

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative GLRI – EQIP Phosphorus Reduction Sign-Up Period 1 Plan of Operations for Fiscal Year 2013

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) offers financial assistance to agricultural producers to implement on-farm conservation practices. Eligible land is determined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and is based on an identified resource concern. Eligible producers may apply for financial assistance for conservation practices that will address the identified resource concerns.

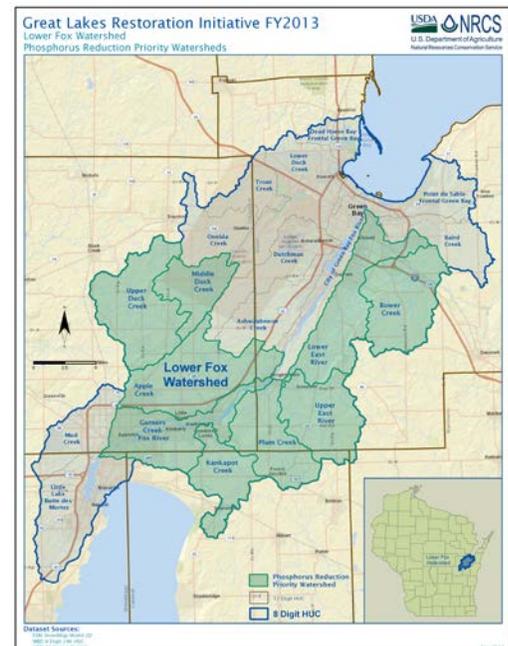
Eligible Watershed Areas:

The map to the right identifies the Wisconsin Phosphorus Reduction Priority Areas in the Lower Fox Watershed.

Eligible Watersheds include:

- Apple Creek
- Bower Creek
- Garners Creek – Fox River
- Kankapot Creek
- Lower East River
- Middle Duck Creek
- Plum Creek
- Upper Duck Creek
- Upper East River

The Watershed Boundary Dataset (WBD) is the delineation used to identify the watershed boundaries.



Eligible Practices and Payment Rates:

See the documents posted on the [Wisconsin NRCS GLRI webpage](#) for the list of eligible conservation practices and payment rates for the FY2013 GLRI-EQIP Phosphorus Reduction sign-up. Applicants who certify they are a Beginning Farmer, Limited Resource Farmer, or a Socially Disadvantaged Farmer are eligible to receive a higher practice payment rate.

Application Period:

EQIP applications are accepted on a continuous basis throughout the year. The FY2013 GLRI-EQIP Phosphorus Reduction sign-up period application deadline is July 1, 2013. All eligible applications received by the close of business July 1, 2013 will be evaluated and ranked for funding consideration.

Interested agricultural producers may apply in person, by telephone, fax, email, or letter at the local NRCS Service Center. The following link provides the location and contact information for local NRCS Service Centers: http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/office_search.html

Fund Pools:

The following fund pools have been established for FY2013 GLRI-EQIP Phosphorus Reduction sign-up:

GLRI-PhosphorusPriority-04030204
GLRI-PhosphorusPriority-04030204-CAP

An applicant only needs to sign/submit one NRCS-CPA-1200 for GLRI-EQIP funding consideration regardless of the number of fund pools identified above for application placement. A separate application form (i.e. NRCS-CPA-1200) does not need to be submitted if the applicant already has an existing unfunded application submitted for FY2013 EQIP. An applicant can only have one application in any one fund pool (ex. an applicant cannot have two applications submitted in the “GLRI-PhosphorusPriority-04030204” fund pool).

Applications submitted for eligible Conservation Activity Plans (CAP) will be placed in the CAP fund pool. Applications which include Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan along with other conservation practices (ex. Nutrient Management) will be combined into one application and placed in the non-CAP fund pool (i.e. GLRI-PhosphorusPriority-04030204). The applicant can have a separate stand-alone application for the CNMP in the CAP fund pool (i.e. GLRI-PhosphorusPriority-04030204-CAP) if desired.

Resource Concerns:

Addressing phosphorus runoff resource concerns in the Priority Watersheds in the Lower Fox Watershed via implementation of core conservation practices is the priority for the FY2013 GLRI-EQIP Phosphorus Reduction sign-up and is reflected in the application ranking tool.

Ranking:

All applications will receive a High, Medium, Low, or Ineligible application priority as identified on the document titled “Attachment G” which is posted on the [Wisconsin NRCS GLRI webpage](#). Scoring of applications will be done according to the application ranking document posted on the Wisconsin NRCS GLRI webpage. All rankings will be conducted in ProTracts. Only those applications which

are identified as High or Medium priority will be ranked. Applications identified as High priority will rank ahead of applications identified as Medium priority. Applications in a CAP fund pool will be funded ahead of applications submitted in the non-CAP fund pool. In the event of application ranking score ties, the application that has the higher tracking code (i.e. random number generated in ProTracts) will receive funding priority.

Funding:

NRCS will allocate the available FY2013 GLRI-EQIP Phosphorus Reduction funds based on the numerical ranking system set forth on the Wisconsin NRCS website. Applications will be selected for plan development and contracted in ranked order according to the application priority and ranking score as funds allow.

If there are insufficient funds available to fund an application, applications not selected for contracting will be deferred to the next EQIP application ranking period.

Waste Storage / Alternative Waste Applications:

See the [Wisconsin NRCS EQIP webpage](#) for application requirements associated with the following conservation practices:

- Waste Storage Facility (313)
- Composting Facility (317)
- Anaerobic Digester (366)
- Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility (632)
- Waste Treatment (629)