

NRCS NEWS RELEASE

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Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) Funding Available

ST PAUL, MN, April 25, 2012 –USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) allocated financial assistance through the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP). These funds are being administered by NRCS in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota portions of the Red River Basin. Funds will be utilized by local landowners to help address problems related to erosion, water quality, and flooding.

“This is an excellent opportunity for farmers to get involved with conservation that will benefit water quality and quantity in the Red River Basin,” said Don Baloun, MN NRCS State Conservationist. “Farmers are reminded to sign-up by June 1.”

AWEP funds will be used for the following strategies that were developed by the Red River Basin Commission with assistance from local units of government, commodity and farm groups, and federal and state agencies; sugar beet cover crop strategy, beach ridge erosion reduction strategy, restricted flow sediment pool strategy, water flow retardation strategy, stream bank erosion reduction strategy, and rink dikes and other EQIP strategies.

“Through these efforts, this is another way to work together throughout the Red River basin to help producers reduce runoff and at the same time help improve the soil quality and health,” said Baloun.

For more information on eligible projects, contact your local Soil Conservation District office in MN, local NRCS offices, local watershed district or water resource district offices.

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