The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) is designed to accelerate adoption of on-farm practices that protect Minnesota’s waters. Producers who implement and maintain approved management practices will be certified and in turn obtain "regulatory certainty" for a period of 10 years. Under the program, a producer demonstrating the implementation of best management practices to protect water quality receives a 10-year certification and will be regarded as meeting any new targeted reductions and water quality regulations that occur in those 10 years.

**Incentives:** MAWQCP provides both non-financial incentives such as certainty, recognition and good stewardship, as well as financial incentives from varied sources.

**Producers Eligibility:** These funds are available to Minnesota producers who are certified or actively seeking certification as evidenced by a signed MAWQCP Application.

**Sources of Financial Assistance:** Dedicated financial assistance for the MAWQCP comes from two sources, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service/RCPP EQIP, WRE and CSP and MAWQCP/Clean Water Funds.

- The first is the MAWQCP RCPP EQIP with up to $1.4 million annually available statewide for producers to install practices as part of a Certification Agreement. Eligible practices and payment rates are described in the FY2016 MAWQCP RCPP EQIP payment schedule. Funds are also available for WRE easements and CSP.

- The second source is MAWQCP Financial Assistance Grant. Producers must have a signed MAWQCP producer application and the proposed agricultural best management practice must have been determined beneficial to water quality through the MAWQCP assessment process. Additionally, the practice will be identified in Exhibit A of the MAWQCP Certification Agreement. Funding per producer is limited to $5000 per fiscal year. The total public payment (EQIP, CWF, State Cost share) cannot exceed 75% of total cost. Applications for the 2016 MAWQCP are open with no deadline time. Funds are limited and are granted on a first come basis. Grant applications are reviewed as received. The approved amount will be based on estimated total cost of practice, less committed/estimated payment from other sources. Grant awards will be paid when proof of project completion and landowner/operator payments have been made to the contractor and verification of payment has been received by the MDA. (See grant info at [www.mylandmylegacy.com](http://www.mylandmylegacy.com).) Eligible practices are identified from the following list by the certifying agent and approved by MDA staff.
MAWQCP Financial Assistance Grant Eligible Practices June 2016

Access Control
Alternative Drain Tile Intakes (rock, pattern, Agri Drain
H20 Quality Intakes/no perforated risers)
Channel Bed Stabilization
Conservation Cover
Constructed Wetland
Contour Buffer Strips
Cover Crop
Critical Area Planting
Denityfying Bioreactor
Diversion
Drainage Water Management
Feedlot/Wastewater Filter Strip
Fence
Field Border
Filter Strip
Forage and Biomass Planting
Grade Stabilization Structure
Grassed Waterway
Heavy Use Area Protection
Integrated Pest Management
Irrigation System, Sprinkler
Irrigation Water Management
Karst Sinkhole Treatment
Lined Waterway or Outlet
Mulching
Nutrient Management
Obstruction Removal
Open Channel
Pipeline
Pond
Prescribed Grazing
Pumping Plant
Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till/ Strip Till/
Direct Seed
Residue and Tillage Management - Ridge Till
Riparian Forest Buffer
Roof Runoff Control (feedlot)
Sediment Basin
Septic system upgrade (Imminent Threat to Public
Health designated only)
Spring Development
Stream Crossing
Streambank and Shoreline Protection
Stripcropping
Structure for Water Control
Subsurface Drain
Terrace
Trails and Walkways
Tree & Shrub Site Preparation
Underground Outlet
Vegetated Subsurface Drain Outlet (saturated Buffer)
Vegetative Barriers
Waste Storage Facility
Water & Sediment Control Basin
Water Well
Water Well Decommissioning
Watering Facility
Wetland Restoration

Contact:
Marcie Weinandt
MAWQCP Programs Operations Coordinator
651-201-6481
marcie.weinandt@state.mn.us