Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) receives cost share funding from the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) to assist and promote citizens to use Best Management Practices (BMP) to protect and restore the quality of water within Sherburne County. A portion of these funds are allocated to encourage the utilization of multi species cover crops.

**Cover Crop Benefits**
- Reduce Wind & Water Erosion
- Increase Soil Infiltration
- Reduce Compaction
- Increase Water Holding Capacity
- Re-surface and Recycle Nutrients
- Reduce Weed Competition
- Break Disease & Pest Cycles
- Increase Soil Organic Matter
- Restore Soil Biology

**Planting Options**
- After Short Season Crop
- Interseeding: Drill, Broadcast, Aerial
- Full Season
- Plots

Incentive payment rate is: $25/acre for three species, $35/acre for four or more species; not to exceed $2500. Priority will be given to operators adopting a higher level of management. Funds are limited. Applications will be accepted until August 1st, 2018.
Cover Crop Incentive Priority Ranking

The following questions will be used to establish priority for the 2018 Cover Crop Incentive Program. Funding decisions will be made after June 1st.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Is the landowner/operator willing to plant a mix with at least 5 species?</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Is the landowner/operator willing to plant a more diverse mix than what was previously planted (i.e. changing from 3 species to 4 or 4 species to 5)</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Has the landowner/operator received funding from the Sherburne SWCD previously for cover crops?</td>
<td>No -5 points. Yes-0 points.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Is the planned field in Haven or Clear Lake Townships?</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total:

Incentive payment rate is: $25/acre for three species, $35/acre for four or more species; not to exceed $2500. Priority will be given to operators adopting a higher level of management. Funds are limited. Applications will be accepted until August 1st, 2017.