

Vilas County  
 LAND & WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT  
 COST SHARE FEE SCHEDULE and TIER LEVELS, January – December 2013

SERVICE FEE	BASE RATE	UNIT	LIMITATIONS	ADDITIONAL
<b>SWRM GRANT PROGRAM</b>				
<i>Grant Application Fee</i>	\$25 + \$40	Flat Fee	None	Payment prior to additional services received
<i>Contract Processing Fee</i>	\$50	Flat Fee	Charged for each contract	For phased projects, Landowner will need to pay additional contract fee(s)
<i>Technical Service Fee</i>	\$40	Per Hour	Charged at 1/2 hour intervals	Landowner will receive a plan copy upon payment of planning fees*
<i>Project Permit Fee(s)</i>	\$100	Each	Charged only if project scope requires permit(s)	Optional

\*Project planning will proceed to the next phase when landowner payment is received.

**Practices and Cost Share Rate:** Conservation practices are divided among three tier levels outlined below in order of increased potential intensity of soil erosion or pollution on the landscape, to groundwater or to surface water resources. There will be no set maximum cost for any practice installed unless otherwise noted and limited to the remaining annual grant funding available to the county.

**TIER I:** In general, Tier I practices provide funding for practices that have minor erosion or pollution potential, normal toe erosion of banks, or to improve wildlife or fishery habitats. The County's portion of cost share for Tier I practices will be up to 50% of the total cost of a project. Practices in this category include: Riparian Buffers (\$100 / acre / year for plantings), **Streambank and Shoreland Protection**, Field Windbreaks, Residue Management, Strip-cropping, Terrace Systems, Wetland Development or Restoration.

**TIER II:** In general, Tier II practices provide funding for practices that have increasing levels of soil erosion or pollution potential, to create wildlife or fishery habitat, or to install soft agricultural practices. The County's portion of cost share for Tier II practices will be up to 60% of the total cost of a project. Practices in this category include: Access Roads and Cattle Crossing, Animal Trails and Walkways, Contour Farming, Cover Crop, **Critical Area Stabilization**, Diversions, Filter Strip, Grade Stabilization Structure, Roofs, Roof Runoff Systems, **Sediment Basins, Sinkhole Treatment, Subsurface Drains, Underground Outlets**, Water and Sediment Control Basins, Waterway Systems.

**TIER III:** In general, Tier III practices provide funding for practices that have major levels of soil erosion or pollution potential, to create management plans, or to install hard agricultural practices. The County's portion of cost share for Tier III practices will be up to 70% of the total cost of a project. Practices in this category include: Manure Storage System, Manure Storage System Closure, Barnyard Runoff Systems, Heavy Use Area Protection, Livestock Fencing, Milking Center Waste Control Systems, Livestock Watering Facilities, Nutrient Management, Pesticide Management, Prescribed Grazing, Relocation / Abandon Animal Feeding Operations, Waste Transfer System, Wastewater Treatment, Strips, Well Decommissioning.

**Economic Hardship:**

If the landowner qualifies for economic hardship status **as determined by the county**, the county's share of the cost share grant for each of the tier levels will increase by 20%, and the hourly rate technical service fees associated with normal cost share projects will be waived. The landowner will still be responsible for paying the application fee of \$25, the contract processing fee of \$50, and the optional project permit fee of \$100 (if applicable). Tier I cost share rate will increase to 70%; Tier II cost share rate will increase to 80%; and Tier III cost share rate will not exceed 90% of the total cost of an installed practice.