

WisDems: Democrats' Inflation Reduction Act delivers “once in a lifetime” funding to Wisconsin farm conservation programs

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MADISON, Wis. — Today, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel detailed how Democrats' Inflation Reduction Act—which passed without the vote of a single Republican in Congress—is delivering “once in a lifetime” funding to help Wisconsin farm conservation programs implement sustainable practices and combat climate change.

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel: [‘Once in a lifetime’ federal money is coming to Wisconsin’s farm conservation programs](#)

A sweeping federal investment in combating climate change will almost double the amount of money Wisconsin receives for some of its farm conservation programs, meaning more farmers will be able to get help protecting their soil, reducing runoff and improving water quality.

The Inflation Reduction Act, signed by President Joe Biden last August, is a \$750 billion effort to reduce health care costs, bolster tax collections, and encourage clean energy production. As part of that last component, nearly \$20 billion is headed to the Natural Resources Conservation Service over the next few years to beef up conservation programs. The money is specifically aimed at practices that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect working lands against climate change.

The influx of money means local conservation staff will need more hands on deck to

get the money out the door to projects that need it most.

“We are viewing this as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work with farmers we’ve never worked with before,” said Melissa Bartz, assistant state conservationist for financial assistance programs for the Conservation Service’s Wisconsin office. “We’re not going to let people down.”