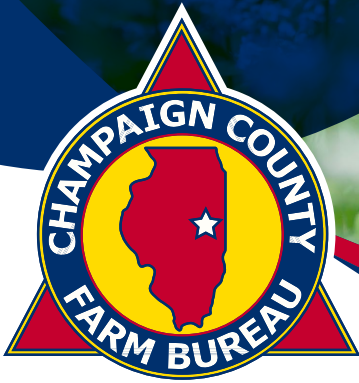


CHAMPAIGN COUNTY COVER CROP INITIATIVE



The Champaign County Farm Bureau (CCFB) has been granted American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funding to increase the utilization and grow understanding of the use of cover crops in Champaign County. In partnership with the Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD) & the Illinois Nutrient Research Council (NREC), the CCFB will be administering the Champaign County Cover Crop Initiative (CCCCI)

THE CHAMPAIGN COUNTY COVER CROP INITIATIVE WILL:

1. Incentivize farmers at a rate of \$33 per acre of cover crops planted
2. Incentivize a maximum of 2,106 acres per year over a three-year (2022-2024) period
3. Be open to all farmers using cover crops and to all size of operations; however, the program will give preference to farmers utilizing cover crops for the first time and to small farming operations
4. Provide notification to farmers of their acceptance in the program by no later than Sept. 9th of each year
5. Randomly spot check 20% of farmers participating in the program to verify planted acres, seed varieties planted, and seeding rate
6. Make payment to the farmer or landowner will be made after verification is complete and will be completed by February of the following year at the latest. (ex. 2022 cover crop acres will be paid by Feb. 2023 at the latest)
7. Provide educational opportunities for all Champaign Co. farmers about best management practices for cover crop usage

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. An application must be completed in either electronic form or by hard copy and received by CCFB staff at 801 N. Country Fair Drive, Champaign, IL 61821 by **Sept. 1st** of each year of participation
2. Agronomic details including: planting date, variety planted, and seeding rate must be provided to the CCFB office by **Dec. 1st** of the planting season
3. Producers must cooperate fully with CCFB staff if randomly selected for additional verification purposes

The CCFB and its partners do not guarantee that receiving funds in one year will guarantee acceptance to the program in subsequent years. Furthermore, the CCFB takes no responsibility for the success or failure of individual producer's cover crops, nor any resulting agronomic or land issues that might result from cover crop usage.

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY COVER CROP INITIATIVE

APPLICATION

The Champaign County Farm Bureau is proud to partner with the Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation District, Illinois Nutrient Research and Education Council and Illini FS in offering per acres incentives to accelerate the planting of cover crop acreage in Champaign County. Please print and complete the following information.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Mobile number: _____ E-mail: _____

What cover crop or mix do you plan to plant? _____

Acres to be planted: _____

Parcel location (Township & Section): _____

Are you a 1st time planter of cover crops? ☐ Yes ☐ No

How many acres are you farming?

☐ Less than 500 acres

☐ 500 – 1,500 acres

☐ 1,501 – 2,500 acres

☐ 2,501 acres plus

Are you a current customer of Illini FS? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Who should the incentive dollars be issued to if other than the applicant listed above *i.e., farm name, landowner etc.?*

Please return this application to:
Champaign County Farm Bureau
801 North Country Fair Dr., Suite A
Champaign, IL 61821

