	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case-by-case, capped at \$1,000 per practice</li> <li>• Period is 10 years</li> <li>• One-time payment   Not eligible to re-enroll</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design &amp; install requires engineer input   Must have O&amp;M plan</li> </ul>								
	Tile Intake Buffer	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Period is 7 years</li> <li>• Eligible regardless of drainage system type (i.e. public or private)</li> <li>• At end of period, eligible to re-enroll</li> </ul> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Size per intake</th> <th>Payment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>50' by 50'</td> <td>\$500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100' by 100'</td> <td>\$750</td> </tr> <tr> <td>½ acre or more</td> <td>\$1,500</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perennial vegetation along intakes; pollinator-friendly species are encouraged; noxious species are controlled</li> <li>• Can be mowed/ hayed twice from June 15- Sept. 1 annually</li> <li>• Minimum of 50' by 50' in size</li> </ul>	Size per intake	Payment	50' by 50'	\$500	100' by 100'	\$750	½ acre or more	\$1,500
	Size per intake	Payment								
	50' by 50'	\$500								
100' by 100'	\$750									
½ acre or more	\$1,500									
Tile Intake Replacement	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 75% of replacement costs, capped at \$500 per intake replaced</li> <li>• Period is 3 years</li> <li>• Eligible regardless of drainage system type (i.e. public or private)</li> <li>• One-time payment   Not eligible to re-enroll</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design &amp; install requires engineer input   Must have O&amp;M plan</li> <li>• Any technology that reduces direct surface connections via intakes is allowed (ex. rock inlets, dense pattern tiling in intake area)</li> </ul>									
Side Inlets	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25% of install costs, capped at \$500 per inlet replaced</li> <li>• Period is 5 years</li> <li>• Eligible regardless of drainage system type (i.e. public or private)</li> <li>• One-time payment   Not eligible to re-enroll</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p>									

Type	Category	Terms, Requirements, Notes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design &amp; install requires engineer input   Must have O&amp;M plan</li> </ul>
	Seeded Buffer	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$500 per acre, minimum width of 50'; maximum width of 200'</li> <li>Period is 7 years</li> <li>Eligible regardless of drainage system type (i.e. public or private)</li> <li>At end of period, eligible to re-enroll</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buffer defined as one-side of waterway (eligible for two payments if both sides of waterway)</li> <li>Perennial vegetation along waterway(s); pollinator-friendly species are encouraged; noxious species are controlled</li> <li>Can be mowed/ hayed twice from June 15- Sept. 1 annually</li> <li>Buffer is beyond the boundary of buffer zones required by law (i.e. does not pay for first 16.5' along public ditches or first 50' along public waters, but will pay beyond this zone)</li> </ul>
	Saturated Buffer	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25% of install costs, \$1 per lineal ft., capped at \$5,000 per buffer</li> <li>Period is 7 years</li> <li>Eligible regardless of drainage system type (i.e. public or private)</li> <li>One-time payment   Not eligible to re-enroll</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buffer defined as one-side of waterway (eligible for two payments if both sides of waterway)</li> <li>Perennial vegetation along waterway(s); pollinator-friendly species are encouraged; noxious species are controlled</li> <li>Design &amp; install requires engineer input   Must have O&amp;M plan</li> <li>Can be mowed/ hayed twice from June 15- Sept. 1 annually</li> <li>Signage must be allowed</li> </ul>
<b>Field erosion &amp; water retention</b>	Grass Waterways	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25% of install costs, capped at \$2,500 per waterway</li> <li>Period is 7 years</li> <li>Eligible regardless of drainage system type (i.e. public or private)</li> <li>At end of period, eligible to re-enroll</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perennial vegetation make up waterway(s); pollinator-friendly species are encouraged; noxious species are controlled</li> <li>Design &amp; install requires engineer input   Must have O&amp;M plan</li> <li>Can be mowed/ hayed twice from June 15- Sept. 1 annually</li> </ul>
	Cover Crops	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$100 per acre, capped at \$2,500 per producer</li> <li>Pilot, eligible to annually re-enroll for a maximum of 5 years</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must be undertaken in conjunction with local SWCD and/or NRCS</li> </ul>

Type	Category	Terms, Requirements, Notes
	Water & Sediment Basin	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25% of cost to install, capped at \$10,000 per basin installed</li> <li>• Period is 10 years</li> <li>• One-time payment   Not eligible to re-enroll</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design &amp; install requires engineer input   Must have O&amp;M plan</li> </ul>
	Wetland Restoration	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25% of cost to install, capped at \$10,000 per restoration</li> <li>• Period is 15 years</li> <li>• One-time payment   Not eligible to re-enroll</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design &amp; install requires engineer input   Must have O&amp;M plan</li> <li>• Signage must be allowed</li> </ul>
	Wetland Creation	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25% of cost to install, capped at \$10,000 per creation</li> <li>• Period is 15 years</li> <li>• One-time payment   Not eligible to re-enroll</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design &amp; install requires engineer input   Must have O&amp;M plan</li> <li>• Signage must be allowed</li> </ul>
Other	Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$300/ acre, limited to acres within 1,000' of waterbody</li> <li>• Period is life of CRP enrollment</li> <li>• At end of period, eligible to re-enroll if CRP is re-enrolled</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paid when USDA authorizes CRP contract</li> <li>• Must provide copy of CRP contract</li> <li>• Can be CRP or Continuous CRP</li> </ul>
	Feedlot Upgrade	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case-by-case, capped at \$10,000 per upgrade   Amount based on pollution reduction from upgrade</li> <li>• Period contingent on type of upgrade</li> <li>• One-time payment   Not eligible to re-enroll</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design &amp; install requires engineer input   Must have O&amp;M plan</li> </ul>
	Perpetual Easement	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case-by-case, capped at \$10,000 per easement</li> <li>• Period is perpetual</li> <li>• One-time payment   Not eligible to re-enroll</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preference given to existing programs, such as Reinvest-In-Minnesota and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program</li> <li>• Design &amp; install may require engineer &amp; legal input</li> <li>• Signage must be allowed</li> </ul>

Type	Category	Terms, Requirements, Notes
	Partnership	<p><u>Terms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case-by-case   Can include any of the above-noted items</li> </ul> <p><u>Requirements &amp; Notes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Join with partners to get valuable project completed or add additional elements to improve projects.</li> </ul>

**Standard 4:** The list below provides frequency of inspections to be used by the CRWD to ensure enrollments follow applicable requirements. The CRWD will work with enrollees to schedule these visits. Inspections of enrollments by other partners (ex. local Soil and Water Conservation Districts) are acceptable in lieu of these inspections.

- For enrollments less than one year, CRWD (or partner) staff will visit the site once at beginning of enrollment.
- For enrollments less than five years, but greater than one year, CRWD (or partner) staff will visit the site once every two years.
- For enrollments greater than five years, CRWD (or partner) staff will visit the site once every two years for the first five years; after year five, inspections will occur on an as-needed basis.

**Standard 5:** The list below provides the general criteria to be used by the CRWD in determining whether to enroll any parcel into its Program. The CRWD reserves the right to deny enrollment into its Program, with or without cause.

- Potential enrollments located in a previous-define priority area, or close to impaired waters, are viewed favorably.
- Potential enrollments that are for longer time periods are viewed favorably.
- Potential enrollments located near a public area (i.e. roadway, trail, park) are viewed favorably.
- Potential enrollments that result in multiple benefits (ex. both erosion correction and increased water retention) are viewed favorably.
- Potential enrollments that are joined with enrollment in Minnesota’s Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program are viewed favorably.
- All enrollments are to be considered on a first come, first serve basis.

**Standard 6:** The CRWD Administrator is authorized to enroll parcels into this program without specific Board approval if the cost of that enrollment is below \$2,500. The Administrator is to inform the Board of the enrollment at the next Board regular meeting.

**Standard 7:** If a Program enrollee violates any subprogram requirements, the enrollee is to return all or a portion of CRWD-provided cost-share, to be determined per the terms listed on the applicable enrollment form.

**Standard 8:** CRWD staff are entrusted with determining applicable sizing of each subprogram’s BMP.