

Cover Crop Funding

March 2025

The Kittitas County Conservation District (KCCD) is offering cost share to Kittitas County farmers and ranchers beginning immediately for cover crops. A Cover Crop (NRCS Practice Code 340) is grasses, legumes, and forbs planted for seasonal vegetative cover. This practice is applied to support one or more of the following purposes:

- Reduce erosion from wind and water
- Maintain or increase soil health and organic matter content
- Reduce water quality degradation by utilizing excessive soil nutrients
- Suppress excessive weed pressures and break pest cycles
- Improve soil moisture use efficiency
- Minimize soil compaction

The cover crop may be a single species or several, depending on the conditions. For a complete practice description, contact Brent at 509-925-3352 ext 2.

Funding will be provided through cost share agreements directly to producers. The cost share will consist of reimbursement for the purchase of seeds for the planned cover crop. The cost share rate will be 50% with a cap of \$5,000/producer. Applications are accepted at www.kccd.net/announcements.

Applications will be considered on a first come, first served basis. A signed cost share agreement must be in place before any purchases occur. Cover crops must be planted by June 13, 2025. Contact Brent at 509-925-3352 ext 2 or brent.dixon@kccd.net with any questions.

These funds are available through the Kittitas County Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP), a program protecting and enhancing critical areas where agricultural practices occur, and maintaining the viability of agriculture.

<https://www.kccd.net/voluntary-stewardship-program>

