

GRASS FILTER STRIPS

WQ-1

Important Facts

Cost Share

The rate for cost share is \$175.00 per acre of filter strip for 25' to 100' wide strips for operators that are not receiving cost-share for this practice from any other source.

Tax Credit

The Tax Credit rate is 25% of the total eligible cost not to exceed \$17,500.00. If a cooperator receives cost-share, only the cooperator's share of the project is used to determine the tax credit. CREP cost share rate is 25% of FSA approved cost.

Maintenance

- **In cropland, a vegetative filter strip should be maintained on each side of the watercourse.**
- **Protect the filter strip from damage by livestock.**
- **Do not use as a roadway.**
- **Avoid operations that leave tillage or wheel marks.**
- **Woody stems should not be allowed to exceed 2 inches in diameter.**
- **Avoid damaging filter area with herbicides.**
- **Filter strips can be limed and fertilized at the same time as adjacent fields or as needed.**
- **Hay may be harvested from grass filter strips except when using wildlife option.**



Cost-share will be provided to install and maintain grass filter strips that are located adjacent to cropland or animal holding areas. Grass filter strips are vegetative buffers that are located along the banks of water courses to filter runoff, anchor soil particles and protect banks against scour and erosion.

Establishment policy:

- All trees, stumps, brush, rocks and similar materials that may interfere with installing the filter strip should be removed. The materials should be disposed of in a manner that will not degrade the quality of the environment or interfere with the proper functioning of the filter strip.
- No-till planting is preferable. If grading is necessary, conventional equipment can be used for preparing the seedbed, fertilizing and maintenance.
- Lime and fertilize according to soil test.
- Select a seed mixture of permanent vegetation that satisfies the State minimum specifications and is appropriate for the time of planting.