

## Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Easements

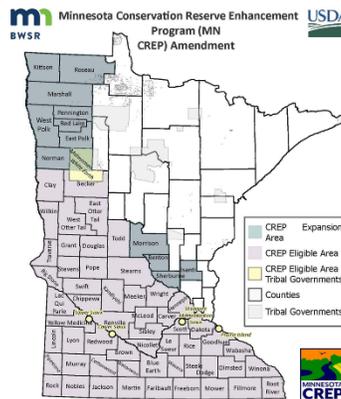
### 2026 Governor’s Recommendation

The Governor recommends \$9 million in general obligation bonds for Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) conservation easements. This money is eligible to be used for conservation easements throughout the state, with a focus on the Minnesota Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (MN CREP).

### MN CREP Overview

In this federal-state partnership updated in 2025, Soil and Water Conservation Districts work with landowners to simultaneously enroll in two voluntary conservation programs: the federally funded Conservation Reserve Program, and the state-funded, BWSR-administered RIM easements program. RIM permanently protects enrolled land. Landowners receive payments from both programs.

The MN CREP aims to restore and protect up to 75,000 acres of marginal cropland across 66 southern, central, and western Minnesota counties using buffer strips, wetland restoration, and drinking water wellhead area protection. Native plantings on those acres will filter water, prevent erosion, and provide critical habitat for grassland dependent species. Private ownership continues and the land is permanently restored and enhanced for water quality and habitat benefits.



66-county MN CREP area in gray.  
Newly added counties in dark gray.



### MN CREP Status

**APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED:** 982 applications submitted to date totaling nearly \$418.7 million in requests.

**ACRES ENROLLED:** 37,200 to date. An additional 4,747 acres are in process.

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