

## 2026 - Lake Decatur Water Quality Initiative Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

### *Limited-Time Funding Available for Farmers in the Lake Decatur Watershed*

We're now in Year 3 of our 5-year program to protect Lake Decatur. Hundreds of acres are already enrolled, but funding is still available for producers like you.

Act now to secure financial assistance for implementing valuable conservation practices on your land.

This program offers substantial cost-sharing opportunities for landowners and growers to implement select conservation practices aimed at reducing soil and nutrient loss. Funding and technical assistance will be targeted to priority fields and drainage areas within Macon, Piatt, and DeWitt counties.

#### **Financial incentives are being offered for the following practices:**

1. **Cover Crops:** Planting single or multi-species mixes to protect fields most susceptible to erosion and nutrient loss.
2. **No-Till/Strip-Till:** Transitioning from conventional tillage to a no-till or strip-till system to improve soil health and reduce erosion.
3. **Nutrient Management:** Developing and implementing a plan to strategically manage the amount, source, timing, and placement of crop nutrients.
4. **Switchgrass for Biomass:** Establishing harvestable switchgrass in filter strips, field borders, or entire fields, with generous short-term land rental payments available.

#### **What Makes This Program Different?**

We listened to producers to create a program that works for you.

#### **Is there more than just the base payment?**

Yes! You can stack your savings with additional service and product discounts from our local partners, increasing your overall financial benefit.

#### **Is the sign-up process complicated?**

No. We've simplified it. You start by contacting the City of Decatur or our program contractor—we'll help you with the paperwork before you even talk to the NRCS office.

#### **Can I try a practice before committing my whole field?**

Absolutely. We offer generous payments for you to establish smaller "test plots," so you can see the benefits for yourself, risk-free.

#### **What kind of support is available?**

You get free, one-on-one technical assistance from a network of experienced local farmers and crop advisors.

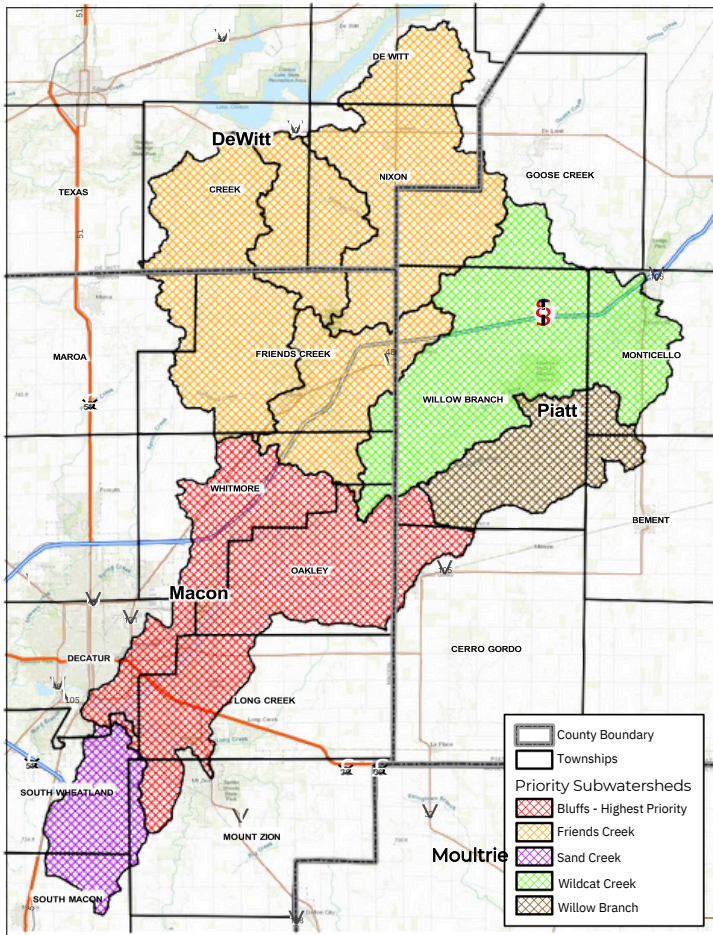
#### **Are there income limitations?**

No. This program has no Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) caps, making it accessible to all producers in the target area.

**Please Note:** Fields currently enrolled in another USDA program (like EQIP/CSP) are not eligible for payment for the same practice.



# LAKE DECATUR WATER QUALITY INITIATIVE REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



Priority areas or “subwatersheds” for the initial years of the RCPP include Bluffs, Friends Creek, Sand Creek, Willow Branch, and Wildcat Creek.

## 1. BLUFFS WATERSHED

Includes all or parts of these townships: Mount Zion, Decatur, South Wheatland, Long Creek, Willow Branch, Whitmore, Oakley, and Cerro Gordo

## 2. FRIENDS CREEK WATERSHED

Includes all or parts of these townships: DeWitt, Goose Creek, Creek, Nixon, Texas, Maroa, Willow Branch, Friends Creek, Whitmore, Oakley

## 3. SAND CREEK WATERSHED

Includes all or parts of these townships: Mount Zion, South Macon, Decatur, South Wheatland, Long Creek

## 4. WILLOW BRANCH WATERSHED

Includes all or parts of these townships: Monticello, Bement, Willow Branch, Cerro Gordo

## 5. WILDCAT CREEK WATERSHED

Includes all or parts of these townships: Goose Creek, Monticello, Willow Branch, Friends Creek, Whitmore, Oakley

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE REACH OUT TO:**

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