



South Nation
Conservation
de la Nation Sud

Clean Water Program Project Guidelines **COVER CROPS**

PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE: **Non-harvested/non-grazed crops: \$20/acre to a maximum of 100 acres**
 Harvested/grazed crops: \$10/acre to maximum of 100 acres

ELIGIBLE ITEMS AND PROJECT REQUIREMENTS:

- Establishment of **over winter cover crops** on fields with acreage along watercourses.
- Priority will be given to projects that establish a vegetated buffer strip, with a width of at least 3 meters (10 feet), between the edge of field and the top of any watercourse bank. Wider widths are encouraged. Note, a separate grant may be available to establish vegetated buffer strip.
- The **cover crop must be verified by Program staff by May 15th** to ensure that the cover crop provided at least **30%** ground cover over winter. Failure to contact staff and verify crops will result in non-payment of the grant. Program staff will also verify if cover crops will be harvested/grazed later in the year or tilled under prior to spring planting.
- If approved, farm applicants must have the 4th Edition, or are willing to complete the 5th Edition, of the Environmental Farm Plan prior to grant payment.

APPROVAL PROCESS:

Contact South Nation Conservation (SNC) to complete an application, including a site visit. **Applications must be submitted prior to planting of cover crops; retro-active funding is not available.**

The Grants Sub-Committee will review applications using a rating criterion; approval priority will be given to projects with the most water quality benefit. Review meetings are typically held in June, September, and November.

Landowners may apply for only one project, per project type, per year. Limited funds are available.

COMPLEMENTARY GRANTS AVAILABLE:

- Buffers
- Control tile drainage
- Fertilizer/chemical storage and handling
- Livestock access restriction to waterways
- Streambank erosion control

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