



## 2020 PPF Cost Share Program Enrollment – Due Nov. 15

The following cost-share programs are available to PPF members in 2020:

1. **Cover Crops** – \$30/acre; max 50 acres
2. **Harvestable Buffer** – \$325/acre; max 4.6 acres
3. **Depth of Soil Over Bedrock** – max \$1,500/member
4. **Split Nitrogen Application** – \$10/acre; max \$1,500/member
5. **Low Disturbance Manure Applications** – max \$1,500/member

To participate in PPF's 2020 cost share, please indicate which program(s) you would like to enroll in and the number of acres/samples you are enrolling. **Receipts or other appropriate documentation are required for all programs, in addition to the completion of the PPF Conservation Practice Survey** (found on the PPF website) and voluntary sharing of SnapPlus files. **All data collected will remain confidential.** Final cost-share payments are dependent on available funds and will be distributed in early 2021. For specific program details, see page 2. Additional questions regarding these programs and eligibility can be addressed by the contacts listed under program details.

**To enroll in a PPF cost-share program, complete the form below by placing a check mark next to your desired program(s) and providing requested information. Turn in completed forms to Nick Guilette, Nathen Nysse or Adam Barta, OR mail to PPF, ATTN: Cost-share program, E3576 Cardinal Rd, Casco, WI 54205, with receipts, by Nov. 15.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Farm name: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Acres Farmed: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you comfortable sharing soil test data, SnapPlus files or other farm metrics to help document continuous improvement?

(Please circle)                      YES                      NO

**Cost share program(s) enrollment (please circle programs you want to participate in and fill in requested information)**

<b>Cover crops</b>	# acres enrolled	Total # cover crop acres
Approximate field location/crossroads		
<b>Harvestable buffer</b>	# acres enrolled	Total # harvestable buffer acres
Approximate field location/crossroads		
<b>Depth of soil over bedrock</b>	Desired # acres to be tested	Person conducting depth of soil over bedrock test
Approximate location(s) of fields to be tested		
<b>Split nitrogen application</b>	# acres enrolled	Total # split N acres
Dates of applications	Rate of N applied per application	
<b>Low-disturbance manure application</b> <i>*Must turn in maps of fields this was used on*</i>	# acres enrolled	Field name(s)

Nick Guilette  
920-304-6293  
nickguilette9@gmail.com

Nathen Nysse  
920-858-5756  
nathen@tilthag.com

Adam Barta  
920-255-2703  
acbarta@riocreekfeedmill.com

# 2020 PPF Cost Share Program Details

## General Program Information

- Acres enrolled in PPF cost-share programs cannot already be in another government agency cost share contract.
- Receiving funding is contingent upon completing your online PPF Conservation Practice Survey by Nov. 15.
- Participants agree to provide their SnapPlus files *voluntarily* PPF so that they can evaluate the change in estimated phosphorus loss from the standard practices compared to cost-shared practices.
- PPF BOD must review all applications and is responsible for all final decisions.
- Final cost-share payments are dependent on available funds and will be distributed in early 2021.
- Questions regarding these programs and eligibility can be addressed to the contacts below.

### 1. Cover crops:

Cover crops have many on-farm benefits including reducing soil erosion, nutrient losses and improving soil health. To participate in this program, plant cover crops (whatever fits into your farming system) in fields harvested for wheat, corn silage or another cropping scenario. Let PPF know how many acres were planted, when and how they were established and what crops were planted.

#### Specific program qualifications:

- PPF asks that substantial cover is grown before end of the growing season to be effective in erosion control.
- Winter wheat planned to be harvested for grain in 2021, winter triticale or winter rye planned to be harvested for forage in 2021, and multi-species mixes seeded down in 2020 after winter wheat or winter triticale **DO** qualify for this program. Fall alfalfa new seedlings are considered cover crops but **DO NOT** qualify for this cost share program.
- **Rio Creek Feed Mill will offer a 10% discount on cover crop seed purchased at RCFM by PPF members. The discount does not apply to winter wheat, forage wheat, triticale and alfalfa. Contact RCFM to claim your discount.**

### 2. Harvestable buffer:

A harvestable buffer, or field border, is a strip of grass that can be harvested and utilized while also providing an environmental benefit by capturing sediment and nutrients. These buffers can consist of either cool-season (ex. brome) or native prairie (ex. big blue stem) grass mixes. This program is currently being offered as establishing a buffer with perennial grass cover for a contract period of 5 years. There may be an option to re-enroll acres after the contract period is over, similar to the FSA Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

#### Specific program qualifications:

- Eligible cropland includes
    - Fields adjacent to sinkholes or fractured bedrock at the surface. These features may occur completely within the boundaries of a field.
    - End rows around cropped field for access to buffers or an agreed upon route to access features completely contained within a field boundary.
    - Fields adjacent to perennial or intermittent streams
      - “Concentrated Flow Channels” as identified by the Door County Soil and Water Conservation Department or Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Department.
  - A minimum buffer strip width of 30 feet with a maximum width determined by PPF based on phosphorous reductions and management needs.
    - If the contracted area includes sixty-six percent or more of the field, the landowner has an option to enroll the whole field.
  - Spreading of manure or other forms of phosphorous will not be allowed on the enrolled acres.
  - Landowner is responsible for maintaining the grass cover for the contract period.
  - PPF asks that substantial cover is grown before end of the growing season to be effective in erosion control.
- This program will be paid out on an annual basis with the limits listed above. This practice is designed to be a multiple year practice. PPF has every intention of securing the funding to cost share this practice for future years but cannot guarantee cost share availability from year to year.

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### **3. Depth of soil over bedrock:**

This provides funding to have a crop consultant test the depth of bedrock using a probe and GPS and develop a map for the farmer. Farmers and their crop consultants work together to identify fields where the farmers have concerns that the soil depth could be less than three feet. While probing by hand takes time and is a lot of work, it is probably only method that can identify minor differences in soil depth (24" versus 26"). Over time, as the depth of soil over bedrock maps are improved, other methods to accurately determine soil depths between 3 and 5 feet should be explored. The information collected through this program should help in the development of a sound depth of bedrock mapping program for fields with soil depths of three feet or less. Evaluation of the accuracy of soil type maps for predicting the depth of bedrock will be valuable to farmers and agency personnel. Farmers will have a better understanding of the amount of cropland affected by the new rules and will be better prepared to seek assistance from agency personnel.

#### **Specific program qualifications:**

- Peninsula Pride Farms has allocated \$1,500 per member for the depth of soil over bedrock cost share program.
- The depth of soil over bedrock program does not have a maximum payment per acre or number of acres because of the large variation between fields.
- CCA's determine the proper testing frequency for the situation and conduct sampling based on conditions.
- CCA's will be compensated at a rate of \$100 per hour, so the cost share pays for 15 hours of work.
- Sample points must be GPS referenced so that maps can be developed showing areas of shallow soil.
- The farmer owns sample data and maps. Information gathered will only be shared on an aggregated basis (total number of acres tested, number of samples taken based on soil type, etc.). Program priorities are in northern Kewaunee and southern Door Counties.
- Farmers must agree to share general information on the depth of soil over bedrock including:
  - Total number of acres tested, Number of acres with a soil depth of < 2 ft, 2-3 ft, 3-5 ft, 5-20 ft, >20 ft.

### **4. Split Nitrogen Application**

This program will help members manage nitrogen by split applications of Nitrogen to corn, cereal crops and winter wheat. Participants will use two or more passes to apply the nitrogen based on crop needs. Nutrients, like nitrogen, that are leachable or volatilize can be better managed through more applications at lower rates to reduce potential losses to surface and/or groundwater. Farmers work together with their crop consultants to identify fields where they have concerns that nitrogen could leach or become unstable due to environmental conditions.

#### **Specific program qualifications:**

- The nitrogen application cost share program will provide \$10/acre for split applications for the 2020 growing season when the crops are actively growing (spring, summer or fall applications will count). Manure applications can be considered part of this application but are limited to the grass/cereal crops listed above.
- PPF will work with the farmers and crop consultants to evaluate potential savings of nitrogen per acre.
- PPF will provide a report that shows how much nitrogen was saved from loss per acre or area of your farm.
- Program priorities are in northern Kewaunee and southern Door Counties where shallow depth of soil over bedrock is common. This program also includes Southern Kewaunee County where applications using single nitrogen systems show that losses to surface water are an environmental concern.
- Farmers must agree to share general information on the cropping practices including:
  - Total number of acres tested, Rate of N split applied, Date of applications

### **5. Low Disturbance Manure Applications**

This program was selected by Peninsula Pride members to offset the costs of low-disturbance manure application on fields. Since the machinery isn't always available this will provide an option to help members try this form of nutrient application. Members will receive a maximum of \$1,500 to try this application on 100 acres with a cost of \$15/acre to cover the additional cost of using the toolbar.

#### **Specific program qualifications:**

- Farmers must share the names of fields, maps of fields and the total acres that were applied with low-disturbance manure applications.
- Low-disturbance manure applications can be made into alfalfa, cover crops, grass hay, wheat, or small grain fields that are actively growing or harvested wheat, soybean or corn fields in preparation for the next year.
- Using SnapPlus, farmers should work with a crop consultant to see what the benefits of low-disturbance manure application are for conservation and soil loss on their farms.