

Plan of Operations for the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)- Lafayette County AEA Water Quality Project

Through RCPP, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) offers financial assistance to agricultural producers to implement on-farm conservation practices. Eligible land is determined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and is based on an identified resource concern. Eligible producers may apply for financial assistance on conservation practices that will address the identified resource concerns in the project area.

Eligible Project Area: Producers located within the Lafayette County Agricultural Enterprise Area are eligible to participate in the project’s EQIP sign-up. At least 50% of the application area must be within the project boundaries to be eligible for financial assistance consideration through the RCPP-EQIP sign-up.

Eligible Practices and Payment Rates: Listed below are the practices eligible for the project. Practice payment rates are posted in the [NRCS Payment Schedule website](#).

Conservation Activity Plans

102	Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan
104	Nutrient Management Plan
106	Forest Management Plan
110	Grazing Management Plan

Core Conservation Practices

327	Conservation Cover
328	Conservation Crop Rotation*
332	Contour Buffer Strips
330	Contour Farming
340	Cover Crop*
386	Field Border
393	Filter Strip
512	Forage and Biomass Planting
655	Forest Trails and Landings
410	Grade Stabilization Structure
412	Grassed Waterway*
468	Lined Waterway or Outlet
590	Nutrient Management*
528	Prescribed Grazing*
329	Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till
391	Riparian Forest Buffer
350	Sediment Basin
574	Spring Development
578	Stream Crossing
580	Streambank and Shoreline Protection

395	Stream Habitat Improvement and Management
585	Stripcropping
600	Terrace
638	Water and Sediment Control Basin

***Indicates high priority core practice**

Supporting Conservation Practices

326	Clearing and Snagging
342	Critical Area Planting
382	Fence
512	Forage and Biomass Planting
561	Heavy Use Area Protection
516	Livestock Pipeline
484	Mulching
500	Obstruction Removal
572	Spoil Spreading
570	Stormwater Runoff Control
606	Subsurface Drain
575	Trails and Walkways
620	Underground Outlet
614	Watering Facility

Eligible Land Uses: The following land uses are potentially eligible:

- Crop
- Pasture
- Forest
- Associated Ag Land

Eligible Resource Concern Categories:

Concentrated erosion
Field sediment, nutrient, and pathogen loss
Soil quality limitations
Water erosion- sheet and rill

Application Period: Applications may be taken at any time and those received by announced NRCS-WI batching dates will be evaluated for funding consideration.

Interested applicants may apply in person at the Darlington Service Center, 1900 Ervin Johnson Drive, Darlington, WI 53530. Applicants may also request EQIP assistance by telephone, FAX, e-mail, letter, or Conservation Client Gateway.

Funding Pools: Applications will be placed in the Lafayette County AEA Water Quality Project fund pool.

Ranking: Scoring of all applications will be done according to the ranking established in the Conservation Assessment and Ranking Tool (CART).

Funding: NRCS will allocate the available RCPP-EQIP funds based on the numerical ranking system in CART. Applications will be selected for plan development and contracted in ranked order according to the ranking score, as funds allow. If there are insufficient funds available to fund an application, applications not selected for contracting will be deferred to the next EQIP application ranking period.