AT CLEAN RIVER PARTNERS, WE WORK WITH COMMUNITIES TO HELP IMPROVE SOIL, CROP PRODUCTION, AND WATER QUALITY.

Reach out to our Conservation Program Manager, Alan Kraus, to learn more about the resources available to you.

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CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

HEALTHIER SOIL. CLEANER WATER. BETTER FUTURE.

CLEAN RIVER PARTNERS

CONSERVATION TILLAGE AND COVER CROPS: THE FARMING PRACTICES THAT COULD SAVE YOUR LAND AND FARM

Do your fields pond up water or have washouts? Are you adding more nutrients to get the same yields? Does your soil seem lifeless?

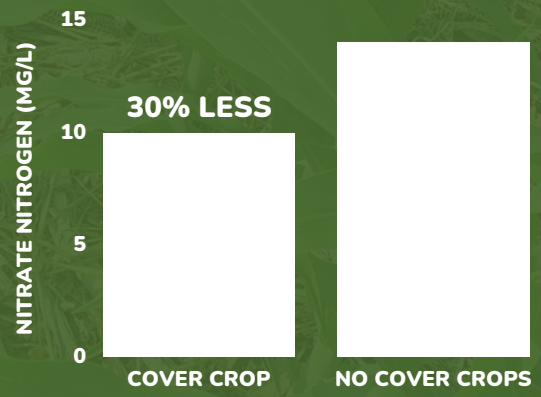
Conservation practices such as no-till farming and planting cover crops have been proven to:

- Improve soil health and soil biology
- Keep nutrients in the soil and keep the soil in the field
- Reduce field flooding and ponding
- Produce better yields through better soil productivity
- Reduce nitrate-N loss in tile drainage
- Improve local rivers and streams

Clean River Partners is committed to helping local farmers learn about the benefits of these methods.

FARMERS PROTECTING BRIDGEWATER STREAMS RESEARCH PROJECT

Since July 2018, a dozen farmers in the Rice Creek Watershed have planted cover crops on 30% of the tillable farmland (about 1,000 acres) in the 4,100 acre area. Over that time, we compared nitrate concentration in tile drainage from fields planted with and without cover crops.



The results of this study are evidence that planting cover crops reduces nitrate discharge in tile drainages, and when planted on a significant portion of the watershed, cover crops can improve water quality in streams.

MEET THE MN FARMERS USING THESE METHODS

"The cover crop is really just to add that extra nutrient to the soil, add some diversification to the soil"..."I've been doing it on two fields very successfully, the yields have been really really good with corn, comparable to the fields we are not interseeding."

MARK LEVGOLD, FARMER IN NORTHFIELD, MN

"I like to leave as much of the corn stalks stand-up as I can and then I just plant soybeans either right next to the row or in between the rows. And, boy, that corn stubble has just been a non-issue."

TIM LITTLE, FARMER IN FARIBAULT, MN

"And when you break it apart (....untilled soil) it's got a sound almost like Velcro!" "I know I'll never go back to conventional tillage."

JOHN BECKER, FARMER IN DUNDAS, MN