Farmers in Eagle Creek and Prairie Creek Watersheds within the Boone River Basin 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.

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 Boone River Water Quality Initiative Project align with Iowa’s Nutrient Reduction Strategy. They include: reducing in-stream non-point 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.

The primary resource concerns include water quality degradation due to excess nutrients in surface and groundwaters, and excessive sediment in surface waters.

MRBI will be offered 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:

- Kossuth County (Algona): 515-295-5156
- Wright County (Clarion): 515-532-2165
- Humboldt County (Humboldt): 515-332-3337
- Hancock County (Garner): 641-923-2837


Farmers in the following Boone River Basin sub-watersheds may be eligible for MRBI funding:
- Headwaters Eagle Creek
- Little Eagle Creek
- Eagle Creek
- Drainage Ditch 117
- Drainage Ditch 116
- Headwaters Prairie Creek
- Drainage Ditch 18 - Prairie Creek

Stop by your NRCS Field Office if you farm in this area!
Mississippi River Basin Initiative

Partial Practice List
(Visit your local NRCS office or the Iowa NRCS website at ia.nrcs.usda.gov for a complete practice list.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practice</th>
<th>Payment Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cover Crop</td>
<td>$28.10 - $68.18/acre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrient Management</td>
<td>Varies by plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denitrifying Bioreactor</td>
<td>$35.29 - $59.30/cubic yard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No-Till/Strip-Till (3 Years)</td>
<td>$16.34 - $19.61/acre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drainage Water Management</td>
<td>$4.82 - $10.17/acre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturated Buffer</td>
<td>$4.59 - $5.51/foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland Restoration</td>
<td>Varies by size and type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetlands</td>
<td>Varies by size and type</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Payment Rate
(Additional technical and financial assistance may be available from the MRBI project partners.)

Project Partners:
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Iowa State University Extension and Outreach
Agriculture’s Clean Water Alliance
The Nature Conservancy
Iowa Soybean Association

Cover Crops

Bioreactor

Wetlands

Saturated Buffer

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

Project Beginning Fiscal Year 2019