



# Mississippi River Basin Initiative



## North Raccoon River Watershed: Adaptive Management for Water Quality

Farmers in three small watersheds covering sections of **Greene, Webster, and Dallas Counties** within the North Raccoon River Watershed have the opportunity to receive **higher payment rates** on conservation practices and systems that avoid, control and trap nutrient runoff; improve wildlife habitat; and maintain agricultural productivity.

It's part of a new Initiative – the Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI). The goal of MRBI is to reduce nutrient loading in the Mississippi River Basin, which contributes to both local water quality problems and the hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico.

The natural resource concerns in the Raccoon River Watershed directly relate to the objectives of the MRBI. **Water quality is the top priority of this project.** More specifically - the management of nutrients (nitrate and phosphorus), bacteria, and soil loss, as well as pollution from livestock runoff and storm discharge.

MRBI will be offered now through fiscal year 2013. To enroll, applicants must meet the minimum eligibility requirements of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Farmers in this MRBI area have a set of core conservation practices to choose from; these are listed on the back page.

For more information about the North Raccoon River Watershed Project and MRBI, contact the Fort Dodge Field Office:

**1200 3rd Avenue NW, Suite 1  
Fort Dodge, IA 50501  
Phone: 515-532-2165**

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Farmers in the following North Raccoon River Subwatersheds may be eligible for MRBI funding:

- West Buttrick Creek
- East Buttrick Creek
- Fannys Branch-North Raccoon

**Stop by the Fort Dodge office if you farm in this area!**

The map shows the North Raccoon River watershed area, divided into subwatersheds. It highlights the areas in Greene County and Webster County. Key roads shown include Highway 4, Highway 30, and Highway 144.

## North Raccoon River Watershed MRBI Conservation Practice and Payment List

Practice	Payment Rate (Additional technical and financial assistance may be available from the MRBI project partners.)
Cover Crop	\$79/acre (up to three years)
Denitrifying Bioreactor	\$5,999
Residue & Tillage Management, No-till/Strip-till	\$22 - \$45/acre (up to three years)
Pasture & Hay Planting	\$42 - \$161/acre
Water and Sediment Control Basin	\$1.04 - \$2.16/cubic yard
Nutrient Management Plan	\$2.66 - \$30/acre
Grade Stabilization Structures	\$1.46 - \$2.32/cubic yard or \$270 - \$4,500/foot
Grassed Waterways	\$1.16 - \$2.90/foot
Monitoring and Evaluation	\$4,687 - \$14,250

