

Name of Practice: CREP WETLAND RESTORATION RENT
VACS Program Specification for No. CP-23

This document specifies terms and conditions for the Virginia Agricultural Best Management Practices Cost-Share Program's CREP Wetlands Restoration practice which are applicable to all contracts entered into with respect to that practice.

A. Description and Purpose

This practice provides the state rental portion of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) for the restoration of prior converted wetlands. Its purpose is to improve water quality and wildlife habitat by re-establishing the hydrology of wetlands that have been altered to improve agricultural production.

B. Policies and Specifications

1. This is the rental payment for restoring the hydrology of prior converted cropland in conjunction with a CREP contract with FSA.
2. Applicable in prior converted wetlands only.
3. FSA determines eligibility.
4. See applicable state BMP specifications for technical guidance:
 - i. CRFR-3 CREP Woodland Buffer Filter Area
 - ii. CRWQ-6B CREP Wetland Restoration
5. This practice is subject to the standards of the CP-23 contained in the FSA 2-CRP Handbook and the CREP amendment to the CRP Handbook.
6. All practice components implemented must be maintained for the lifespan of the CREP contract. By accepting either a cost-share payment or a state tax credit for this practice, the participant agrees to maintain all practice components for the specified lifespan. This practice is subject to spot check by the District throughout the lifespan of the practice and failure to maintain the practice may result in reimbursement of cost-share and/or tax credits.

C. Rate(s)

1. The state rental rate is \$5 per acre per full year of the contract (as identified in field 9 of the CRP-1) for the life of the contract paid in a lump sum amount when all BMPs in conjunction with a CREP contract have been installed.

D. Administrative Responsibility

Technical and administrative responsibility is assigned to qualified technical DCR and District staff in consultation, where appropriate and based on the controlling standard, with DCR, Virginia Certified Nutrient Management Planner(s), NRCS, DOF, and VCE. Individuals certifying technical need and technical practice installation shall have appropriate certifications as identified above and/or Engineering Job Approval Authority (EJAA) for the designed and installed component(s). All practices are subject to spot check procedures and any other quality control measures.

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