



2026 Cost-share application – Due **Nov. 15, 2026**

The following cost-share programs are available to WWCC members in 2026:

1. **Cover Crops** – {\$20/acre, 50-acre max}
2. **4-R Nutrient Stewardship** – {\$20/acre, 50-acre max}
3. **No-till/Reduced Tillage** – {\$20/acre, 50-acre max}
4. **Harvestable buffer** – {\$300/acre, 5-acre max}
5. **Economic Nitrogen Rates** – {\$500/farm, minimum of 1 test plot plus a control, 15-acre minimum}
6. **Pollinator strips** – {\$300/acre, .5-acre minimum, 5-acre max} NRCS approved seed mix only. Receipts required.

The cost-share program is designed to be inclusive to help every member meet their soil and water conservation goals. The practices above have been shown to provide a suite of benefits, including but not limited to, reducing soil erosion by wind and water, limiting nutrient losses via leaching, runoff, or other loss pathways, and improving soil health.

To participate, please indicate which program(s) you would like to enroll in and the number of acres/samples you are enrolling. WWCC's cost share program is intended to be a learning opportunity for members, so we ask that members be willing to share lessons learned from trying a new practice with the group. Applicants may apply for more than one practice.

Final cost-share payments are dependent on available funds and will be distributed at the end of the year. If you are not yet a WWCC member, please fill out the membership form at westernwisconservation.org.

To enroll, complete the form on the next page and return (with receipts) by Nov. 15.

How it works:

- ✓ Plant cover crops (whatever variety fits into your farming system) in fields harvested for wheat, corn silage or other crops
- ✓ Implement no-till, limited/reduced till or strip till in fields harvested for corn, beans or wheat
- ✓ Work with your agronomist/CCA to take soil and/or tissue samples and send them to an accredited lab
- ✓ Plant or improve a harvestable buffer consisting of a perennial grass cover to capture sediment and nutrients. One-time payment, not eligible more than once.
- ✓ Economic nitrogen rates include test plots plus a control. The test plots will have different rates of nitrogen applied to find the optimum rate for the maximum yield.
- ✓ Let WWCC know how many total acres are in each practice and how many will be cost shared
- ✓ Complete the WWCC member conservation practice survey

All individual farm data is confidential. Final cost-share payments dependent on funds. **To enroll, complete the form below and on page 2:**

Name: _____ Farm Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

St: _____ Zip: _____ E-mail address: _____

Preferred phone: _____

Current crop rotation: _____



Cost-share application information:

Cover crops	# acres for cost share (max 50)	Total # cover crop acres planted this year	Cover crop practices prior to 2026 (circle) No cover crop Rye cover crop after corn/beans Multispecies cover crops after wheat Other:		
Field ID and approximate location/crossroads for acres enrolled in cost share:					
Cover crop species planted, after what crop, and method of planting:					
4R nutrient stewardship	# acres for cost share (max 50)	Total # 4R nutrient stewardship acres this year			
For 4R, circle practice:	split fertilizer	soil sampling	tissue sampling	N stabilizer	NMP
Field ID and approximate location/crossroads for acres enrolled in cost share:					
If crop rotation is different from indicated above, please note accurate rotation for this practice:					
No-till/Reduced till	# acres for cost share (max 50)	Total # no-till acres this year	Tillage prior to 2026 (circle) Fall chisel and/or disk and/or field cultivation Strip tillage Vertical tillage Other:		
Field ID and approximate location/crossroads for acres enrolled in cost share:					
For which crops in your rotation are you using this practice?					
Harvestable buffer strips	# acres for cost share (max 5)	Total # buffer strip acres this year	Previous management (circle) Row crop Alfalfa or permanent pasture Highly eroded area Other:		
Field ID and approximate location/crossroads for acres enrolled in cost share:					
Economic nitrogen rates	# acres for cost share (min 15)	Total # of acres applied this year			
Field ID and approximate location/crossroads for acres enrolled in cost share:					
How many test plots? (min of 1 test plot and 1 control plot)			What were the application rates and dates?		
What was the optimal application rate for the maximum yield?					



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Pollinator strips	# acres for cost share (min .5, max 5)	Total # pollinator strip acres this year	Previous management (circle) Row crop Alfalfa or permanent pasture Highly eroded area Other:
Field ID and approximate location/crossroads for acres enrolled in cost share:			

Questions? Contact us at westernwisconservation@gmail.com or (715) 760-0216 (Todd Doornink)