

Wisconsin

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

LWCB Update - 2020

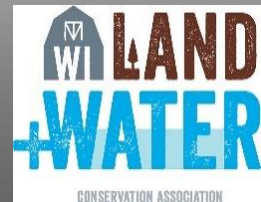
Dunn



Dane



Private
Land
Owners



CREP Program Eligibility :

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

THE COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

AND

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

I. PURPOSE

This is an Agreement between the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the State of Wisconsin (the State), through the State's Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to implement the Wisconsin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program.

II. INTRODUCTION

The intended outcome of this Agreement is to allow, where deemed desirable by USDA, CCC, and the State of Wisconsin, certain acreage to be enrolled under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). The areas eligible for the CREP are shown on the project area map in Exhibit I attached to this Agreement. Specifically, the State seeks to improve the water quality of several water bodies that drain agricultural lands throughout the State of Wisconsin, through a reduction of sediment and the nutrient loading to these water bodies. Improving water quality through CREP will assist in improving water quality in the State's list of impaired waters (303d list). Wisconsin's CREP includes over 95 percent of the waters included on the State's list of impaired waters that are impacted by agricultural activities. The State seeks to enhance wildlife habitats for endangered grassland birds and other wildlife species in two grassland project areas in north central and south central Wisconsin; the goal is to improve habitat for several grassland birds included under the Endangered Species Act. The specific goals for Wisconsin's CREP are to:

- Reduce nutrient runoff of phosphorus (610,000 pounds) and nitrogen (305,000 pounds) by up to 10% and sediment (335,000 tons) in runoff by up to 15 percent from cropland and pastureland in the project areas.
- Establish riparian buffers on up to 50 percent (about 3,700 miles) of the stream miles in the project area that drain farmland which currently is without adequate buffers.
- Establish an additional 10 percent (15,000 acres) of grassland habitat acreage within the grassland project areas to increase populations of endangered or threatened grassland birds.

The CREP provides an opportunity for the State to address these environmentally sensitive areas in concert with Federal and local authorities. The State seeks to provide more enduring

conservation benefits than normally achieved through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) by having participating landowners to enter into special 14-15 years CRP contracts under

⌘ Farm Bill Authority

⌘ Fed-State Agr 2001

☑ 100,000 acre cap

☑ 20% State match

☑ 28 million State Funds

☑ Continuous Sign-up

⌘ WI Specific Provisions

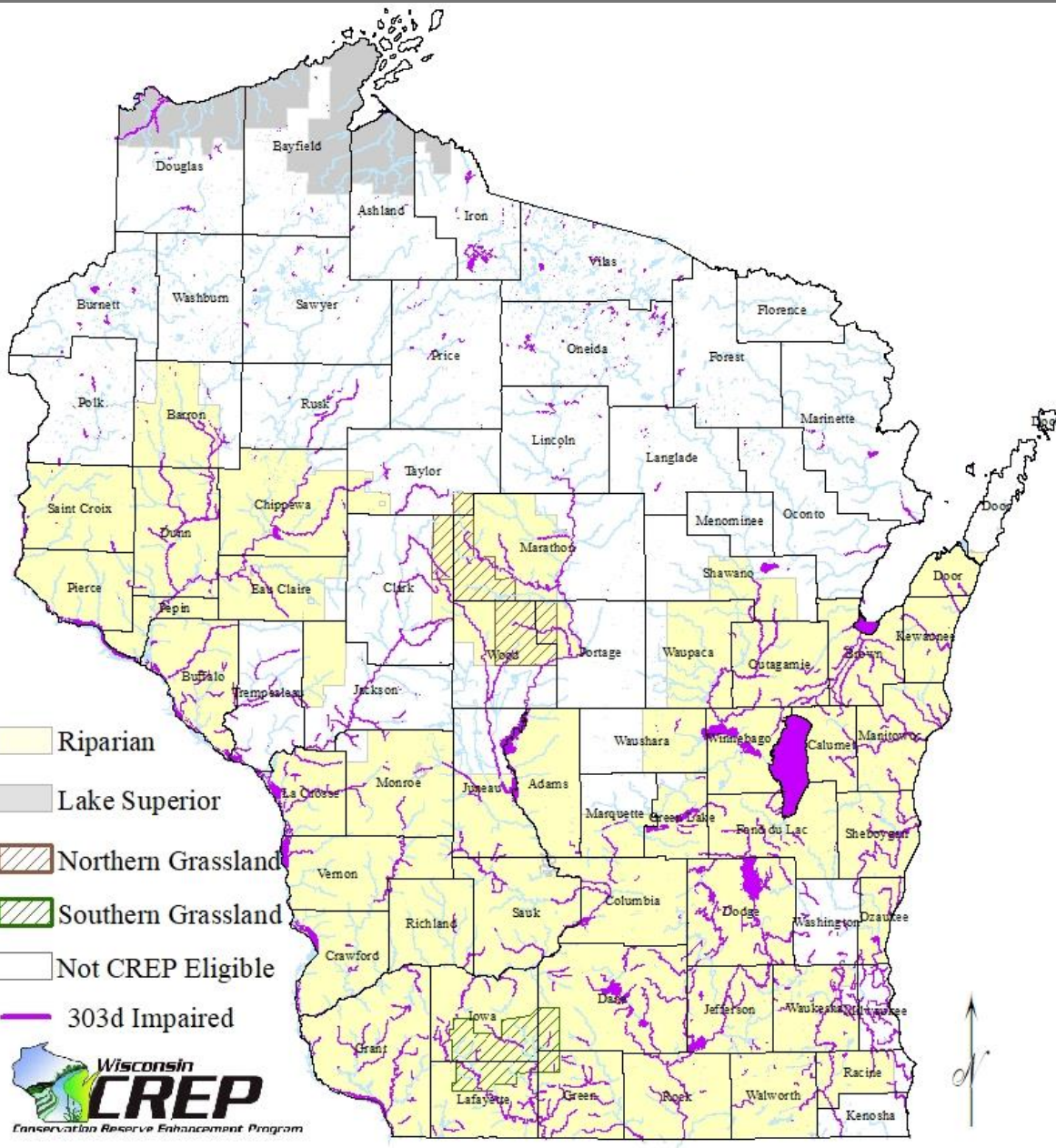
☑ Goals

☑ Federal Payment Rates

☑ Practices Available

☑ Adjustments to CRP Rules

CREP Enrollment Eligibility :



⌘ State-Co Agreements

⌘ 53 Counties

WI Project Areas

⌘ Riparian

⌘ Southern Grassland

⌘ Northern Grassland

⌘ Lake Superior

Implemented at the Local Level

- Locally Led
- Organized Efforts
- Strategic, Coordinated Targeting
- Farmer buy-in
- Word of Mouth
- Local Partner Relationships
- Using New Tools



What is CREP?

- ⌘ **Goal** is to reduce ag. runoff along streams/wetlands to protect water quality and provide habitat.
- ⌘ **Offers** an opportunity to voluntarily stop farming land abutting streams/wetlands & place it into conservation practices.
- ⌘ **In Return** landowners receive incentive, annual rental, and cost-share payments along with other assistance.
- ⌘ **Flexible** design practice design options for landowners to choose.
- ⌘ **Contract** options are 15 year agreement or perpetual easement



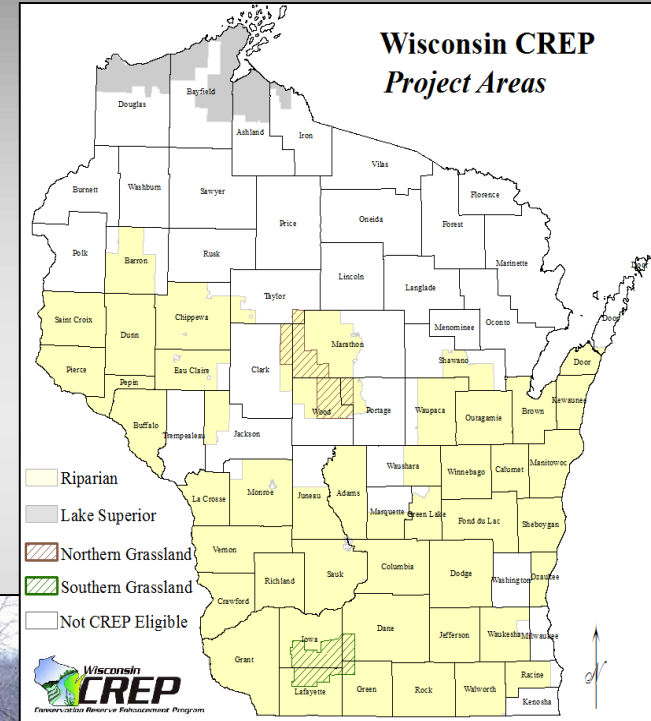
What Land is Eligible?

⌘ General Rules for Eligibility

- ☑ Within CREP Project Area
- ☑ Cropland 4 out of 6 yrs (2012 – 2017), or meet rotation requirements, or marginal pastureland.
- ☑ Within 150ft of eligible stream or water body.
- ☑ Min. 20 ft.

⌘ Grassland Areas

- ☑ Both or Either:
 - ☑ Within 1000 ft of eligible water body.
 - ☑ Highly erodible land (HEL)



Conservation Practices

✂ CP1- Permanent Introduced Grasses & Legumes*



✂ CP2 – Permanent Native Grasses*



✂ CP8A - Grass Waterway



✂ CP21 - Filter Strip



✂ CP22 - Forest Riparian Buffer



✂ CP23 & 23A - Wetland Restoration



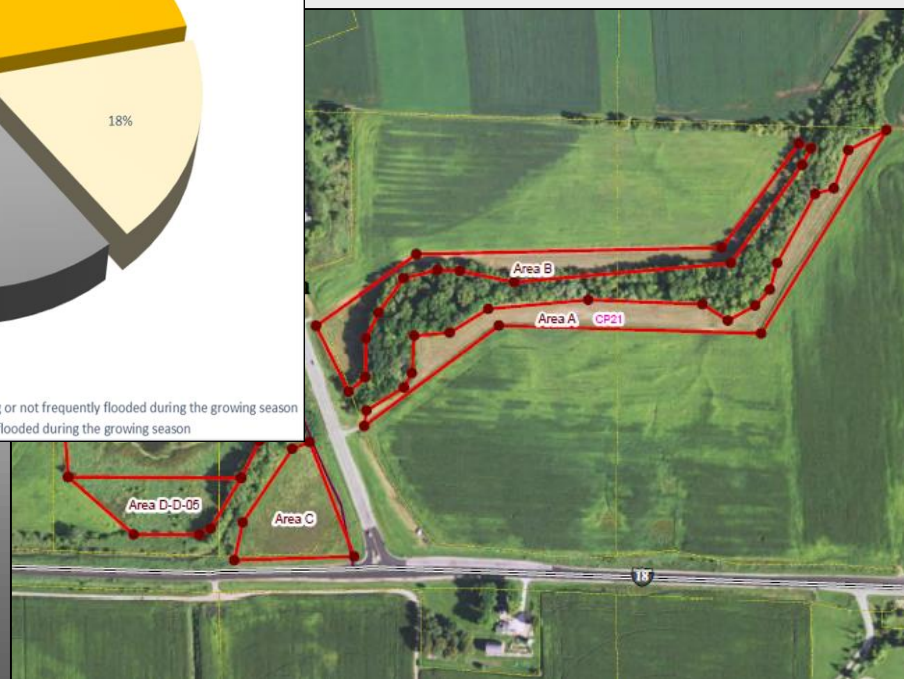
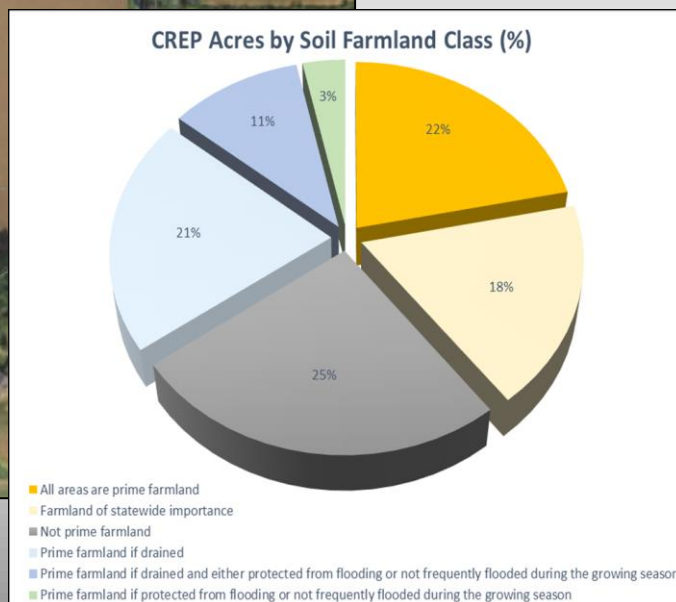
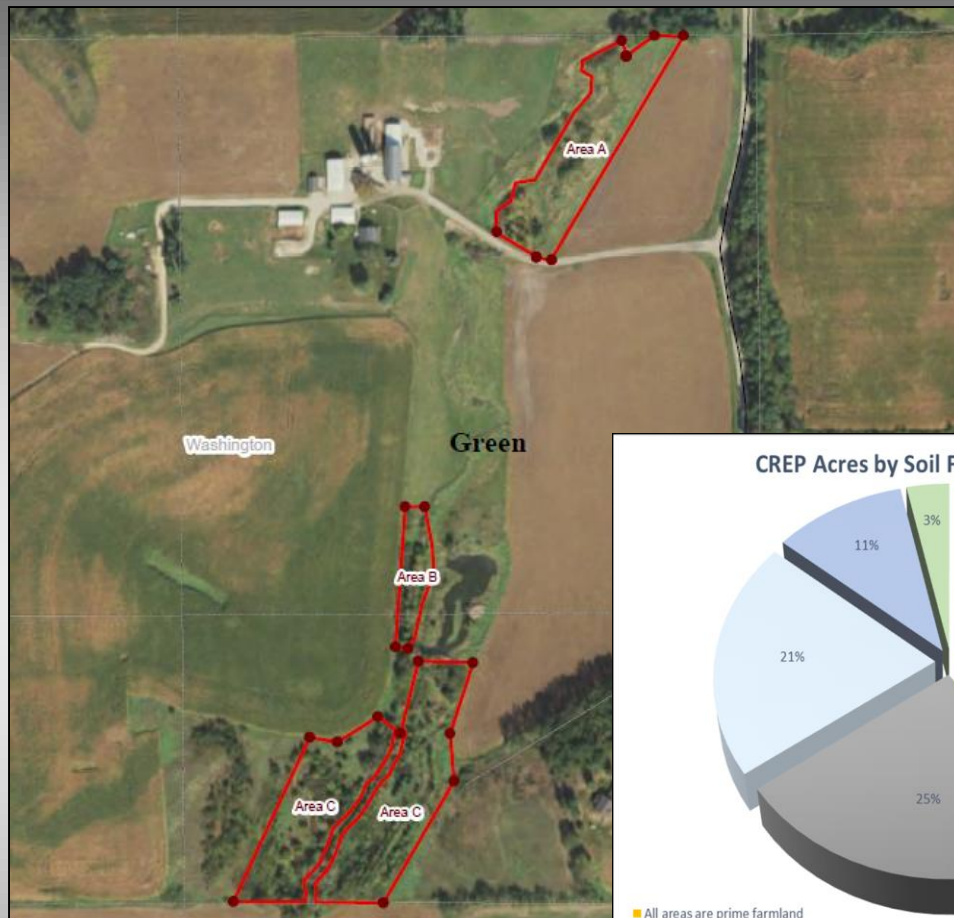
✂ CP25 – Tall Grass Prairie & Oak Savanna*

✂ CP29 – Marg. Pasture Wildlife Habitat Buffer

✂ CP30 – Marg. Pasture Wetland Buffer

Flexibility to Fit the Farm

- No minimum acreage
- Resolve resource concern +
- Mix Practices / Programs
- 60% rule



CREP Contract Options

Federal: CRP-1, 15 years

+

State:

⌘ 15 Year Agreement (LWR-283)

- ☑ 15 Years
- ☑ Incentive = $SRR \times 1.5 \times \text{Acres}$ (2.5 – Lk Superior)
- ☑ Option to convert to easement later
- ☑ Buyout an option
- ☑ Reenrollment

⌘ Perpetual Easements (LWR-281 & 286)

- ☑ Perpetuity
- ☑ Incentive = $SRR \times 12 \times \text{Acres}$ (24 x – Lk Superior)
- ☑ Not eligible for CRP1 re-enrollment after 15 years

⌘ No Public Access Required

Financial Incentives & Payments

⌘ Annual Payments

- ⊞ FSA Rental payments annually for up to 15 years
- ⊞ Based on soil type, county, and if crop or pasture land.
- ⊞ Range from \$40-\$240 per acre.
- ⊞ Added 35-60% increase for CREP (based on CP)

⌘ Up-front Payments (one-time)

- ⊞ FSA signing incentive for new buffer & filter strips or waterway
- ⊞ DATCP incentive
 - ⊞ 1.5 times X SRR X Acres for 15 year.
 - ⊞ 12 times X SRR X Acres for easement.
- ⊞ Provided soon after signing

⌘ Practice Payments

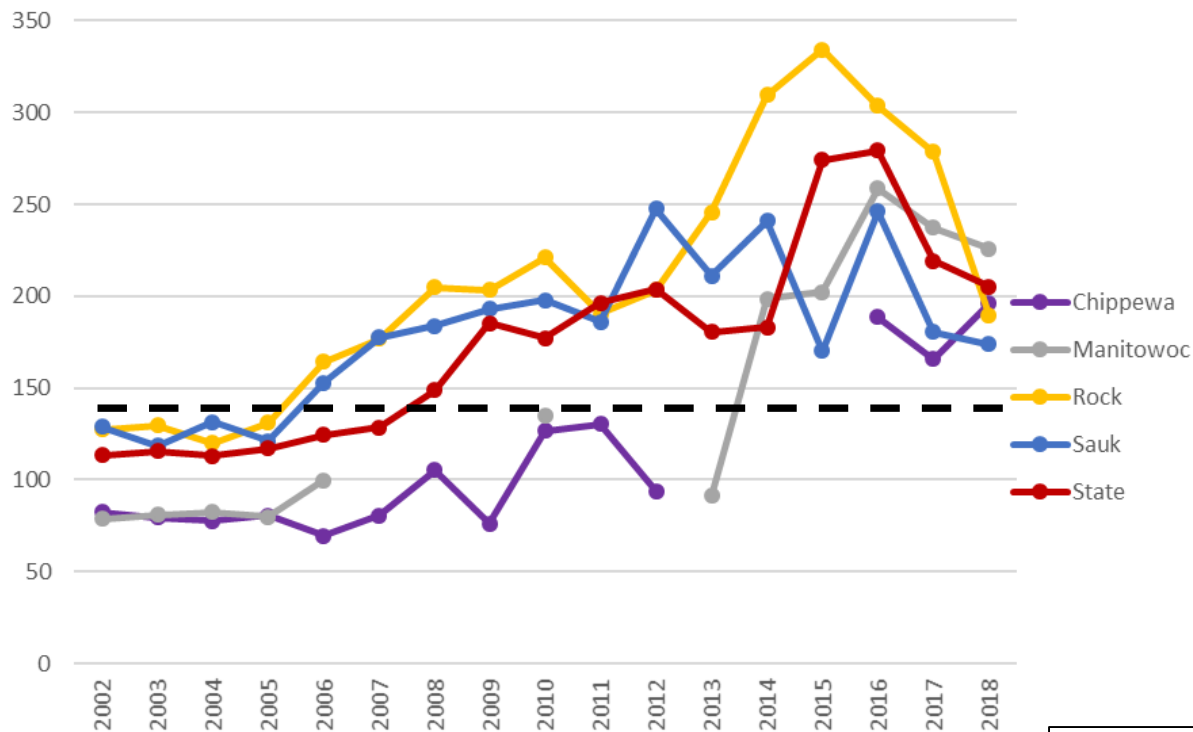
- ⊞ FSA - 50% cost-share
- ⊞ FSA - 40% practice incentive payment
- ⊞ State - 20% cost-share

⌘ Use Value Assessment

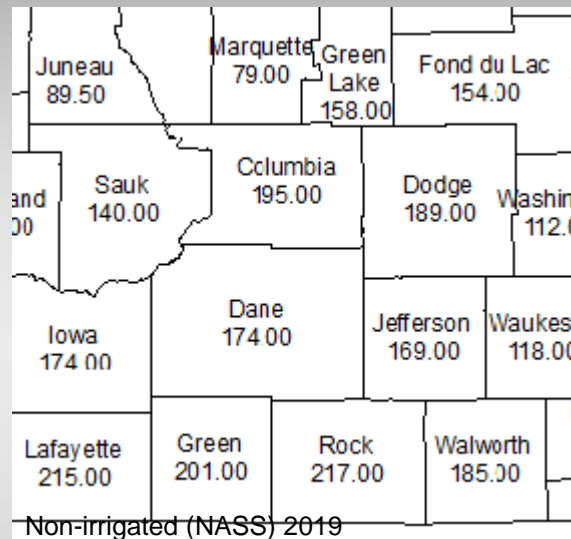


Financial Incentives & Payments

Ave Rent Per Acre



2018 Ave. Base SRR = \$130/acre

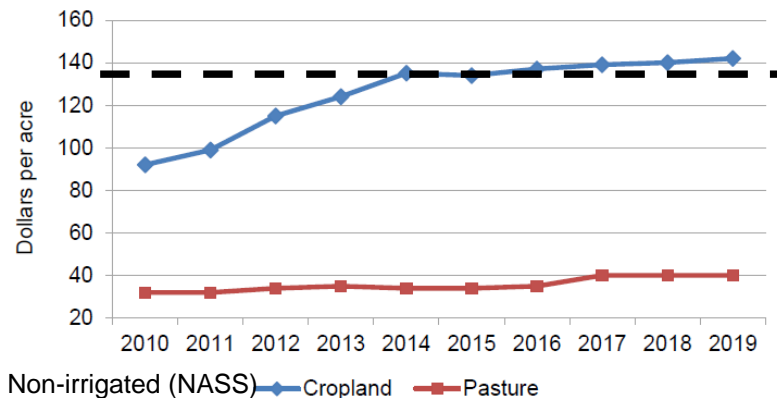


Non-irrigated (NASS) 2019

2018 Country Ave. Base SRR

- Dane: \$179 / acre
- Fond du Lac: \$181 / acre
- Lafayette: \$212 / acre

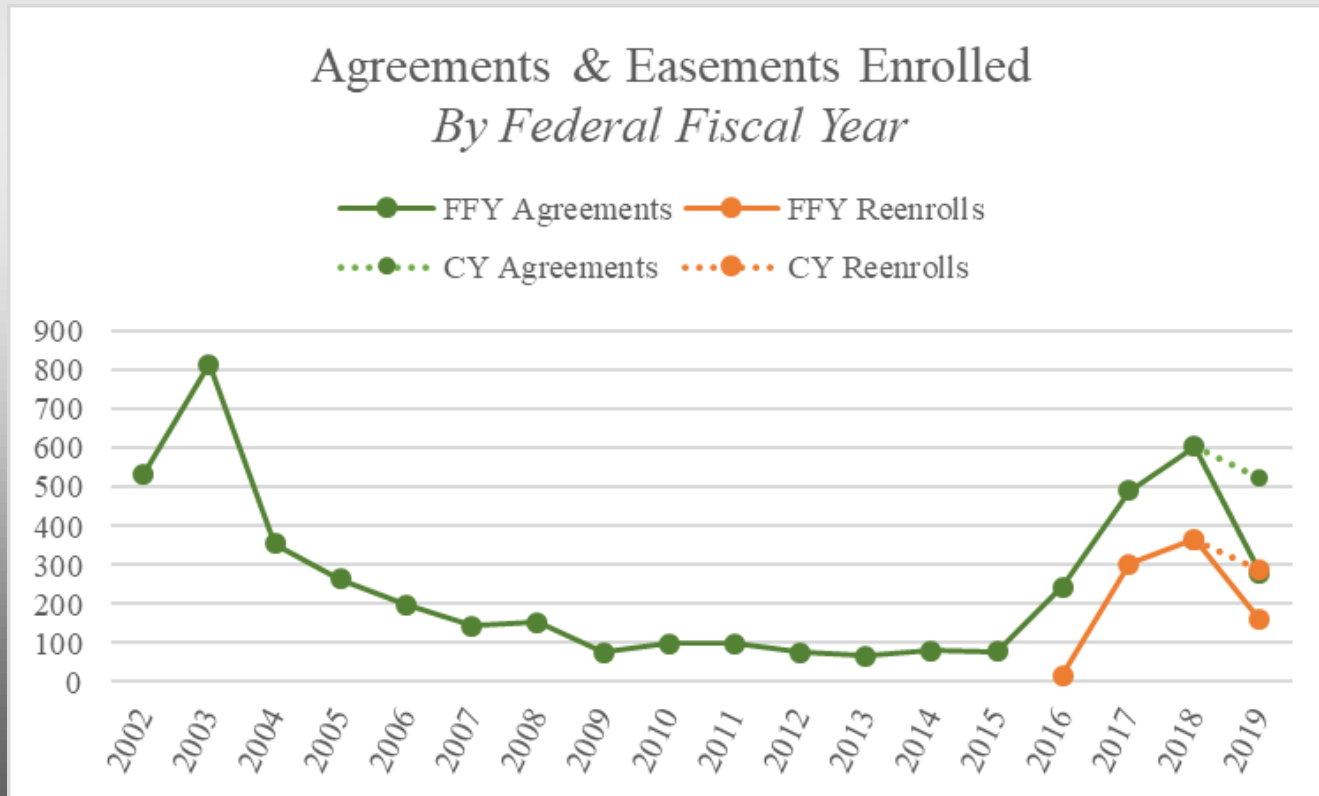
Cash Rent Per Acre - Wisconsin: 2010-2019



Non-irrigated (NASS) — Cropland — Pasture

Enrollment Activity

- ☒ Enrollment Period 2019 = June 03 – August 18
- ☒ Exp 2019 = 291 15-yr, 51 perpetual.
- ☒ FFY2019 = 280 agr on 3,028 ac. / 863 ac. new
- ☒ Cal 2019 = 522 agr on 6,171 ac. / 2,429 ac. new



CREP Participation:

Contracts

- ⌘ Agreements – 2,913
- ⌘ Easements – 510
- ⌘ Landowners – 5,365

Land Enrolled

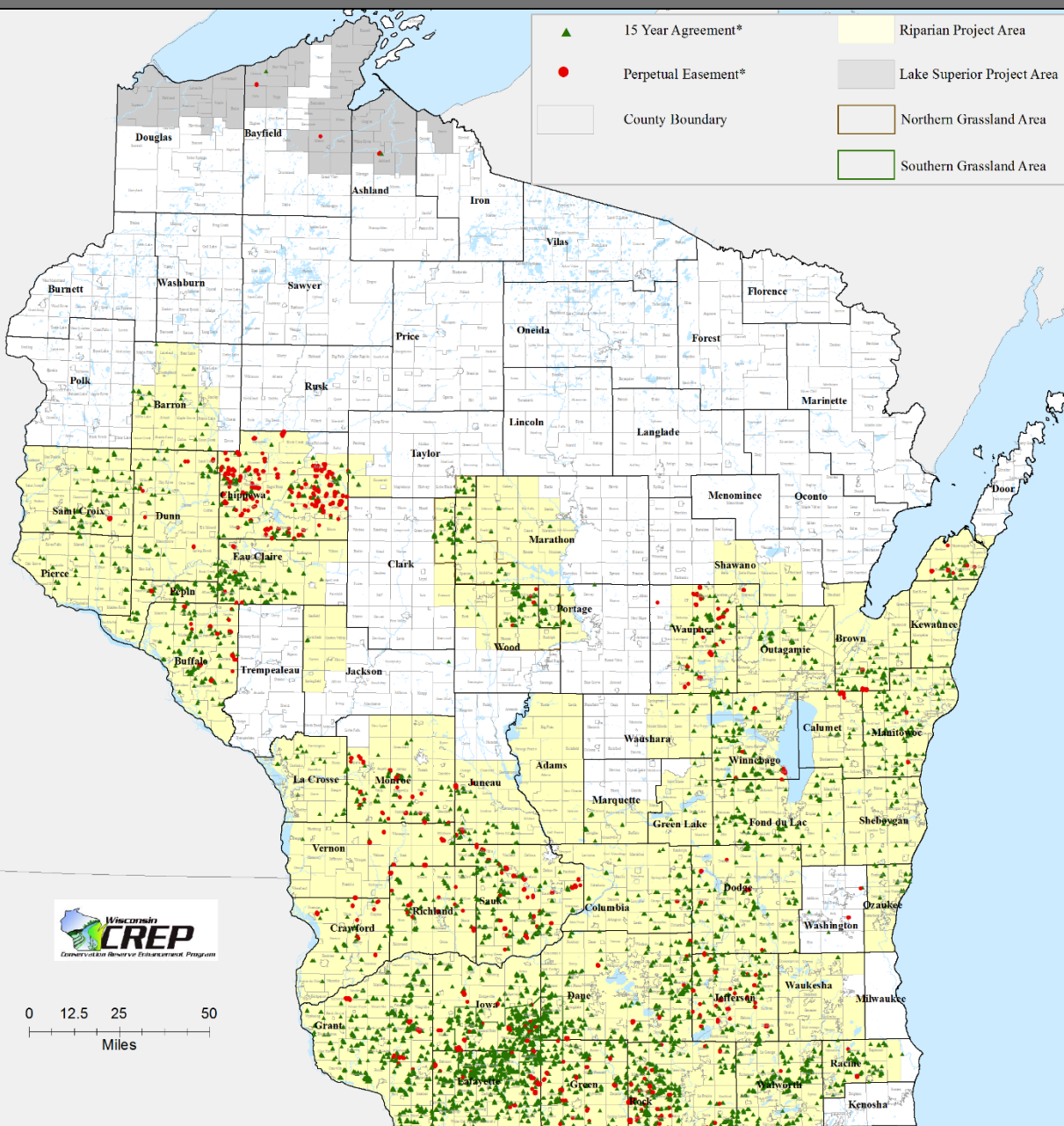
- ⌘ 39,300 + acres
- ⌘ Ave 10 acres/site

Financial (million)

- ⌘ State: \$19.0
- ⌘ County: \$3.6
- ⌘ Federal: \$130+

⌘ Contracts (5th)

⌘ Acres (10th)



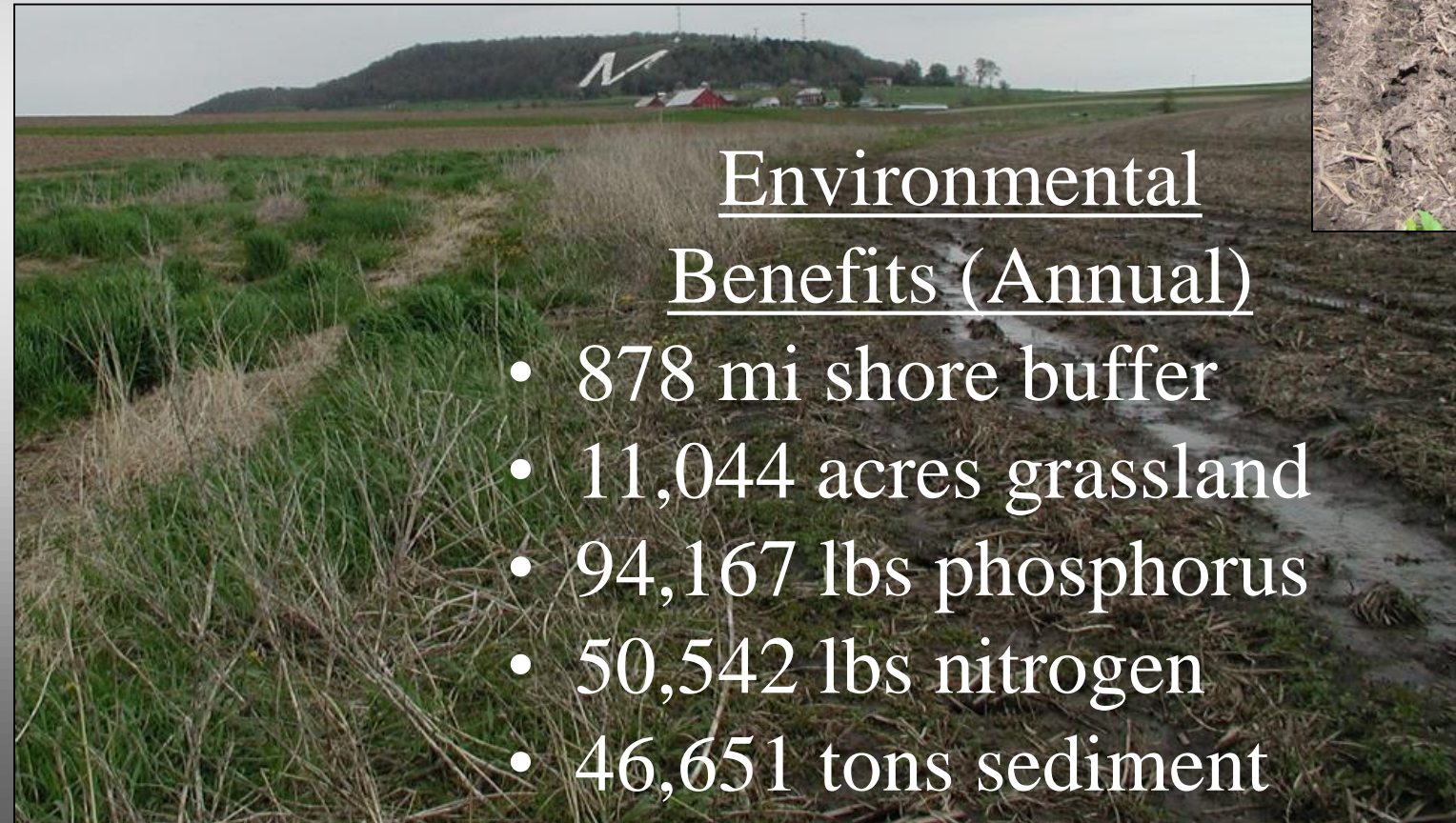
Environmental Benefits

- Reduce nutrient runoff & Sediment trapping
- Streambank protection
- Erosion control
- Improve water quality



Environmental Benefits (Annual)

- 878 mi shore buffer
- 11,044 acres grassland
- 94,167 lbs phosphorus
- 50,542 lbs nitrogen
- 46,651 tons sediment



Easement – Monitoring

⌘ Federal CRP-1 (Expired) :

📄 359 Perpetual Easements

📄 5,200 acres

⌘ DATCP Letter & Map

⌘ Office: GIS & Aerial Imagery

⌘ Site Visit: By LCD and/or DATCP

⌘ Complete Monitoring Form

⌘ Follow up with Landowner



June 6, 2018

Dear CREP Easement Landowner,

This letter is in regards to your land that is covered by a permanent easement with an expired 15-year federal contract. Further information about the easement and to alert you that the Conservation office may be contacting you about visitation.

Although the federal contract has expired, the CREP use of the land is permitted, however there are certain valuable soil and water resources. This letter includes the boundary of the CREP easement where the rest of the land is not.

Under the terms of the easement, the County or the State is an opportunity to both ensure that the easement is being used as intended and to address any questions or concerns that you might have. If necessary, we may request that you undertake active management practices. A request will be made after we have fully discussed your needs.

Should you have any questions please contact the Department of Conservation at 608-224-3730. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alison V. Land Manager



Phase 2: Site Visit
 Agreement #: 207 CP: 2x 25 Area: D
 Prescribed cover for CP:
 Collector(s): M.G., B.L., B.M.
 Date of visit: 6/15/18 Time of monitoring: 9 am start 3:30 pm finish
 Landowner notified of visit? (Y/N) Y Accompanied by landowner? Y/N

Status of CREP Easement

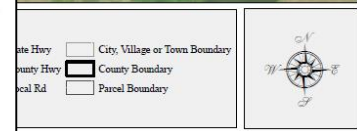
Easement status	Existing <input checked="" type="radio"/> Partial <input type="radio"/> Gone <input type="radio"/>
If boundary moved, where and how far?	Between monuments: <u>G-F 1-50</u> <u>D-E 1-50</u> <u>E-F 1-50</u> <u>F-G 1-50</u> <u>G-H 1-50</u>
Is current cover in compliance with conservation plan?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (No) Explain how and describe where. Please indicate on map. <u>Clear reconstruction</u>
If out of compliance, recommended maintenance	<u>Reid canopy</u>
Supplies used during site visit?	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Yes</u> <u>GPS, map, etc.</u>
Follow-up or additional supplies needed?	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Yes</u> <u>Need to set poles</u>

Discussions with landowner, issues/actions/questions raised (if applicable):

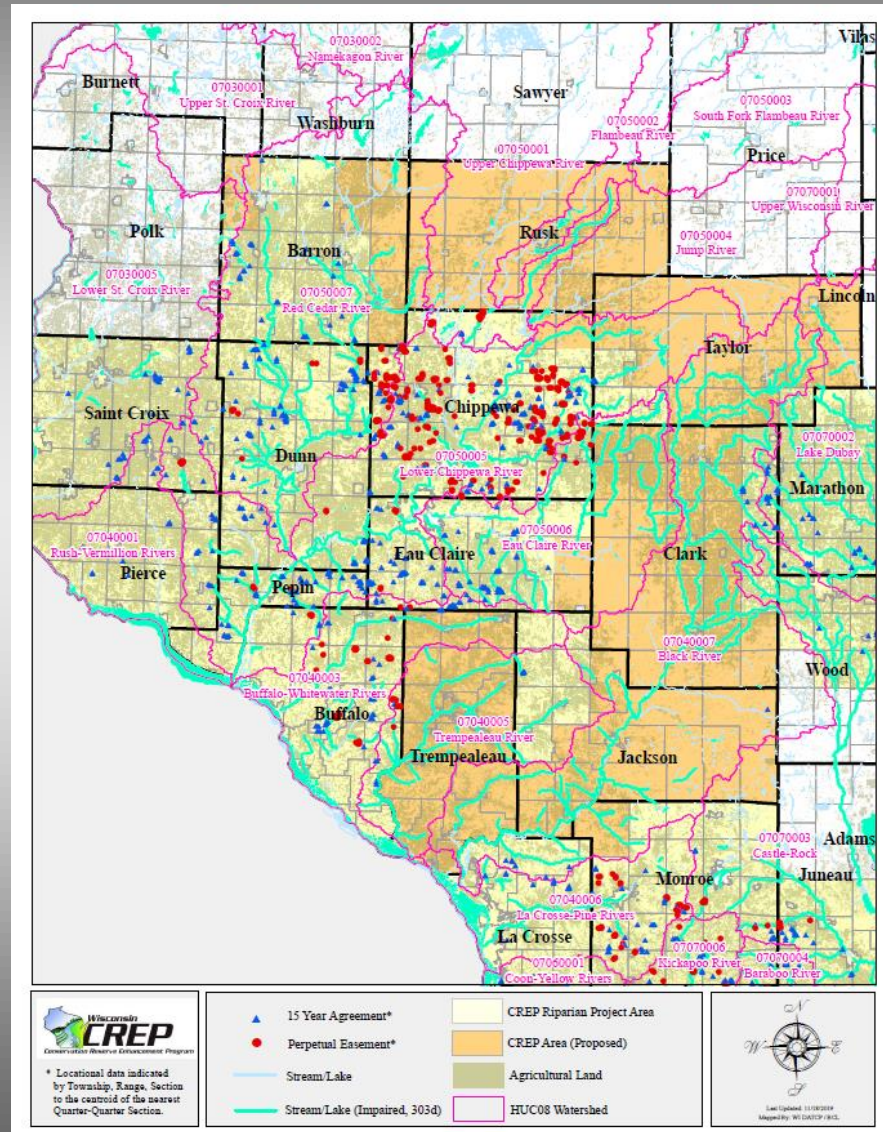
Additional comments:
Red Canopy Didn't set poles on any field.

Status of Monuments (Spot Check)

Letter	Type (Post, Magnet, Herod, Combination)	Status (In place, Moved, Removed)	Distance Moved (ft)	Notes
<u>B</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Post</u>		<u>Entirely intact</u>
<u>E</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Post</u>		<u>Intact</u>
<u>D</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Post</u>		<u>All reconstructed</u>



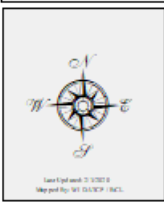
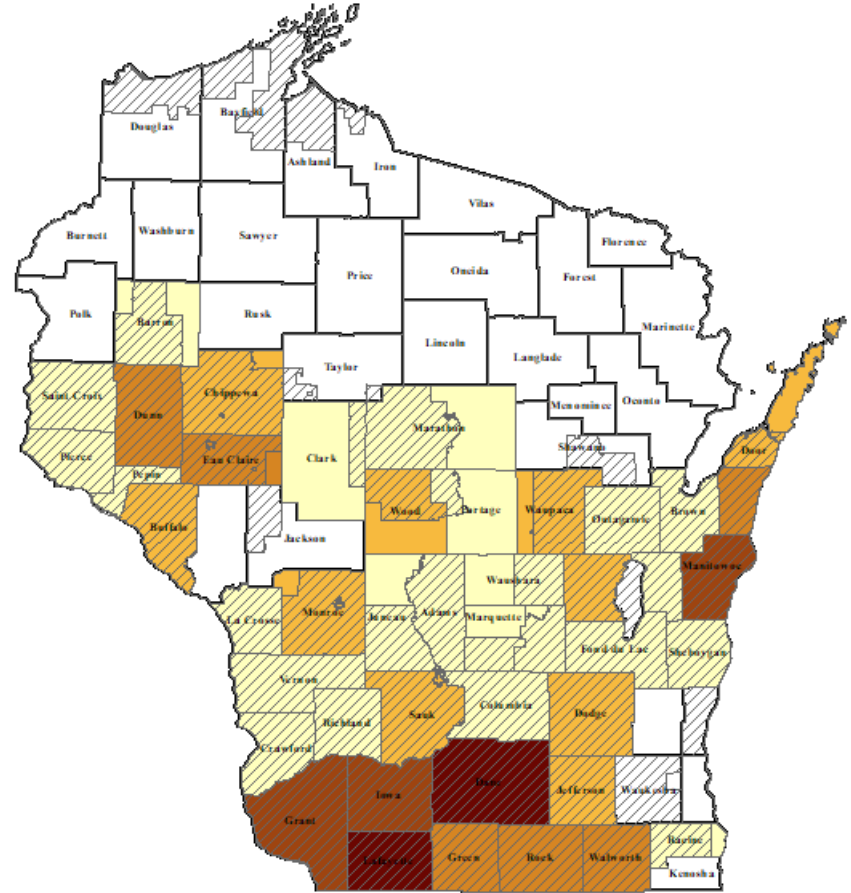
New Initiatives



Allocation Adjustment

County	Current Allocation			Proposed Allocation		Adjustment
	Allocation	Total Payments	Balance	Allocation	Balance	
Adams	\$50,000	\$484	\$49,516	\$50,000	\$49,516	
Ashland	\$30,000	\$15,767	\$14,233	\$30,000	\$14,233	
Barron	\$60,000	\$29,871	\$30,129	\$60,000	\$30,129	
Bayfield	\$40,000	\$26,496	\$13,504	\$40,000	\$13,504	
Brown	\$240,000	\$138,541	\$101,459	\$240,000	\$101,459	
Buffalo	\$650,000	\$378,843	\$271,157	\$650,000	\$271,157	
Calumet	\$70,000	\$58,831	\$11,169	\$70,000	\$11,169	
Chippewa	\$2,500,000	\$1,831,716	\$668,284	\$2,500,000	\$668,284	
Clark	\$90,000	\$53,798	\$36,202	\$90,000	\$36,202	
Columbia	\$170,000	\$105,132	\$64,868	\$170,000	\$64,868	
Crawford	\$260,000	\$146,428	\$113,572	\$260,000	\$113,572	
Dane	\$1,800,000	\$1,378,009	\$421,991	\$1,800,000	\$421,991	
Dodge	\$470,000	\$396,589	\$73,411	\$470,000	\$73,411	
Door	\$120,000	\$99,281	\$20,719	\$130,000	\$30,719	Increase
Douglas	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	
Dunn	\$230,000	\$144,266	\$85,734	\$230,000	\$85,734	
Eau Claire	\$390,000	\$218,246	\$171,754	\$390,000	\$171,754	
Fond du Lac	\$240,000	\$157,996	\$82,004	\$240,000	\$82,004	
Grant	\$1,900,000	\$1,373,531	\$526,469	\$1,900,000	\$526,469	
Green	\$810,000	\$546,997	\$263,003	\$810,000	\$263,003	
Green Lake	\$40,000	\$19,113	\$20,887	\$40,000	\$20,887	
Iowa	\$2,800,000	\$2,288,961	\$511,039	\$2,800,000	\$511,039	
Iron	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	
Jackson	\$20,000	\$2,413	\$17,587	\$20,000	\$17,587	
Jefferson	\$660,000	\$410,328	\$249,672	\$660,000	\$249,672	
Juneau	\$470,000	\$234,412	\$235,588	\$470,000	\$235,588	
Kewaunee	\$140,000	\$87,555	\$52,445	\$140,000	\$52,445	
La Crosse	\$65,000	\$35,589	\$29,411	\$65,000	\$29,411	
Lafayette	\$5,000,000	\$3,800,408	\$1,199,592	\$5,000,000	\$1,199,592	
Manitowoc	\$300,000	\$261,167	\$38,833	\$300,000	\$38,833	
Marathon	\$180,000	\$95,988	\$84,012	\$180,000	\$84,012	
Marquette	\$40,000	\$14,860	\$25,140	\$40,000	\$25,140	
Monroe	\$640,000	\$484,123	\$155,877	\$640,000	\$155,877	
Outagamie	\$45,000	\$46,911	-\$1,911	\$55,000	\$8,089	Increase
Ozaukee	\$60,000	\$28,489	\$31,511	\$60,000	\$31,511	
Pepin	\$220,000	\$106,588	\$113,412	\$220,000	\$113,412	
Pierce	\$120,000	\$47,504	\$72,496	\$120,000	\$72,496	
Portage	\$150,000	\$72,026	\$77,974	\$150,000	\$77,974	
Racine	\$270,000	\$201,888	\$68,112	\$270,000	\$68,112	
Richland	\$420,000	\$300,408	\$119,592	\$420,000	\$119,592	
Rock	\$2,000,000	\$1,049,142	\$950,858	\$2,000,000	\$950,858	
Saint Croix	\$210,000	\$108,482	\$101,518	\$210,000	\$101,518	
Sauk	\$1,700,000	\$1,151,615	\$548,385	\$1,700,000	\$548,385	
Shawano	\$20,000	\$2,116	\$17,884	\$20,000	\$17,884	
Sheboygan	\$40,000	\$14,203	\$25,797	\$40,000	\$25,797	
Taylor	\$60,000	\$21,136	\$38,864	\$60,000	\$38,864	
Vernon	\$250,000	\$161,729	\$88,271	\$250,000	\$88,271	
Walworth	\$650,000	\$497,104	\$152,896	\$650,000	\$152,896	
Washington*	\$8,000	\$7,418	\$582	\$8,000	\$582	
Waukesha	\$5,000	\$1,817	\$3,183	\$5,000	\$3,183	
Waupaca	\$370,000	\$281,748	\$88,252	\$370,000	\$88,252	
Wausara	\$40,000	\$15,687	\$24,313	\$40,000	\$24,313	
Winnebago	\$280,000	\$169,938	\$110,062	\$280,000	\$110,062	
Wood	\$480,000	\$305,479	\$174,521	\$480,000	\$174,521	
Uncommitted Balance	\$107,000	\$43,096	\$63,904	\$87,000	\$43,904	Decrease
Totals	\$28,000,000	\$19,470,265	\$8,529,735	\$28,000,000	\$8,529,735	

CREP Enrollment by County: FFY2018 & 2019



CREP Agreements

- 1 - 15
- 16 - 30
- 31 - 45
- 46 - 75
- 76 - 189

- CREP Eligible Area
- County Boundary
- City or Village Boundary

Thank You