



Dear Neighbor,

We're writing to let you know that there is still funding available for our incentives program – if you've been on the fence about signing up, please do so! There are no strings attached. What follows is the letter we sent originally. Please note the new deadline of April 22.

We are a group of farmers who have come together because we care about the land, the soil and farmers. We're writing to tell you about a new farmer-led committee that has gotten started in the Hay River watershed. A map is attached – if you're getting this letter, you're also in the watershed.

Our goals are to:

- 1) learn more about the Hay River watershed
- 2) learn where nutrients are coming from and where they are going
- 3) investigate and implement practices that can improve soil health while saving money

We'd also like to demonstrate to the public that farmers are conservation leaders – we care about our land and water and are doing everything we can to take care of it.

We're getting assistance from UW-Extension and the Dunn County Land and Water Department, but the committee is directed by farmers, and is completely voluntary and non-regulatory.

Right now, we're trying to get more farmers involved with the project and help you get more information about your farming operation.

On the next page is a list of incentives we are offering to all farmers in the watershed. If you'd like to participate, please fill out the sheet and return it by April 22. The funding for these incentives comes from the McKnight Foundation, a private organization. Your participation and any information the council collects will stay with the council, and not be made public. Please contact Julia Olmstead with UW-Extension at 715-531-8869 with any questions.

Sincerely,
Hay River Watershed Committee

Karl Anderson
Lori Boesl
Mike Boesl
Jim Huber
Rolfe Klefstad

Rick Lohfink
Ben MrDutt
Marv Prestrud
Doug Schlough
Kate Stout

Bill Wiseman

HAY RIVER WATERSHED COMMITTEE
CONSERVATION INCENTIVES 2014

Please check the incentive(s) you are interested in. You may sign up for more than one. Funding is limited and will be first-come, first-served. We reserve the right to pro-rate payment amounts if sign-up exceeds funding availability. **NEW deadline for sign-up is April 22.** For soil sample incentives, record of sampling and analysis must be submitted by June 1. Payments will be made by July 31. We will contact you after we receive your letter for more details on submitting samples and getting reimbursed.

Please return in the enclosed envelope or mail to Hay River Watershed Committee, P.O. Box 76, Prairie Farm, WI 54762

___ \$4/acre for new soil samples, taken in 5-acre increments or less, and review. You may take the samples yourself, use a consultant, or contact the county. You must provide proof of sampling and analysis to receive the incentive, and must be willing to share your sample results with the council – ***the data will not be made public.*** How many acres? _____

___ \$2/acre for soil samples taken within the last two years in 5-acre increments or less, and review. You may take the samples yourself, use a consultant, or contact the county. You must provide proof of sampling and analysis to receive the incentive, and must be willing to share your sample results with the council – ***the data will not be made public.*** How many acres? _____

___ \$1/acre for soil samples taken within the last two years in greater than 5-acre increments, and review. You may take the samples yourself, use a consultant, or contact the county. You must provide proof of sampling and analysis to receive the incentive, and must be willing to share your sample results with the council – ***the data will not be made public.*** How many acres? _____

___ \$250 payment for signing up for a free, no-strings attached farm walkover with a conservation planner from the Dunn County Land Conservation Department. This is an opportunity to get suggestions about improving your operation for both performance and for soil and water health. The walkover won't require you to make any changes, but the conservation planner will be able to offer resources to help with things you might like to try out.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____