



United States Department of Agriculture

MRBI

Mississippi River Basin Initiative



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Walnut Creek WQI Project

Farmers in three sub-watersheds within the Walnut Creek Watershed in southwest Iowa have the opportunity to receive **higher payment rates** on conservation practices and systems that avoid, control and trap nutrient runoff; improve wildlife habitat; and maintain agricultural productivity. Walnut Creek is located in the East Nishna-botna River Basin.

It's part of the Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative (MRBI). The goal of MRBI is to reduce nutrient loading in the Mississippi River Basin, which contributes to both local water quality problems and the hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico.

The primary long-term goals of the Walnut Creek Water Quality Initiative Project align with Iowa's Nutrient Reduction Strategy. They include: reducing in-stream nonpoint source nitrogen, reducing sediment delivery and in-stream phosphorus, monitoring water quality trends in the watershed, and engaging with all landowners and operators in the project area.

Sediment delivery to Walnut Creek from cropland is aggravated by erosion in areas of concentrated flow throughout the watershed. In many areas of Walnut Creek, sediment has destroyed critical fish and aquatic life habitats.

MRBI will be offered to Walnut Creek Watershed farmers for multiple years. To enroll, applicants must meet the minimum eligibility requirements of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). **Primary conservation practices and payment rates are listed on the back page.**

For more information about this project and MRBI, contact our local USDA Service Center:

Montgomery County (Red Oak): 712-623-9680

Page County (Clarinda): 712-542-5484

Fremont County (Sidney): 712-374-2014

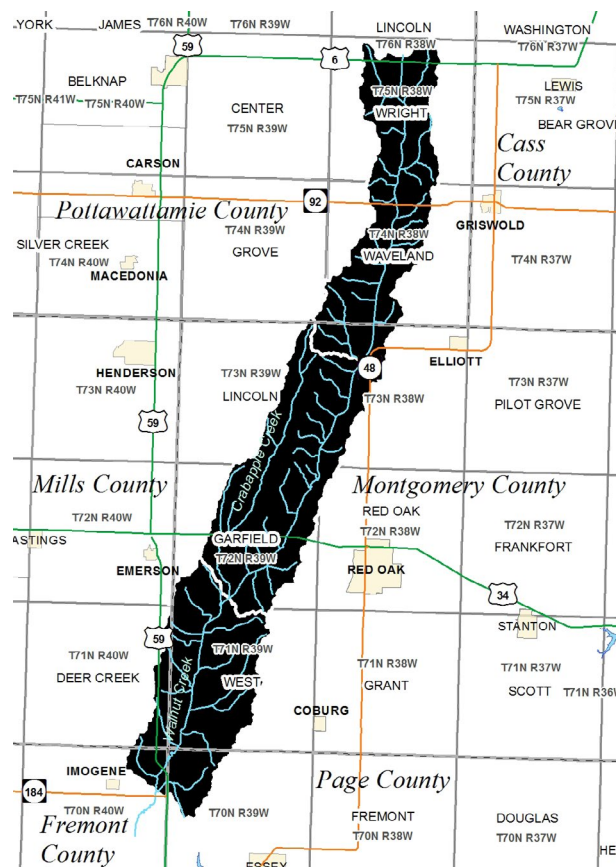
Pottawattamie County (Oakland): 712-482-6408

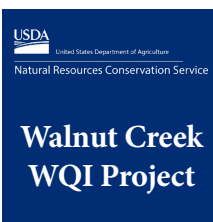
More information is available on Iowa's MRBI webpage at <http://bit.ly/iowaMRBI>.

Farmers in the following Walnut Creek sub-watersheds may be eligible for MRBI funding:

- Whipple
- Climax
- Crabapple

Stop by your NRCS Field Office if you farm in this area!





Project Partners:

- USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
- United Farmers Mercantile Cooperative - Red Oak
- Montgomery Soil and Water Conservation District
- Green Cover Seed

MRBI Core Conservation Practice and Payment List

Partial Practice List (Visit your local NRCS office or the Iowa NRCS website at ia.nrcs.usda.gov for a complete practice list.)	Payment Rate (Additional technical and financial assistance may be available from the MRBI project partners.)
Cover Crop	\$28.10 - \$68.18/acre
Nutrient Management	Varies by plan
Terrace	\$1.69 - \$5.89/foot
No-Till	\$16.34 - \$19.61/acre
Water and Sediment Control Basin	\$2.28 - \$3.60/cubic yard
Filter Strip	\$536 - \$578/acre
Grassed Waterway	\$2,126 - \$5,524/acre
Underground Outlet	Varies by size

