



COVER CROP INCENTIVE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Application Deadline & Program Information

- Application Deadline: July 15th
- Applications must be fully filled out with field maps provided to be considered complete.
- Grower will be notified of their application status by September 1st.
- The Cover Crop Incentive Program is a one (1) year program.
- Incentive funding will be paid according to the following:
 - Minimum till: \$45/acre
 - No-till: \$50/acre
- *No-till – Cover crop broadcast or no-till drilled into a field where NO tillage has been done.
- *Minimum Till – One (1) pass with a light disc.
- A maximum of 100 acres may be applied for through this program.
- Spring verification scouting will occur sometime in March, depending on climatic conditions. Incentive payment checks will be authorized for payment following scouting if satisfactory cover is found.

Grower Eligibility & Responsibilities

- Any grower who is planting an approved winter cover crop can apply to the program.
 - Alternative cover crops that are not pre-authorized will NOT be considered for payment. A list of approved cover crops through NRCS can be provided if necessary.
- Acreage that is already enrolled in a separate incentive program will not be eligible.
- Grower must sign and submit all forms by given deadlines.
- Growers must plant cover crops using no-till or minimum till methods to be eligible for incentive payment. Cover crops established using conventional tillage **will not** be eligible.
- Cover crops cannot winter kill and must be removed with approved methods:
 - *Cover crops can be grazed at the farmer's discretion starting March 1st. Cover crops can be harvested, burned down, roller crimped, or tilled with minimum disturbance.*
- Cover crops should be planted by November 15th.
 - Exceptions may be made if adverse climatic/agronomic conditions prevail. Any exceptions to the deadline will be made by the District.
- Soil cover via live cover crop must be maintained until April 1st.
- Soil cover must achieve no less than 25% total surface cover by inspection time in March to receive payment. Soil cover is defined as live cover crop and previous crop residue.



- Manure application during cover crop growing period (Oct. 15th – Apr. 1st) is permitted. Any manure applied must be applied per grower's nutrient management or manure management plan. Grower must still meet 25% soil cover criteria if applying manure.

Required Documents and Plans

If you do not have up-to-date agricultural plans, please contact the District to obtain these plans, as applicable, prior to verification.

- Chapter 102 Agriculture Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, Conservation Plan, or equivalent.
- Chapter 91 Manure Management Plan, Nutrient Management Plan, or equivalent

Documents completed/provided by grower:

- Application Form with field map detailing location of cover crop fields
- IRS Form W-9
- Seed purchase receipt or bin verification if using bin run seed

Documents completed by ICCD:

- Enrollment Notification: ICCD will notify applicants of their enrollment status by September 1st.
- Cover Verification Form: Following spring cover verification scouting, the District will complete the Cover Verification Form and provide a copy to the program participant. Growers who meet cover criteria must sign and return the form for payment to be issued. Growers who do not meet cover criteria, and are deemed ineligible for payment, will be provided a written explanation by ICCD.
- IRS Form 1099: All program participants will receive a 1099 form for funds received.

