

WISCONSIN'S MARKETPLACE AND FACILITATOR FOR WATER QUALITY TRADING



**Wisconsin Water
Quality Trading
Clearinghouse**

WATER QUALITY TRADING



Trading is not a mandated program or regulatory requirement.



It is a market-based tool that enables industrial and municipal facilities to meet wastewater permit requirements more cost-effectively while providing a benefit to landowners and ag production operations.



Involves industrial and municipal facilities compensating landowners & agricultural producers for installing practices which reduces streambank erosion, soil erosion and storm water runoff from cropland and barnyards



Result is greater water quality improvement because amounts of phosphorus entering waters is reduced greater than the wastewater permit requirements because of the trade ratio.

HOW WATER QUALITY TRADING BENEFITS YOUR FACILITY

Supplement planned
facility upgrade or
current system

Covers times when
facility operations
may exceed permit
limits

May be lower cost
than current
operations:
chemicals, handling
sludge,

Provides option for
facilities with limited
financial resources
available

Provides a long-term
financial amount to
place in annual
budget

guarantee to meet
permit requirements
for long period of
time

WISCONSIN WATER QUALITY TRADING CLEARINGHOUSE

2019 Act 151
enacted on March 3,
2020 “...creates a
system for buying and
selling water pollution
credits through a
central clearinghouse.”

Created s.
16.9685, Wis.
Stats. and
modified s.
283.84, Wis.
Stats.

Wisconsin Water
Quality Trading
Clearinghouse,
LLC formed in
2022

- Subsidiary of
Resources
Environmental
Solutions LLC (RES)

WQT CLEARINGHOUSE OVERVIEW

Scope: Facilitate a user-friendly, efficient market for the exchange of water pollution credits

- Establish and maintain an Internet-Based portal that contains information that allows credit buyers to communicate with credit sellers for the purpose of completing a water quality trade.
- No credit buyer request or credit generator is too big or too small.
- Trade needs to result in a win – win, everyone feeling good about results.



ROLE OF THE WI WQT CLEARINGHOUSE

Educate pollution reduction credit buyers and sellers about Water Quality Trading (WQT)

Find pollution reduction credit buyers and sellers.

Evaluate potential projects to determine if they generate pollution reduction credits.

Assist pollution reduction credit buyers and sellers with registering on WQT Clearinghouse.

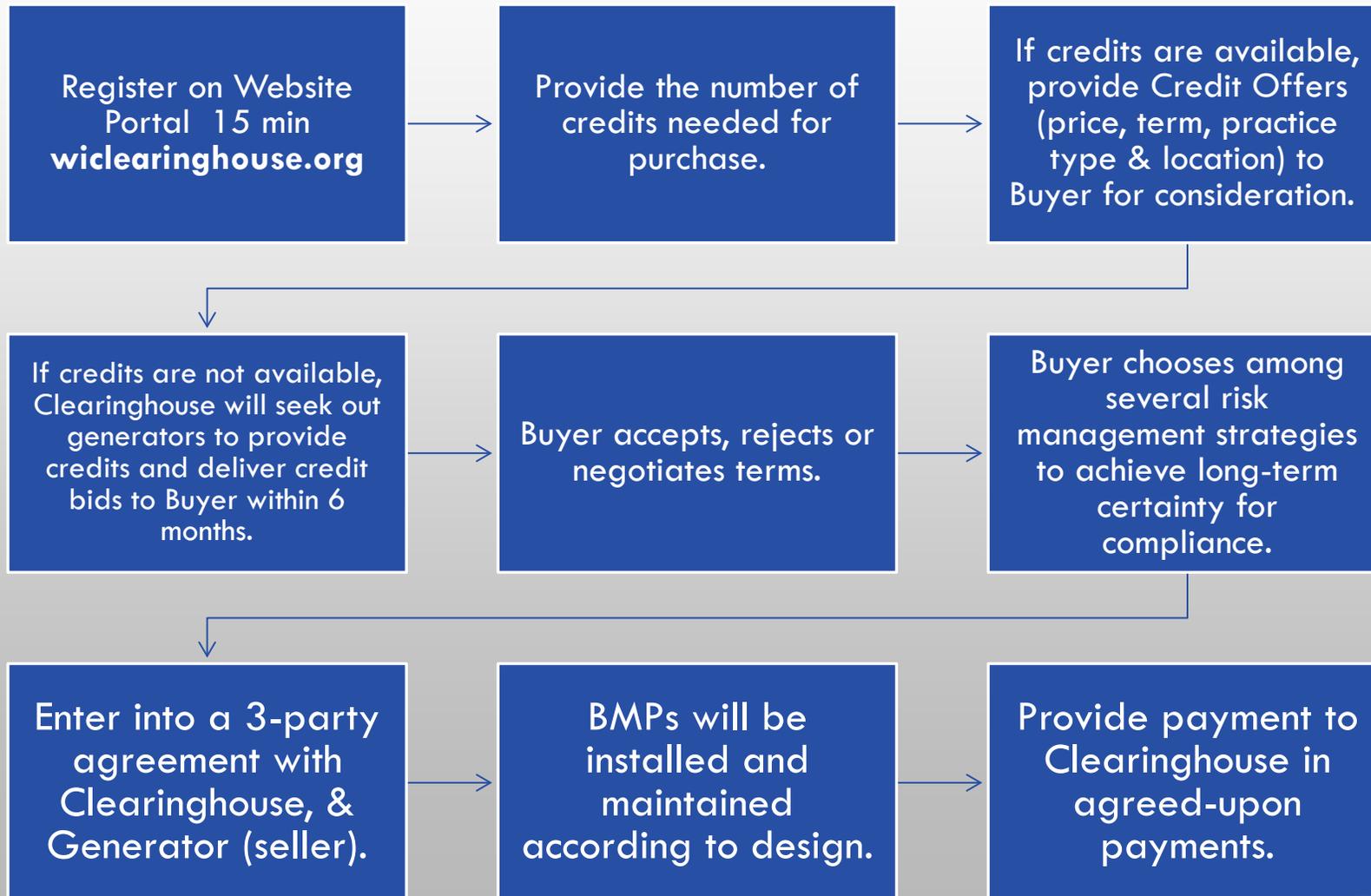
Provide guidance to sellers on how to complete a credit verification package.

Review Credit Verification Packages and send them to WDNR for their approval.

Enter into a 3-party agreement with pollution reduction credit buyers and sellers.

Complete annual inspections to make sure practices generating credits are being maintained.

POLLUTION REDUCTION CREDIT BUYERS





Simplifying Water Quality Trading in Wisconsin.

[Sign up / Login](#)





Wisconsin WQT Clearinghouse:

- MS4
- Permitted Facility

Recently Viewed Items

Type	Identifier	Viewed On
Project	00128	14/02/2026
Project	00130	09/02/2026
Pollutant Reduction	00100-01-02	09/02/2026
Practice	00100-01	09/02/2026
Practice	00100-02	09/02/2026
Project	00100	09/02/2026
Practice	00119-01	06/02/2026
Project	00119	06/02/2026
Pollutant Reduction	00130-01-01	03/02/2026

Permitted Facility
Map Facility Location
Available Credits
Credit Price Requests
Contracts
History

Instructions

Please complete the first three items in the upper left-hand box. To begin, click on Edit button, enter data for Facility Details, click on Save button. Proceed by clicking on Map Permitted Facility Location.

Facility Details

Facility Name: *No Data*

Facility ID: *No Data*

First Name: *No Data*

Last Name: *No Data*

Suffix: *No Data*

Primary Phone: *No Data*

Email Address: *No Data*

Working With Consultant: *No Data*

Consultant Name: *No Data*

County: *No Data*

Receiving Water: *No Data*

Watershed Name: *No Data*

Located In TMDL: *No Data*

HUC 12: *No Data*

Number of Years Credits are Needed: *No Data*

Maximum Budget for Trade: *No Data*

User Rate Fee: *No Data*

Regulated Pollutants

Phosphorus?: *No Data*

Total Suspended Solids?: *No Data*

If any of your values do not match the requested units of measure above, enter comments here.: *No Data*

Next Steps

Any other information we should know about your trading plan?: *No Data*

- Permitted Facility
- Map Facility Location
- Available Credits
- Credit Price Requests
- Contracts
- History

Instructions

If the table below shows available credits and their associated practice(s), then go to drop down boxes under Request Price and enter data, then click Request Price button to send request to the Credit Generator who will then provide a response on the Credit Price Requests page.

If there are no credits and practices listed in the table below, please contact the Clearinghouse Manager at admin@wicclearinghouse.org, because there may be credits available that are not being displayed.

Request Price

Make a price request.

Pollutant Reduction: *

Start Year: *

Term (years): *

Number of Annual Credits: *

00111-02-01 (Conservation Easement - Phosphorus)

2027

10

100

[Request Price](#)

Annual Available Credits

Pollutant Reduction ID	Practice Type	Pollutant Type	Status	Legal Instruments Required	Financial Assurances Included	Maintenance and Monitoring Included	Available Credits
00024-01-01	Streambank Stabilization and Shorelin	Phosphorus	Preliminary		Performance bonding for life of the p	Yes	[2026 - 2026]: 094 [2027 - 2045]: 1137
00026-02-01	Streambank Stabilization and Shorelin	Phosphorus	Preliminary				[2026 - 2026]: 130 [2027 - 2042]: 149 [2043 - 2043]: 112
00100-01-01	Conservation Easement	Phosphorus	Preliminary	Deed Restriction	None	Yes	[2026 - 2026]: 4 [2027 - 2034]: 5 [2035 - 2035]: 43
00091-01-01	Riparian Filter Strip	Phosphorus	Preliminary	Deed Restriction	None	Yes	[2026 - 2026]: 9 [2027 - 2035]: 10
00111-01-01	Conservation Easement	Phosphorus	Preliminary	Deed Restriction	None	Yes	[2027 - 2041]: 558
00112-01-01	Conservation Easement	Phosphorus	Verified				[2026 - 2026]: 22 [2027 - 2035]: 11 [2036 - 2036]: 43
00111-03-01	Riparian Filter Strip	Phosphorus	Preliminary	Deed Restriction	None	Yes	[2026 - 2026]: 7 [2027 - 2045]: 13 [2046 - 2046]: 7
00111-02-01	Conservation Easement	Phosphorus	Preliminary	Deed Restriction	None	Yes	[2027 - 2041]: 114

THREE-PARTY AGREEMENT MINIMIZES RISK



- ENSURES ITEMS IN CREDIT VERIFICATION PACKAGE WILL BE COMPLETED
- CONFIRMS THE CREDITS HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY WDNR
- DEFINES THE CLEARINGHOUSE INVOLVEMENT WITH THE TRADING PROCESS
- STATES THE SELLING PRICE OF THE CREDITS
 - CLEARINGHOUSE WILL NOT DEFINE PRICE - SELLER AND BUYER NEGOTIATE TO DETERMINE PRICE
 - PRICE RANGE FOR ANNUAL CREDIT = \$65 TO \$118
- STATES GUARANTEES FOR PURCHASING AND SELLING CREDITS
- YEARS TO MAINTAIN THE BMP – MINIMUM 5 YEARS. MAXIMUM IS LIFE EXPECTANCY OF BMPS
- LISTS THE AMOUNT OF CLEARINGHOUSE ADMINISTRATIVE FEE CHARGED TO THE BUYER AND SELLER

CLEARINGHOUSE FEES: WHY AND WHAT?

Wisconsin Clearinghouse LLC is not being paid by Wisconsin DOA for the Clearinghouse contract.

Clearinghouse can only recoup costs through charging fees.

Clearinghouse negotiated the fee structure with DNR and it is binding for at least 2 years from the date of the contract.

What's covered in the Clearinghouse Fee?

Clearinghouse Manager	Cost to establish online portal and website	Clearinghouse marketing and outreach	Legal and administrative costs for transactions	Inspections of all practices 1x/year and annual reporting to DNR
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CLEARINGHOUSE CHALLENGES



Limit on eligible trading areas that don't have regional point of standard.

Currently HUC12 sub-watersheds or TMDL sub-basins.

Desire HUC8 or 10 sub-watersheds.



Outdated DNR water quality trading guidance manual

Current manual is 2020



Late in the process credit requests

Need to be pro-active and seek credit trading opportunities at least one year in advance

CURRENT CLEARINGHOUSE ACTIVITIES

- COMPLETED 9 TRADES.
- FACILITATING NEGOTIATIONS FOR 11 TRADE AGREEMENTS
- FINDING TRADING PARTNERS FOR 38 CREDIT BUYERS
- FINDING TRADING PARTNERS FOR 12 CREDIT GENERATORS WHILE ALSO ASSISTING THEM WITH CREDIT ESTIMATES.





**Wisconsin Water
Quality Trading**
Clearinghouse

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