

## Dodge County Land and Water Conservation Department

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## **ARPA Fund Proposal**

Dodge County's Land and Water Conservation Department is requesting ARPA funding for a full time staff position through the end of 2026. This position's primary focus will be on providing Information and Education in supporting our departments programs such as:

- Farmland Preservation
- Animal Waste Storage Ordinance
- Nutrient Management
- Silurian Dolomite Spreading Restrictions
- County Wide Well Testing Program
- Producer Led Group

The Producer led group formed 6 years ago and covers the entire county as compared to other groups that focus on a small watershed. The group promotes reduced tillage and cover crops. They have been recognized locally, state wide and nationally. Several producers have been featured in the nationally recognized No-Till Farmer magazine. One producer was interviewed by a Professor and college students from Europe on his farming practices.

This proposal meets the guidelines of ARPA through the Clean Water Act.

| Salaries and benefits for 4 years 8 months | \$411,923        |
|--|------------------|
| Laptop, screens,etc.                       | \$1,353          |
| Supplies                                   | \$6,000          |
| Mileage                                    | \$3,000          |
| Training                                   | \$1,500          |
| Cost share for conservation practices      | <u>\$150,000</u> |
| Total                                      | \$573,776        |

The County Board is in the process of developing a Strategic Plan. One of your priorities is Clean Water. This is one way the Land and Water Conservation Department can go above and beyond what we already do to help the County Board meet their goals.