## **APPLICATION**

Date
Landowner
Address
City
State ZIP
Phone
Email
The undersigned agree to the terms of the program listed within and does hereby apply for assistance to install and maintain the filter strips as shown on the aerial photo to be attached.
Landowner Signature
Date
Date
Markey



## **PURPOSE**

To encourage landowners to establish bands of vegatation adjacent to cropland that will improve water quality downstream by filtering out sediment and associated pollutants.



# **ELIGIBLE SITES**

This practice applies only to existing cropland.

- Opt. 1: Cropland adjacent to rivers, creeks, seasonal streams (excluding sod waterways), lakes and wetlands.
- Opt. 2: Cropland where contour buffer strips can be established on the contour and alternated with cropland.
- Opt. 3: Cropland that will take the place of end rows or are adjacent to sod waterways.

#### **TERMS**

- Contract begins on date of establishment
- Contract length- 10 years
- Grazing is allowed September 1 through March 31 (except in areas planted to trees)
- Haying is permitted once per calendar year after July 1
- Seed mixture: Switchgrass and/or Big Bluestem,
  Switchgrass and brome mixture
- Minimum width- 20 feet
- Minimum total length per farm- 1/2 mile
- Maximum width-66 feet
- Encroachment with tillage equipment or overgrazing will result in 50% or 0% payment that year
- Annual payment:
  - Opt. 1: \$75 / acre / year with double payment both first & last year
  - Opt. 2, 3: \$55 / acre / year with double payments both first & last year
- First year double payment to offset planting and materials
- Last year double payment to encourage participation all 10 years
- Landowner woud be restricted from participating in other governmental programs except the USDA-FSA set-a-side program



## **PROCEDURE**

- 1. Landowner works with NRCS on tentative filter strip locations.
- 2. Landowner submits application to LPSNRD.
- 3. LPSNRD considers the application.
- 4. Landowner establishes filter strips.
- Upon establishment, LPSNRD inspects and contract begins
- LPSNRD inspects and makes payments annually.



# **HOW TO APPLY**

- 1. Fill out the application form in this brochure
- Include an aerial photo of the section(s) to be placed in the program. Maps can be obtained at the FSA/NRCS office.
- 3. Mail this application with photo to the Lower Platte South NRD office.