



# Minnesota CREP

## NOW OPEN!

### What is MN CREP?

MN CREP is a voluntary, federal/state funded natural resource conservation program. Land will be enrolled into the federally administered Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) for 14-15 years. After expiration of the CRP contract the land will roll into a Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve Conservation Easement. This will permanently protect the land from development and provide wildlife habitat and benefits to the water quality.

### Benefits to Landowners

- **Returns On Marginal Cropland** – MN CREP prioritizes and targets marginal cropland that is often associated with buffer areas and drained or altered wetlands. These lands often produce less than average crop yields and are less profitable even when crop prices are high.
- **Fair Compensation** – Payments for the land retirement portion of MN CREP are based on current CRP rental rates and RIM rates. Nobles county CREP Crop Rate **\$11,000-\$15,000.**
- **Rights Retained** – Landowners maintain ownership, including the right to control access to the land covered by the MN CREP CRP contract/RIM easement.
- **Impact On Water Quality and Habitat** – MN CREP focuses on both water quality and wildlife habitat. Enrolled land will deliver multiple benefits to ground and surface water, as well as provide habitat for pollinators and wildlife.
- **Quality Restorations** – Restorations of the enrolled land will follow state and federal standards and focus on native plant species. One hundred percent of these restoration costs will be covered by the CRP and RIM programs, leaving no out-of-pocket expenses to the landowner.



### MN CREP Focus Areas and Requirements

1. MN CREP focuses on restoring;
  - a. Grass Filter Strips (CRP CP 21)
  - b. Wetland Restoration - Non-Floodplain (CRP CP 23a)
  - c. Wetland Restoration – Floodplain (CRP CP 23)
  - d. Wellhead Protection Areas (CRP CP 2)
2. Land must be a minimum of **8 acres** to be eligible.
3. Land must be owned landowner, parent, or blood relative for at least **one year** before the date of application.
4. Land must have been in agriculture production for at least **2 of the past 5 years** before the date of application.



**Deadline for application is April 30<sup>th</sup>.**

**For more information stop into the Nobles County SWCD Office or Call Cole Neibauer at 507-376-9150 ext. 131.**