

## NEWS RELEASE

June 8, 2007

For Immediate Release

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### **Planning to Succeed Beyond CRP**

Hundreds of producers with thousands of acres of Northeast Iowa farmland currently enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) have expiring contracts in 2007, 2008 and 2009. Northeast Iowa Resource Conservation & Development Inc (NE IA RC&D), in partnership with USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, is hosting a series of public presentations and field days to discuss some of the options and opportunities that are available to these landowners. These sessions are free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided and questions will be encouraged but space is limited so please RSVP. Additional presentations have been scheduled for August and will be published at a later date. For further information, please visit the NE IA RC & D Web site at [www.northeastiowarcd.org](http://www.northeastiowarcd.org). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

- Wednesday June 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Topic: **Converting CRP land to a Rotational Grazing System.** Tour at Mark Kuhn's farm at 1799 293<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Spillville, IA. Winneshiek County District Conservationist Todd Duncan will lead the discussion and tour. RSVP to NE IA RC&D by Tuesday June 19 at 563-864-7112.

- Tuesday July 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-12:00 Topic: **Conventional Farming Beyond CRP.** Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank in Waukon. Discussion will include how to convert CRP to conventional cropping and the need for an updated farm conservation plan, NRCS and SWCD staff will be on hand to assist landowners in updating their farm conservation plans. Attendees are requested to RSVP to Allamakee County NRCS by Monday July 9<sup>th</sup> at 563-568-2246.
- Tuesday July 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Topic: **Certification Requirements and Benefits of Organic Farming.** Harriet Behar of MOSES will be presenting at the Decorah Public Library (202 Winnebago St.). RSVP to NE IA RC&D by Monday July 16<sup>th</sup> at 563-864-7112.
- Tuesday July 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Topic: **Wildlife Habitat Easements.** Greg Schmidt, DNR Private Land Biologist and Darrel Mills, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, will present information at the Decorah Public Library (202 Winnebago St.). Please RSVP to NE IA RC&D by Monday July 23<sup>rd</sup>.