



Kendall County Soil & Water Conservation District

Partners for Conservation Program (PFC):

The Partners for Conservation Program is administered locally by the Kendall County SWCD. The program provides technical and cost-share assistance as well as other financial incentives for the construction or adoption of projects that conserve soil, enhance water quality, and protect other natural resources. Eligible practices include:


- **Erosion and Sediment Control Projects** – The Erosion and Sediment Control Projects component of the Partners for Conservation Program addresses conservation practices including:

- Grassed Waterways – Grassed waterways are a source of permanent vegetation to protect the soil from concentrated flows, and they significantly reduce gully erosion. If you're interested in incorporating grassed waterways on your land, our office can assist in the planning and design.



- Filter Strips – Vegetative filter strips are a great practice to incorporate on farmland that is adjacent to surface or groundwater sources, such as wetlands, creeks, waterways, etc. Contact our office for vegetative filter strip design and certification assistance.
- Grade Stabilization Structures – A grade stabilization structure is an earthen, concrete, or other structure built across a drainage way to prevent gully erosion. If you're interested in incorporating a grade stabilization structure on your land, our office can assist in the planning and design.
- Cover Crops - Cover crops are gaining popularity, locally, as a conservation practice to improve soil quality, water availability and manage pests as well as nutrients on the farm. Interested in incorporating cover crops into your rotation? Contact the office to learn more about:
 - What to look for when selecting a cover crop (germination & emergence, competitiveness, tolerance to climate & soil conditions, cost, fertility/soil quality benefit, etc.)



- Matching your objectives to cover crop species (grazing, reducing compaction, nitrogen fixation, residue & nutrient cycling, etc.)
 - Key considerations (ex. how to seed, equipment, etc.)
 - The Midwest Cover Crops Council Selector Tool is a great resource when deciding what cover crops work best for your operation <https://mccc.msu.edu/selector-tool/>
- Pollinator Habitat – Birds and insects help pollinate nearly 90% of our flowering plants and 75% of our global food crops (IPBES, 2016). They play a crucial role in our ecosystem, and many are declining in numbers due to habitat loss. Landowners who are interested in planting a variety of plant species to benefit pollinators are eligible for cost-share through the Partners for Conservation Program. We can even assist you in the process!
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- Rain Gardens - Interested in trying something new in your yard that looks beautiful and benefits the environment? A rain garden is a shallow depression, planted with native plants, that absorbs rainwater from impervious surfaces like the roof of your home. Native plants are well adapted to local conditions and the plant's root structure allows water to slowly filter into the ground rather than runoff into a storm sewer. Landowners interested in planting a rain garden are eligible for cost-share through the Partners for Conservation Program. In addition, we can help you plan and design your garden – it's easy!
- Water & Sediment Control Basins – Water & sediment control basins include an embankment built across a depressional area of concentrated water runoff. This practice is used to trap sediment and water running off of farmland above the structure, and prevent it from reaching farmland and water bodies below. Contact our office for planning and design assistance.