



**Cost-share practices:**

- Filter strips on private ditches
- Wetland restorations
- Water-control structures
- Bioreactors
- Erosion-control practices, including: grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways and other EQIP practices.

**Other practices with incentives:**

- Cover crops
- No-till
- Nutrient management

*A conservation-systems approach will be used to manage nitrogen and phosphorous, minimize runoff and reduce downstream nutrient loading.*

**Technical help provided by:**

Mower Soil & Water Conservation District  
[www.mowerswcd.org](http://www.mowerswcd.org)

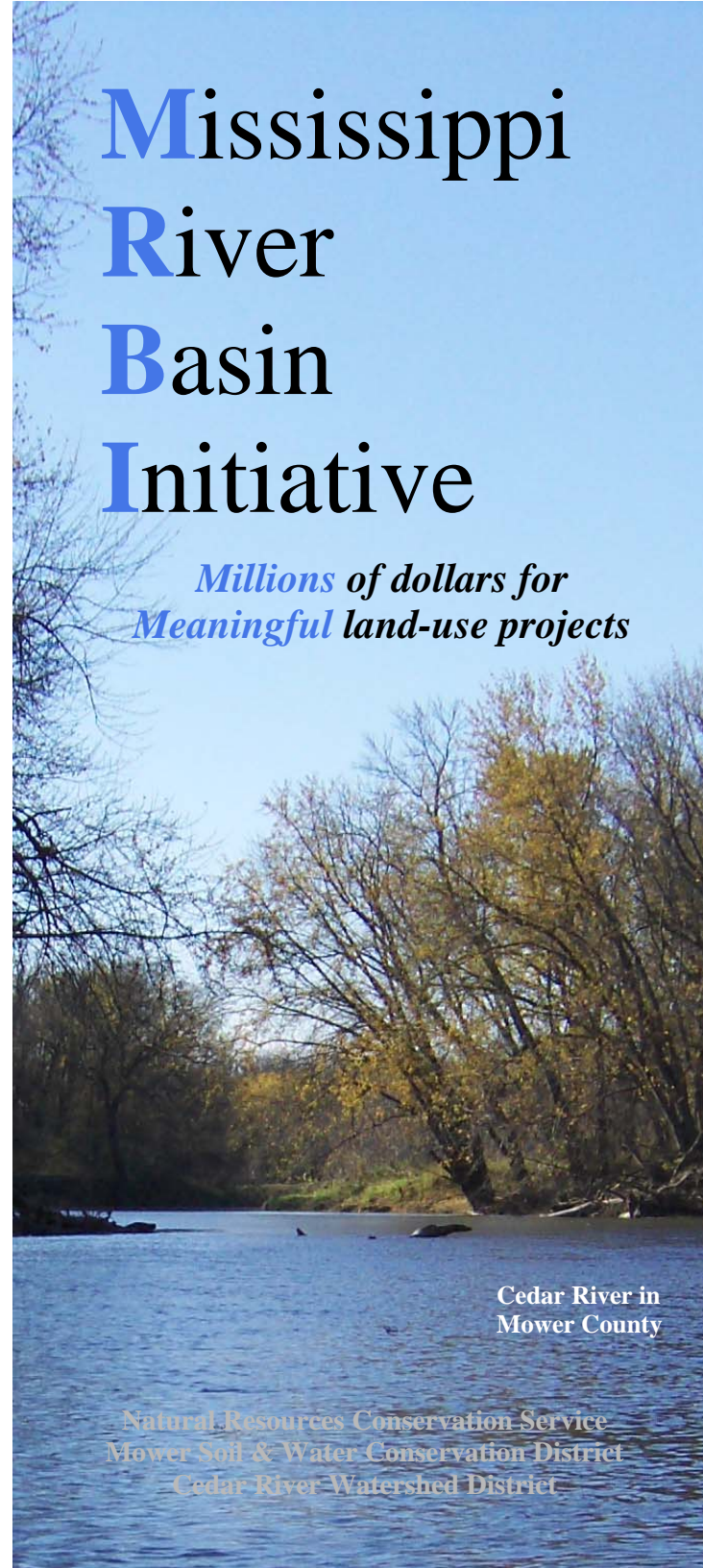
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
[www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov)

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Natural Resources Conservation Service  
1408 21st Ave. N.W.  
Austin, MN 55912

# Mississippi River Basin Initiative

*Millions of dollars for  
Meaningful land-use projects*



Cedar River in  
Mower County

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Mower Soil & Water Conservation District  
Cedar River Watershed District

# THE FACTS

**Who:** Landowners, producers with land in designated areas.

**What:** Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative.

**Where:** Parts of Mower, Steele, Freeborn and Dodge counties in the Cedar River Watershed.

**When:** Started in July 2010 and runs for a five-year period.

**Why:** Help the Cedar River Watershed District, with its many partners, expand its capacity to improve water quality in the basin. Nutrient loading contributes to local water quality problems and in the Gulf of Mexico's hypoxic zone.

**How:** Give financial and technical assistance for volunteering landowners and producers in the selected area to implement conservation and management practices in the watershed.

## How To Apply:

Contact the Mower NRCS/SWCD office at 507-434-2603 or stop in at 1408 21st Ave NW in Austin if you have a proposed project or are interested in participating in the MRBI program.

# BY THE NUMBERS

**\$2.6 million** in overall MRBI project costs.

**\$1.7 million** of it from USDA.

**66,058** acres in the project area.

**5** year project period.

**4** counties in targeted area.



## How you can benefit from MRBI:

- Avoid, control and trap nutrient runoff from agricultural land.
- In the process, get financial and technical assistance.
- Improve wildlife habitat.
- Maintain agricultural productivity.

## Project's partnerships:

The following groups partnered to leverage the necessary funds to make the MRBI application a success:

- Mower, Dodge, Freeborn and Steele SWCDs
- Cedar River Watershed District
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- The Nature Conservancy
- On-Farm network working with the Iowa Soybean Growers

## MAP OF PROJECT AREA

