

Interested in improving your Yamhill County streamside area? The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program is for you!



Do you have a stream running through your property that is being overtaken with blackberries, has eroding banks or is a muddy mess during the winter?

Are you interested in providing long term sustainability for your farmland or pastureland while aiding in improvement of water quality and wildlife habitat?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then there is assistance available for you!

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) helps landowners restore streamside areas by providing technical and financial support. Hundreds of Oregonians have already taken advantage of this program which focuses on converting marginal pasture and cropland into riparian forest. Healthy riparian buffers cool water temperatures, trap sediment and filter potential chemical contaminants, and provide wildlife habitat.

Voluntary Enrollment, Flexible Buffer Size

The CREP program recognizes that every farm and landowner situation is different, so the program allows each landowner to specify the size of buffer they wish to establish. To receive cost share the minimum size is 35 feet and the maximum 180 feet. Contract length can range from 10 to 15 years. Eligible land must be along a stream and be currently farmed or marginal pastureland. (Lands classified as forest or woodland DO NOT qualify.)

Incentives and Compensation

Upon enrollment in the program, you receive access to cost-share at a rate of 75%. Reimbursement is paid for planting, installing fences and animal watering facilities, and removing blackberries or other invasive species. There is also an annual rental payment based on the cropping history and soil type, a signing incentive payment for enrollment in CREP, and a practice incentive payment after planting has been completed.

No Obligation Site Visit

Landowners work with the local soil and water conservation district to enroll, plant, and maintain the buffer. A program specialist is here to answer questions and will even walk the property with you to determine eligibility for the program.

For more information contact Josh Togstad, Riparian Planner, (503) 472-1474 ext.104, josh@yamhillswcd.org, or stop by the Yamhill Soil & Water Conservation District office at 2200 SW Second Street, McMinnville, OR 97128.
