



We are a self-directed group of non-government agriculture and conservation organizations, tribal organizations and state and federal agencies united to add value to farms while protecting, restoring and enhancing the 30,700 miles of streams of the Upper Mississippi River Basin.

We believe real and enduring improvement of streams and fish habitat in the Upper Mississippi River Basin depends upon connection and shared work by farmers, landowners, community partners, scientists and conservationists.

As a result, our work targets both the well-being of fish and the well-being of farms and people who live and work on the land.

We are one of 20 National Fish Habitat Partnerships, established to meet the four goals of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan.

Fishers & Farmers Partnership For the Upper Mississippi River Basin
fishersandfarmers.org

OUR PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

MISSION

We support locally-led conservation that adds value to farms while improving aquatic habitat and native fish populations.

VISION

We visualize a future in which landowners work together with conservationists and scientists to address the needs of their own farms, local streams and the fishes of the basin. Lessons learned are shared with neighbors, partner organizations and others outside the basin. Fish populations and habitats are monitored at project sites and downstream.

The Partnership helps landowners showcase successful practices to neighbors and others. With a focus on mutual respect, dialog is cultivated between agricultural and environmental organizations in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. This leads to better use of resources, less duplication of effort and measurable progress toward common goals.

4 BASELINE PRINCIPLES

- Find common ground to sustain farming and fishes together
- Promote local leadership
- Provide flexible assistance for conservation projects
- Collaborate to achieve measurable results at basin scale

ACTION PATHWAYS

FISHERS & FARMERS PARTNERSHIP FOCUSES ON THREE AREAS OF PUBLIC ACTION:

1 FUNDING

Award funds to local, farmer-driven projects in the Upper Mississippi River Basin

2 PROGRAMS

Professional facilitated workshops for farmer-led groups and their collaborating conservation, agriculture and community partners; neighbor-to-neighbor events; and an online directory of soil health and watershed groups connect people to increase their success.

3 RESOURCES

Our science-based agriculture and stream health resources put a lens on published information and technical services to help rural communities reach their own goals.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

Success is functional land and stream ecosystems and a way of restoring streams that equally leverages the needs of farmers, requirements of stream ecosystems, and the expertise agriculture can bring to private land management for stream habitat improvement. All agriculture and land conservation programs include stream protection and restoration goals.

