

# Fact Sheet

## Filter Strip Program

This common-sense conservation practice provides many benefits to our surface waters and surrounding wildlife. Filter strips will “filter” up to 86 percent of sediments flowing into open surface water. Filter strips also reduce commercial fertilizer runoff into surface waters while prolonging the effective life of ditches, which results in reduced ditch clean-out costs.



### Responsibilities

The filter strip area must be maintained for 10 to 15 years. If the land is sold before the contract period expires, the new landowner must maintain the filter strip for the remainder of the designated contract period.



### Payment

The Scott Soil and Water Conservation District is currently offering up to \$250 per acre per year (in combination with the CRP program) for establishing grass filter strips.

A CRP soil-rental rate will be determined every year, and the difference to reach up to \$250 per acre will be made in two lump sums in the first two years of the contract.

### Eligibility

Cropland acres (corn, soybeans, etc. for 4 out of the last 6 years) adjacent to creeks, ditches, some wetlands, restored wetlands and title intakes.

### Cost Share

Cost share is available to establish the filter strip, which includes seedbed preparation, seeding, seed cost and fertilizer if you prefer to harvest your filter strips. If non-native grasses are used, the field must have been soil tested within the last 3 years or a soil test must be completed on the area before the program. Native grasses do not need a soil test.

### Contract Approval

The local screening committee and the District Board of Supervisors must approve all contracts.

### For more information, contact:

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