



**Tennessee Job Sheet
Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
CP8A – Grassed Waterway**



Photo courtesy NRCS

Specifications

The minimum design width of the grassed waterway will be based on several factors including slope of the field, soil type, and conservation practices used in the field. Waterways cannot be used as a travel way, cropland headland, or a lane for livestock or farm equipment.

The grassed waterway will not be harvested for hay or grazed by domestic livestock for the life of the CRP contract. Grazing that is incidental to the normal gleaning of crop residue may be authorized. Cost-share is not authorized for fencing.

If needed to provide a stable outlet, no more than 10% of the length of the CRP waterway may be on marginal pastureland and still be eligible for payments. Any other necessary components for the grassed waterway (such as grading, outlets, tile, etc.) within this 10% allowance area will be at producer's expense.

Subsurface drains are eligible for cost-share if necessary for the proper functioning of the waterway. Maintenance of existing subsurface drains that serve as mains to laterals elsewhere in the field are the responsibility of the producer.

Approved planting mixtures include:

1. Tall fescue (50#/ac.)
2. Tall fescue (40#/ac.) and white clover (2#/ac.)
3. Common Bermudagrass (10#/ac. Hulled)
4. Common Bermudagrass (30 bu/acre sprigs)
5. Switchgrass (15#/ac.)

Lime and fertilizer will be applied according to a current soil test.

There are no mid-management requirements for a minimally designed grassed waterway. All grassed waterways designed wider than the minimum width will require a mid-management treatment of legume interseeding (either 14 lbs./ac of kobe or Korean lespedeza, or 2 lbs./ac. of red or white clover) once during the contract between year 4 and 6 on each side of the minimal channel width area. No more than 50% of the waterway shall be treated with legume interseeding. A pre-treatment of mowing, disking or herbiciding may be required prior to legume interseeding.

The established cover must be maintained for the life of the contract.

Purpose

The purpose of this practice is to convey runoff from terraces, diversions, or other water concentrations without causing erosion or flooding.

Eligibility

To be eligible for this practice the land must have a cropping history (4 out of 6 years from 1996 – 2001) and a grassed waterway must be able to address the resource concern.

General Provisions

This practice is eligible in the continuous CRP. Producers can enroll anytime landowner and land eligibility requirements are met. Contract length is 10 years.

Payments include annual rental payment based on a soil rental rate, an additional 20% of the weighted average soil rental rate annually, an annual maintenance payment, a one time signing incentive payment (SIP) of \$100 per acre, a one time practice incentive payment (PIP) equal to 40% of the total eligible cost of practice installation, and 50% cost share for practice installation.

Eligible Acres

The eligible acres of a grassed waterway will be the minimum design required according to the Grassed Waterway Standard (412) in the local Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) that safely conveys water from the field. Up to two times the minimum design width, to a maximum width of 100 feet, may be enrolled if requested by the producer to meet his objectives.