

Watershed Agricultural Program Guideline

2.1.10

CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP) (West of Hudson)

Watershed Agricultural Program Participant(s) with an approved, active Whole Farm Plan will be eligible for the WAC 50% of the practice cost not covered by Farm Service Agency (FSA) under the special New York City Watershed Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). When practice costs exceed the FSA practice cap and the FSA County or State Committees decline to pay above the cap, WAC will consider paying for the over-cap-costs if staff provide justification that CREP is the most economical way to address the water quality concern, on a case-by-case basis. All farms applying for CREP must meet the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) eligibility requirements.

1. FSA staff shall be consulted at the onset of the evaluation and planning of the CREP components of the Whole Farm Plan.
2. The CREP portion of Whole Farm Plan development shall follow the CREP Standard Operating Procedure (see 2.010.1 Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program—West of Hudson).
3. A review of the CREP Best Management Practices (BMPs) shall be conducted annually to coincide with the Annual Status Review (ASR).
4. CREP participants will be encouraged to meet with FSA to discuss re-enrollment in CREP one year prior to current contract expiration date.