The Milwaukee River Watershed

Get Engaged:
Clean Farm Families
Jim Melichar, (262) 206-1731
Cedar Creek Farmers
Al Schmidt, (262) 483-0683

Implementation Conservation Practices:
Ozaukee County Land & Water Management Department
Andy Holschbach or Jeff Bell, (262) 284-8313
121 W. Main St., P.O. Box 994 | Port Washington, WI 53074

USDA—Natural Resources Conservation Service
Michael Patin, (262) 335-4860 Ext. 2359
333 E. Washington St. | Ste. 3200 | West Bend, WI 53095

Washington County Land & Water Conservation Division
Paul Sebo, (262) 335-4800
333 E. Washington St. | Suite 2300 | West Bend, WI 53095

Agricultural Conservation Easements:
The Conservation Fund
David Gruszinski, (414) 225-2272
260 West Seeboth Street | Milwaukee, WI 53204

Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District
Karen Nemahib, (414) 225-2276
260 West Seeboth Street | Milwaukee, WI 53204

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR YOUR LAND?
NEEDS

The Milwaukee River watershed (MRW), is threatened by excessive phosphorus, sediment, and bacteria from urban stormwater runoff and agricultural runoff. The MRW provides us with scenic beauty, a unique natural heritage, and contains a rich agricultural legacy while it provides our families with food and recreational opportunities. Healthy soil gives us clean air and water, bountiful crops and forests, productive grazing lands, diverse wildlife, and beautiful landscapes. Protecting the integrity of our land is of vital importance if we want to protect the natural character of the watershed and the place we call home.

GOALS

The Milwaukee River Watershed Conservation Partnership (MRWCP) was created to encourage information sharing within local communities and collaborative investment in agricultural conservation practices that promote healthy soils, clean water, and smart business. By participating in this partnership, along with others in your community, you too can help protect the soil’s integrity by implementing conservation practices that are not only cost effective for production, but also benefit local waterways and protect the area’s natural character for generations to come.

GET ENGAGED.

• Stay connected with new conservation approaches and local landowners, by participating in demonstration workshops and agricultural innovation field days.
• Follow area producer-led watershed protection groups that promote information sharing on conservation strategies impacting soil and water conditions within the watershed.

IMPLEMENT CONSERVATION PRACTICES.

• By investing in no-till farming, grassed waterways, cover crops, vegetated buffers, and nutrient management plans, you can help build soils that hold your nutrients on the field, retain water for your crops, prevent silt from leaving fields, and protect our local waterways. Technical assistance and cost-share is made available for landowners that want to invest in their soil and long-term productivity of their land.
• You can work with the local Land and Water Conservation Office and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to explore various Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) practices and develop a Conservation Plan unique to your operations.

PROTECT WORKING LANDS WITH AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS.

• Conservation staff can work with you to permanently protect your land through the NRCS Agricultural Conservation Easements Program (ACEP).
• Agricultural easements aim to protect productive, priority agricultural lands and help to promote your long-term planning for resource conservation. Easements coupled with conservation practices can help you maintain healthier soils for long-term, sustainable production.
• Payment from the sale of an easement can be used to invest in your farming operation, pay off loans, purchase more land, or provide cash-in-hand.

What are YOUR GOALS for YOUR LAND?

Every decision in land management is unique and personal. Depending on your financial circumstances, the character of your property, and your vision for the future of your land, the MRWCP offers several options that help you achieve your goals.

Contact information for each set of goals are listed on the back of this brochure.