



# Eight-Acre Requirement

## The Minnesota Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (MN CREP)

### Why a minimum acreage?

The goal is to enroll as many acres in MN CREP as possible, and the administrative costs do not vary with the size of the parcel. Eight acres was chosen because the average parcel size enrolled in grass filter strips (CP21) through the Conservation Reserve Program in Minnesota (CRP) is 8.3 acres.

### Are there exceptions to the rule?

Yes. A waiver to the 8-acre minimum may be granted in some cases, including:

- Socially disadvantaged, limited resource, or beginning farmer or rancher, as determined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Wellhead Protection Area (CP2) very high and/or high vulnerability
- Grass Filter Strips (CP21)
  - Adjacent to public water included on buffer protection map
  - Contiguous to already protected land or another MN CREP offer/contract
  - Width required to treat both sediment and soluble materials
- Wetland Restoration (CP23 or CP23a) -
  - Adjacent to already protected land or another MN CREP offer/contract



### How do I find out if I qualify for a waiver?

If you think you may qualify for a waiver to the 8-acre minimum, visit your local Soil and Water Conservation District office. Those who wish to self-certify as a beginning, limited resource or disadvantaged farmer or rancher will also need to complete form CCC-860, available at your local Farm Service Agency office.

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