

WHAT IS A FILTER STRIP?

A strip or area of herbaceous vegetation that removes contaminants from overland flow.

PURPOSE

- » Reduce or minimize suspended solids and contaminants in runoff
- » Reduce or minimize dissolved contaminants in runoff
- » Reduce leaching of dissolved contaminants to groundwater



PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

- » Locations, establishment, site assessment documentation.
- » Documentation of soil loss calculations within the contributing area, the amount of sediment trapped in the filter strip and the amount of sediment leaving the field edge.
- » Minimize filter strip design width for planned purpose.
- » Designed seed mixture.
- » Document baseline data.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

- » Control weeds during first year of establishment. Mow weeds as often as needed to avoid weeds from flowering. Remove clippings to avoid smothering the cover.
- » Mowing shall be done as needed to reduce the competition from woody vegetation and maintain vigorous sod.
- » Do not mow introduced plants shorter than 4 inches and no later than September 15th to allow time for adequate regrowth in the fall. Native plants shall not be mowed shorter than 7 inches and no later than September 1st to allow for adequate regrowth in the fall.
 - » Avoid damage to filter strip vegetation from herbicide application to nearby fields.
 - » Control the establishment and spread of noxious weeds and other invasive species.
 - » Do not use the filter strip as a travel lane for equipment or livestock.
 - » Inspect the filter strip after storm events and repair any gullies that have formed. Remove unevenly deposited sediment accumulation that will disrupt sheet flow, reseed disturbed or bare areas.
- » Re-grade the filter strip area when sediment deposition jeopardizes it's function.
- » If grazing the filter strip, the grazing plan must insure that the integrity and function of the filter strip is not adversely affected.
- » When possible, avoid disturbance during nesting periods.



FILTER STRIP

Client Name: _____ County: _____

Planner Name: _____

Select the practice purpose used to address the identified resource concern(s):

- Reduce or minimize suspended solids and contaminants in runoff
- Reduce or minimize dissolved contaminants in runoff
- Reduce leaching of dissolved contaminants to groundwater

PLANNED PRACTICE LOCATION AND EXTENT

Contract Number	Contract Identification Number (CIN)	Tract Number	Field Number(s)	Acres Contracted	Acres Planned	Actual Acres Applied (NRCS USE ONLY)

*A completed copy of this page must be submitted for a financial assistance payment to be processed.

SEEDING PLAN

ATTENTION: Contact NRCS Prior to making any changes to cover crop species, seeding rate, or seeding date.

Tract No.	Field No.	Acres	Species	Seeding Rate* (lbs./ac)	Total PLS Pounds Seed To Purchase	Seeding Date	Actual Seeding Date	Existing Cover/Crop Type	Seeding Method

*Pure Live Seed (PLS) calculation required to increase the seeding rate for non-commercially sourced seed: Multiply the percent purity by the percent germination. Divide the seeding rate by the percent PLS to find the bulk seed needed per acre. For example: 98% purity x 60% germination = 0.588% PLS 10 lbs./acre ÷ 0.588% PLS = 17 lbs./acre.



Table 1 - Design Parameters for Determining Minimum Filter Strip Width

Direct Contributing	Factor Points
1. Hydrologic Soil Group	
A	0
B	10
C	20
D	30
2. Average slope within 100 feet upstream of the low edge of the filter	
0-1%	0
>1-	5
>3-	15
>6-	30
3. Average slope from 100-300 feet upstream of the low edge of the filter	
0-1%	0
>1-	5
>3-	10
>6-	15
>12	20

Table 2 - Minimum VFS Width Requirements

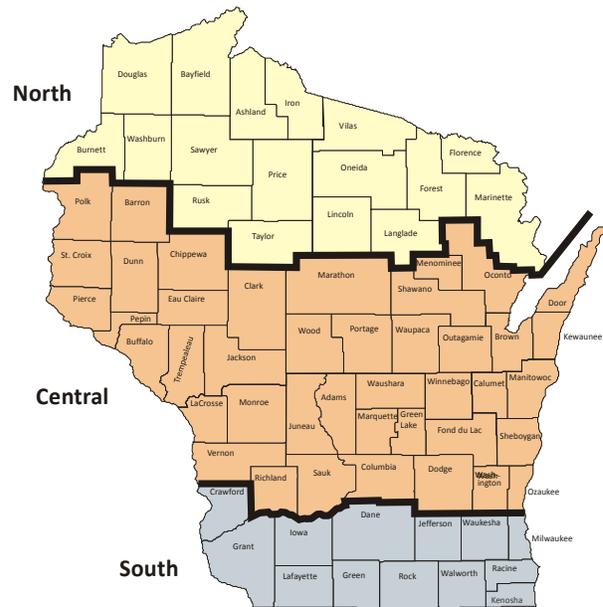
Total Point Range	Minimum Filter Strip Width for Sediment Trapping	Minimum Filter Strip Width for Dissolved Contaminants
0-10	20 feet	70 feet
15-20	30 feet	70 feet
25-30	40 feet	70 feet
35	50 feet	80 feet
40	60 feet	80 feet
45	70 feet	90 feet
50	80 feet	100 feet
>50	100 feet	120 feet
Final Filter Strip Design Width:		

Table 3 - Seeding Dates for Native Warm Season Mixtures

Zone	Spring Seeding	Fall Dormant Seeding
North	Thaw - 7/15	10/8 - Freeze Up
Central	Thaw - 6/30	10/15 - Freeze Up
South	Thaw - 6/30	10/20 - Freeze Up

Table 4 - Seeding Dates for Cool Season Introduced Grasses and Legumes and Companion Crops

Zone	Spring	Late Summer	Dormant
North	5/1-6/15	7/15-8/10	11/1 - Freeze Up
Central	4/15-6/1	8/1-8/21	11/1 - Freeze Up
South	4/1-5/15	8/7-8/29	11/1 - Freeze Up



FILTER STRIP COST SHARE DOCUMENTATION AND VERIFICATION FOR CASE FILE

393 Site Assessment Worksheet is complete and Tech Note 393 is being followed

Practice amount applied is field verified by: _____ on: _____
(date)

Before payment is made, the following information is required to be in the case file:

Photographs of established filter strip that must include:

- Statement "Photo was taken in the field by (enter name)"
- Date photo was taken in the field
- Statement of what the photo represents if it needs clarification

Field verification is documented and a certified planner verified "as installed" this practice meets NRCS standards and specifications.

Practice Certification (NRCS USE ONLY)

I certify that the practice as installed is complete and meets the applicable Wisconsin NRCS Conservation Practice Standard and all applicable practice specifications. Any changes to the original practice design have been approved and are documented on the original practice design "as installed."

Certified Planner (print)

(sign)

Date

