

Subpart G – Maintenance, Management, Monitoring and Enforcement

MN514.62 Compatible Uses

G. Wildlife Food Plot Requirements

1. Feeder Cribs and Other Artificial Feeders

- Feeder cribs and other artificial feeders designed to benefit pheasants and other resident species are allowed on WRP easements without the need for a compatible use permit.
- Landowner shall consult DNR regarding regulations governing placement of wildlife feeders.
- Feeder cribs shall be placed in open areas within or adjacent to permanent native grasses or emergent wetlands.

2. Food Plots – All

- Food plots, whether annual or perennial will not be authorized on existing or proposed easements with established permanent native vegetation.
- Requests for a food plot on existing established vegetation can be made to the State Conservationist. Some situations that might be considered would include; problem soils, presence of invasive species and other areas that may warrant conversion to a food plot. It is not anticipated that this policy will be commonly waived.

a. Perennial Food Plot

- Allowable on all new easements where permanent vegetation has not yet been established, through an approved compatible use permit.
- Establishment and maintenance costs at the landowner's expense.
- Composition – see “WRP – Perennial Food Plot Jobsheet”.
- Location -Perennial food plots will be located within or adjacent to permanent native grasses or emergent wetlands.
- Size - not to exceed 5% of the non-wetland easement acreage or 5.0 acres whichever is less.

b. Annual Food Plot

- Annual food plots will not be authorized on new WRP easements when the landowner owns or controls agricultural land, including CRP, adjacent to or within ¼ mile of the WRP easement. In these situations, adequate agricultural land exists for the establishment of annual food plots without adversely affecting land under WRP easement.
- Annual food plots may be authorized on new WRP easements through a compatible use permit when the WRP easement acres constitute all of the agricultural land owned by the landowner.
 - Annual food plots may not exceed 5% of the non-wetland easement acreage or 5.0 acres whichever is less.
 - Annual food plots shall meet the requirements found in “WRP – Annual Food Plot Jobsheet”.
 - Establishment and maintenance costs at the landowner's expense.
 - Establishment and maintenance shall be undertaken outside of the primary nesting season (May 15 – August 1).
 - Food plots will be left over winter and no fall harvest or tillage will be allowed.
 - At such time the annual food plot is discontinued, the sites must be seeded to native vegetation per NRCS specifications at the landowner's expense.