

## BUFFER STRIPS

A Partnership with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture providing strips of grass and/or trees that slow water runoff, trap sediment and enhance water infiltration in the buffer itself. They also trap fertilizers, pesticides, bacteria, pathogens and heavy metals, minimizing the chances of these potential pollutants reaching surface or groundwater sources.

Land adjacent to streams or permanent bodies of water, or existing filter strips established since January 1, 1996, are eligible.

This is a land rental program and does not include installation cost share dollars.

Contracts are 5 to 10 years in length.

- For irrigated cropland where CRP, CREP, or other governmentally-funded programs are also used, rental rates are \$250 per acre minus payments from the other programs.
- For irrigated cropland where CRP, CREP, or other governmentally-funded programs are not used, the rental rate is \$225 per acre minus any other program payments.
- For non-irrigated cropland enrolled in CRP, CREP or other governmentally-funded programs, the rental rate is equal to 20% of the average CRP soil rental rate.
- For non-irrigated cropland without CRP, CREP, or other governmentally-funded programs, the rental rate per acre is equal to 120% of the average CRP soil rental rate plus \$5 per acre, minus the payment rate from any other programs.
- In no case may payments from all programs exceed \$250 per acre.

There is a one-acre minimum.

Specific widths for either practice will follow NRCS standards.

These contracts are renewable.

*Cancellation of all, or a portion, of this contract prior to its expiration date may warrant penalties equaling the total of all payments received, plus 25%, for the affected portion. In addition, acres in contract which are cancelled prior to the expiration date are ineligible for re-enrollment for two years.*

US Citizenship must accompany application.