



Leadership in Resource Management Since 1948

1201 S. Gongar Rd • New Lenox, IL 60451
(815) 462-3106 • Fax (815) 462-3176
www.will-scookswcd.org

SWCD Funding Assistance for Conservation

Each year the Will-South Cook SWCD offers cost-share funds that are available to help landowners achieve the tolerable soil loss goals set by the state of Illinois. Achieving tolerable soil loss levels on cropland will assure productive agricultural lands for the future as well as help improve water quality.

Although there may be others, the types of projects/practices that receive funds are typically Grassed waterways, Grade Stabilization Structures and Terraces along with associated practices and Specific Cover Crops. The SWCD offers cost-sharing in the amount of 50% of the project cost, not to exceed \$10,000 total cost.

The SWCD generally assists interested parties throughout the year with developing Conservation Plans and designing Conservation Practices. Applicants that have a completed Conservation Plan and have finished design for their eligible practices will be ranked according to soil saved relative to the cost. The projects that have the most soil saved per money spent will be offered the cost-share funds first. The SWCD will go down the list until all funds are allocated. Projects that are not offered funds for the current year will remain on the list for the next fiscal year. Ranking and final consideration of eligible projects will generally be done in May/June of each year funds are available.

Generally, an applicant will have the fiscal year the funds are made available and the following year to complete the project. The SWCD expects the construction to be completed by spring/summer the following year to ensure the growth of the grass or chosen permanent vegetation.

If you have any questions, please call the SWCD office at 815-462-3106 (ext. 3).



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Application for SWCD Funding Assistance

APPLICANT NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PROJECT/PRACTICE ADDRESS OR PIN: _____

PROPERTY OWNER NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TYPE OF PRACTICE: _____

YES, I have read the Landowner/Operator responsibilities _____ (initial)

I would like to apply for SWCD Funding Assistance _____ (sign)

_____ (date)

SWCD Funding Assistance for Conservation- 2024

Purpose:

The Will-South Cook SWCD will provide funding assistance for soil erosion control projects not to exceed \$10,000 total cost. The landowner or operator will receive 50% of the project cost to assist with implementation and the applicable IDOA PFC guidelines will be used to administer the program.

Project Consideration:

The individual receiving the funding will be required to agree to the following:

1. Develop a conservation plan that will reduce soil loss below T.
2. Maintain the project practice(s) for 10 years and follow up field visits will be made by an SWCD field person to determine if the practice(s) are being maintained properly. If not, any identified deficiencies will be corrected.

Project funding consideration will be for the following practices:

- a.) Grass waterways, b.) Terraces, c.) Diversions, d.) Water and Sediment Control Basins (WASCOBS) and all necessary appurtenances associated with the practice as shown in the 2024 PFC scenarios.

Approved by: Will-South Cook SWCD Board of Directors

Signed By: Chairman of the Board

Landowner/Operator Responsibilities

Project will not be funded unless approved by the SWCD *prior* to work being started.

To apply for cost-share funds:

- Fill out the application and return to the SWCD office.
- Work with the SWCD to obtain a Conservation Plan for your property.
- Work with the SWCD to identify practices and complete a design.
- Sign and return the agreement to the SWCD once it is offered to you.

Constructing the project:

- Select a contractor. You are strongly encouraged to seek bids from multiple contractors. Please refer to the provided ESC-1 form as it will be used for determining any cost-share payments. We have included a contractor list.
- Notify the SWCD office at least 3 days prior to construction to schedule a preconstruction field meeting that includes you, the contractor, and a member of the SWCD to review the design and discuss project expectations.
- Contact J.U.L.I.E. (1-800-892-0123) so utilities can be located 48 hours prior to construction. Be prepared to answer questions regarding the location of the practice. Return a copy of the completed J.U.L.I.E. form, with dig number, to the SWCD office.
- Locate any existing field tile in the area where construction will take place. The SWCD is not responsible for locating or damage to existing tiles.
- Obtain permission, property rights, or easements necessary for the practice and its construction.
- Use care when mowing or disturbing the area once flagged for construction. The SWCD will flag the area once. Additional flagging will be done at a rate of \$50 per hour.
- Notify the SWCD office 2 days prior to completion of the practice to schedule a check out and certification while the contractor is at the site.
- Use any necessary erosion control measures to control sediment transport prior to the permanent vegetation being established.
- Make sure final vegetation is established prior to the deadline.

Once the project/practice is complete:

- Provide paid itemized bills, including seeding bills, to the SWCD office for processing and payment of the cost-share funds.
- Maintain the practice to ensure it is properly functioning for the duration of the agreement. This may include but not be limited to reseeding or filling gullies.