



# Riparian Plantings in CRP

## Filter Strips

### Riparian Forest Buffers

Continuous Conservation Reserve Program Practice Information Sheet

February 2007



#### Filter Strip - CP21

Purpose – To remove pollutants from surface and near surface water.

Eligibility – Eligible cropland adjacent to permanent, seasonal streams, water bodies, and wetlands.

Size – Any length with an average width between 20 and 120 feet.

Maintenance – Control weeds and/or mow no more than 50% of contract between Aug 2 and Sept 1 in any single year as needed.

Placement – Immediately adjacent to eligible water bodies. Non-cropland may be required in the plan but will not be part of the contract.

#### Sample economics of a 120' wide filter strip along 2,000' of perennial stream (5.51 acres)

Costs including site preparation and seeding = \$278.25\*

Reimbursement and incentives = \$810.43\*

15 year rent payments = \$3,635.60\*



#### Riparian (Forest) Buffer CP22

Purpose – To remove pollutants, create shade, and provide detritus.

Eligibility – Eligible cropland or marginal pastureland adjacent to permanent and seasonal streams and water bodies.

Size – Any length with an average width between 35 and 180 feet. It is recommended up to 20' of grass (filter strip) be established up gradient from the trees and shrubs.

Maintenance – Control weeds as needed. Replant trees and shrubs if survival and volunteers plants together do not meet minimum stocking rates

Placement – Immediately adjacent to eligible water bodies. Contract may include a small part of non-cropland acres to properly position the riparian forest buffer.

Note: Fabric not included due to flooding risks.

#### Sample economics of a 180' wide riparian buffer along 2,000' of perennial stream (8.26 acres)

Costs including site preparation, planting, and first year weed control = \$7,142.01\*

Reimbursement and incentives = \$7,253.81\*

15 year rent payments = \$5,203.80\*

## Using filter strips and riparian buffers to ease farming

Filter strips and riparian buffers can be designed to make farming a bottomland field easier. As shown in the illustration below, the practices can be designed with variable widths to reduce the number of short or angled rows. Generally, the wider part of the strip falls in areas where surface water naturally enters the stream. This wider strip increases filtering effectiveness. The narrow part of the strip often occurs on outside bends of streams where very little water enters the stream; therefore, the need for a filter is not as great. Some filter area is still needed on the outside stream bends to protect the area from the weight and vibration of machinery and to allow a dense root mass to develop and anchor the bank.



**\* All sample economic scenarios are for illustration purposes only. The actual financial situation for any of these CRP practices will vary from those shown. A strong attempt was made to use typical situations found throughout North Dakota.**

**Note: Average soil rental rates vary from \$18 to \$80 across North Dakota. Examples are calculated at \$30/acre.**

For more details and further assistance, contact your local Farm Services Agency (FSA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), or Soil Conservation District (SCD).

*Helping People Help the Land*

All programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis.