



WILDLIFE HABITAT

ABOUT

Many operations include marginal land that is difficult to profitably farm in most years. In those unproductive areas, the Stearns County SWCD works with landowners to create wildlife habitat, improve fishing and hunting opportunities, while also doubling as water quality treatment.

FINANCIAL INCENTIVE

The Stearns County SWCD has dedicated incentives and other financial benefits to offset the cost of adoption of habitat and easements programs.

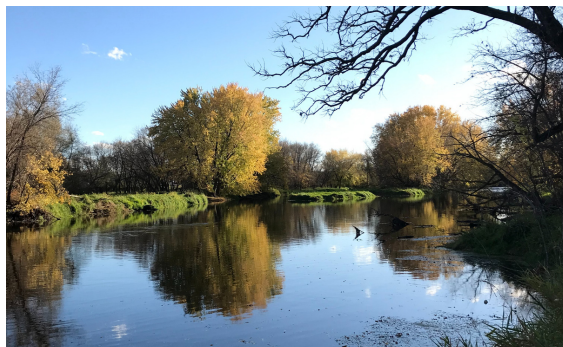
PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP): Landowners who enrolled environmental sensitive land from agricultural production and plant native species receive a yearly rental payment for 10 to 15 years based on soil type.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP): Lands are enrolled into a perpetual easement and established to native vegetation, landowners receive a payment that is 90% of the township average land value. Landowners still retain ownership of the property and retain all access rights. This program accepts cropland acres and 20% non-cropland acres.

Sauk River Easement Program: Permanently protects high-quality habitat throughout the Sauk River Watershed. Landowners receive a one-time payment.

Wetland Restoration: Wetlands provide many benefits to the natural environment such as filtering pollutants, providing habitat for many wildlife species, creating recreational opportunities like hunting, gathering, and birding, and reducing downstream erosion.



About All Acres for Our Water (AAFOW):
AAFOW is a program dedicated to bringing together technical expertise, agronomic intelligence, and financial resources to enhance and restore natural resources in central Stearns County.

www.AcresForWater.com

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