

APPLICATION

Producer's Name:

Address (include City, State Zip):

Phone: -----

Email: -----

Location of Cropland:

_____, Sec _____, T _____ N, R _____ E,

_____ County

Number of Acres: ____

Type of Application: _____ aerial
_____ ground

Landowner: -----

Signature: _____ Date: _____

The undersigned (applicant) agrees to the terms listed herein and hereby applies for cost-share assistance.

Producer's Signature:

----- Date: -----

ABOUT THE NRD

The Lower Platte South Natural Resources District is one of 23 districts in the state of Nebraska formed in 1972 for the purpose of managing the state's natural resources, with an emphasis on watershed management. Programs and activities include all areas of natural resource management and development: tree planting, flood protection, wildlife habitat, stream bank stabilization, environmental education, land treatment, water monitoring and many others. The districts are partially funded by property taxes and governed by a board of directors—elected representatives who serve four-year terms. The NRD system is local government working to protect local natural resources. The Lower Platte South NRD includes nearly all of Lancaster and Cass counties and parts of Seward, Saunders, Otoe, and Butler counties.



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH
natural resources district

Lower Platte South NRD • 3125 Portia Street
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Phone: (402) 476-2729 • Fax: (402) 476-6454

Contact: David Potter, Assistant Manager
The Lower Platte South NRD is an
Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

COVER CROP COST-SHARE PROGRAM



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH
natural resources district



www.lpsnrd.org

March 2024

PURPOSE

Reduce erosion, increase soil organic matter, capture and recycle nutrients, increase biodiversity, suppress weeds, manage soil moisture, and minimize/reduce soil compaction by utilizing cover crops within selected areas of LPSNRD.

ELIGIBILITY

Land shall be located in the Salt Creek watershed upstream of Lincoln, a Community Water System Protection Area, a Targeted Watershed, or a Ground Water Management Phase II or III Area and within LPSNRD (Refer to the Cover Crop Cost Share Areas map at LPSNRD.org and click on Programs, Landowner Cost-Share, then Land Treatment) or fields where terrace systems are currently being installed in the NRD's Summer Conservation Program and left idle. Cover crops may be established on Highly Erodible (HEL) and Non-Highly Erodible (NHEL) land that is currently in a continuous no-till cropping system. HEL fields where corn has been cut for silage are not eligible, per NRCS. Cover crops shall not be harvested, hayed or grazed. Each participant will enroll a total of 20-80 acres and may be allowed down to 10 acres, provided it is a complete field.

PROCEDURE

Producer will contact their local NRCS Field Office to determine land eligibility and prepare an application prior to October 1st. Applications will be reviewed by NRD staff and approved by the General Manager.



TERMS

- Cropland must be located in the Salt Creek watershed upstream of Lincoln, a Community Water System Protection Area, a Targeted Watershed Area or a Ground Water Management Phase II or III Area and within the LPSNRD, or fields where terrace systems are currently being installed in the NRD's Summer Conservation Program and left idle.
- Cover crop options include: #1 rye only; #2 rye/rape/radish; or #3 "deluxe cocktail" mix (5 species minimum).
- Payment rate/acre: Single species \$30/acre; multiple species \$35/acre.
- One application per producer with annual payment limit of \$2,500 per producer.
- Application deadline is October 1st
- Cover crops must be seeded prior to October 1st for aerial application and November 1st if planted with a drill. The producer is responsible for arranging seeding (either by aerial or ground application).
- The producer will obtain NE-340-IR Cover Crop Design Worksheet from NRCS prior to seeding cover crop for approved species, seeding rates, and seeding dates.
- The program will also comply with NRCS Code 340 - Cover Crop Conservation Practice Standards that may be found at <https://efotg.sc.gov.usda.gov/>
- HEL fields where corn has been cut for silage are not eligible, per NRCS. Cover crops shall not be harvested, hayed or grazed, to maximize the water quality benefit.
- Producer will provide NRCS with completed NE-340-IR, seed bills, and aerial/drill application bills prior to NRCS certification of cover crop.
- NRCS will certify successful completion to the NRD upon termination of cover crop per NRCS Cover Crop Termination Guidelines, without inversion tillage. The NRD will make payment to the producer after NRCS certification.

APPLY

1. Contact your county NRCS office.
2. Meet with NRCS/NRD personnel to complete enclosed application and other required supplemental applications.
3. Submit enclosed application to NRCS (NRCS will forward completed application to LPSNRD).
4. Applicant may be the producer (either landowner or operator) with corresponding social security number or tax ID number, but the application **must** have the signature of the landowner, or legal representative of the landowner.

PRIORITY

Priority will be given based on the date of application. The earliest applications will be approved up to the district's budgeted amount for the current fiscal year. Once the budgeted amount is reached, applications will not be approved. Furthermore, applications received prior to September 1st for any eligible area will be given priority over the Salt Creek watershed upstream of Lincoln.

WHERE TO BEGIN

1. Contact your county NRCS office to complete enclosed and other applications:

*Cass County NRCS
Weeping Water: (402) 267-2025 ext 3*

*Lancaster County NRCS
Lincoln: (402) 423-9683 ext 3*

*Butler County NRCS
David City: (402) 367-3074 ext 3*

*Otoe County NRCS
Syracuse: (402) 269-2361 ext 3*

*Saunders County NRCS
Wahoo: (402) 443-4106 ext 3*

*Seward County NRCS
Seward: (402) 643-4586 ext 3*

2. If you have questions, contact the LPSNRD office at (402) 476-2729