

Find out more at your local Farm Service Center

Interested in learning how CREP can help your bottom line? Contact your local USDA Farm Service Center. CREP is a state-federal partnership, so you can sign up with NRCS, FSA or your local Soil and Water Conservation District.

To find your local Farm Service Center, phone the Virginia FSA office at (804) 287-1546 or call DCR toll free at (877) 42-WATER.

CREP partners will explain the program details and tell you about cost-share reimbursements for plantings, fencing and other Best Management Practices. An NRCS representative will visit your farm to tell you how many acres qualify for CREP and explain how a buffer can make your farm more efficient.

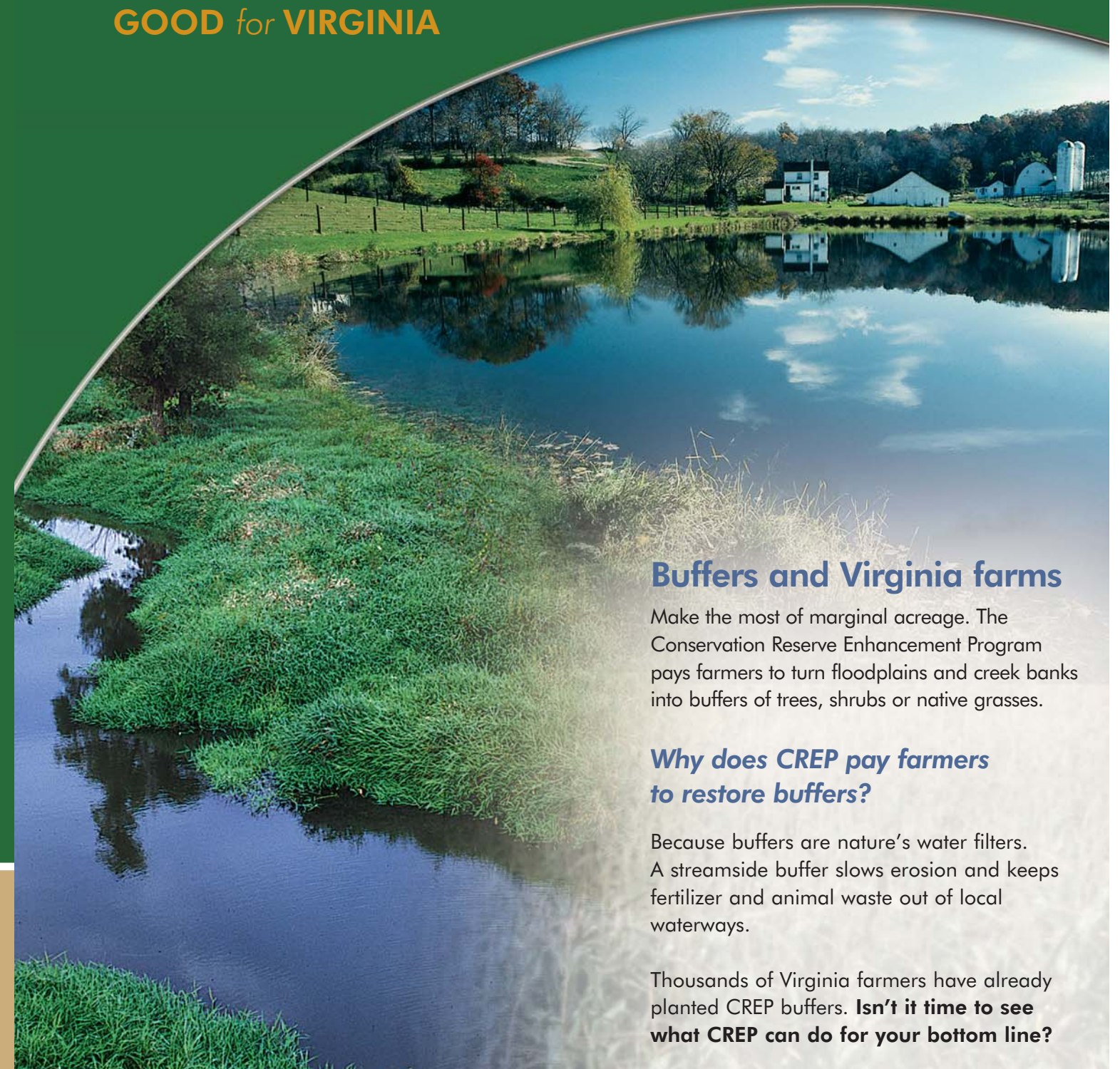
CREP makes it easy for Virginia farmers to do their part to protect our streams and rivers—find out just how easy today.



▶ Ask about **NEW incentives for 100-foot-wide buffers, restored wetlands and conservation easements!**

CREP Buffers

GOOD for YOUR BOTTOM LINE
GOOD for VIRGINIA



Buffers and Virginia farms

Make the most of marginal acreage. The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program pays farmers to turn floodplains and creek banks into buffers of trees, shrubs or native grasses.

Why does CREP pay farmers to restore buffers?

Because buffers are nature's water filters. A streamside buffer slows erosion and keeps fertilizer and animal waste out of local waterways.

Thousands of Virginia farmers have already planted CREP buffers. **Isn't it time to see what CREP can do for your bottom line?**





Buffer benefits

- ▶ Stable rental income for landowners
- ▶ Erosion and flood control for CREP fields
- ▶ Lower disease rates for livestock
- ▶ Habitat for wildlife, fish and game
- ▶ Healthy rivers for Virginia
- ▶ Clean water for your community

Buffers and your bottom line

CREP is a state-federal partnership that makes it easy for Virginia farmers to do their part to protect our waterways. CREP incentives, cost-share reimbursements and payments make sure buffers don't hurt a farmer's bottom line. In fact, annual rental payments of up to \$100 per acre make buffers an excellent investment.

Unlike conventional crops, a buffer of trees or native grasses only has to be planted once and requires minimal upkeep during a 10- or 15-year CREP contract. There are even incentives to help farmers install fences and watering troughs. CREP farmers agree to maintain buffers, but retain their property rights. That leaves the land open to hunting, fishing and other recreational activities. That's a good thing, because buffers are prime wildlife habitat.



“CREP is good for water quality, wildlife and my farm's bottom line... Any way you look at it, CREP is a win-win situation.”

– Essex farmer Robert Gibson



FARM SMARTER, **NOT HARDER**

- ▶ **Don't waste time and gasoline.** Use buffers to reshape your fields for efficient tractor coverage.
- ▶ **Don't waste seed in muddy floodplains.** Get paid to use those areas as buffers instead.
- ▶ **Don't risk your livestock.** Give them clean, reliable watering sources.
- ▶ **Don't miss out on hunting season.** Increase wildlife habitat by restoring buffers and get premium hunt-lease income.
- ▶ **Don't delay.** Act now to take advantage of NEW incentives for wider buffers and optional CREP easements, which protect your land permanently.

