

Financial Benefits

Through the federal CREP program you will receive:

Federal CREP Payment & Bonus: \$ _____
 (_____ paid annually over 15 years)

Practice Incentive Payment (PIP): \$ _____

Signing Incentive Payment (SIP): \$ _____

Federal cost-share reimbursement: \$ _____

Federal Total: \$ _____

*In addition, through the state program,
 you will also receive:*

State payment for federal acres:

Permanent easement \$ _____

or 15-year extension \$ _____

or 35-year extension \$ _____

State payment for additional acres: \$ _____

(Does not apply to 15 and 35 year extensions)

State cost-share reimbursement: \$ _____

(50% for permanent; 40% for 15 and 35 year)

State Total: \$ _____

Total CREP easement payments: \$ _____

Other financial benefits:

- Reduced input costs on flooded or erodible agricultural lands.
- The ability to lease out the land for hunting.
- The ability to harvest timber according to a forest management plan.
- Eligibility for CREP Enhancement funding.

This worksheet is an estimate of the total CREP payment.
 Final payments will be based on approved survey acres.

For More Information:

Primary Staff Contact

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Landowner Contact

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Farm # _____

Tract # _____

Field # _____

Estimated acres:

Crop _____ Additional _____

Brochure developed by:

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In cooperation with: ILLINOIS



association of illinois

**SOIL &
 WATER**

conservation districts



DEPARTMENT OF
**NATURAL
 RESOURCES**

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Other CREP Partners:

Farm Service Agency, Illinois County Soil and
 Water Conservation Districts, Illinois Depart-
 ment of Agriculture, Illinois Environmental Pro-
 tection Agency, Natural Resources Conserva-
 tion Service



*"A partnership among the United States Department of
 Agriculture, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources
 and your local Soil and Water Conservation District."*

Illinois Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Worksheet for Landowners



**The National Great Rivers
 Research & Education Center**

A CREP conservation easement is an agreement between you and your Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to enhance your land for the benefit of wildlife and dedicate your land to conservation. There are 15-year, 35-year or perpetual easement options. The easements are legally enforceable, recorded to the title of the property, and transfer with the property.

What are the terms?

- Landowner maintains ownership, control, and use of property.
- Landowner can maintain existing structures, roads, bridges, crossings, and paths.
- Hunting is allowed, including leasing, constructing deer stands & duck blinds and planting food plots in accordance with an approved management plan.
- Ponds and wetlands may be established according to an approved plan.
- Timber harvest, forest management, and wildlife management are encouraged, according to an approved plan.
- The conservation easement does not authorize public access. Landowner may provide access as he/she chooses.

What is not allowed?

- Agricultural production.
- Residential, industrial, or commercial development.
- Placement of temporary or permanent buildings, docks or other structures.
- Surface disturbance to conduct mining, quarrying, or oil/gas extraction.
- New roads or improving of current roads.
- Billboards, privacy fences, lighted signage or other forms of advertising or promotion.

Prior to enrollment, it is advised you discuss federal options with FSA/NRCS and state options with your local SWCD.



* Denotes steps requiring landowner action

STEP 1: Application

- Federal Contract Enrollment*
- State CREP Decision*
- Obtain signature form, deed, tax bills*
- Submit application*

STEP 2: Approval

- First Committee Review
- Field Review
- Final Committee Review
- Final Approval

STEP 3: Processing Easement

- Title search
- Attorney review of title and application
- Survey
- Payment Calculation
- Closing packet prepared
- Closing packet attorney review
- Landowner approval of final documents*

STEP 4: Closing

- Sign, notarize, and record documents*
- Issue payment

STEP 5: Post-closing

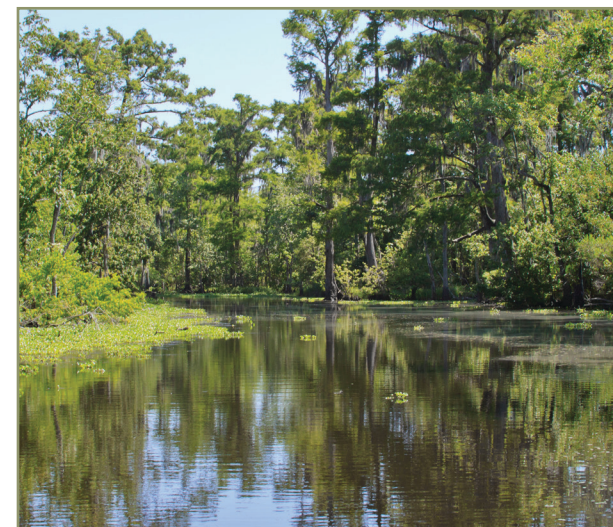
- Final documents sent to IDNR
- Cost-share payment issued
- Stewardship and monitoring

Please note: Throughout this process, the landowner is encouraged to seek out professional advice from his/her attorney, financial advisor, and other professional advisors. CREP staff cannot provide financial or legal advice.

Now What To Expect?

After closing the conservation easement, the Soil and Water Conservation District will contact you annually to check contact information and verify ownership of the property. The district will conduct a site visit once every three years to verify the terms of the easement are upheld.

Your responsibility is to maintain compliance with terms of the conservation easement agreement and notify the SWCD if you sell or transfer your property.



For more information contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District.

Visit www.ngrrrec.org for more info
on the National Great Rivers
Research and Education Center.