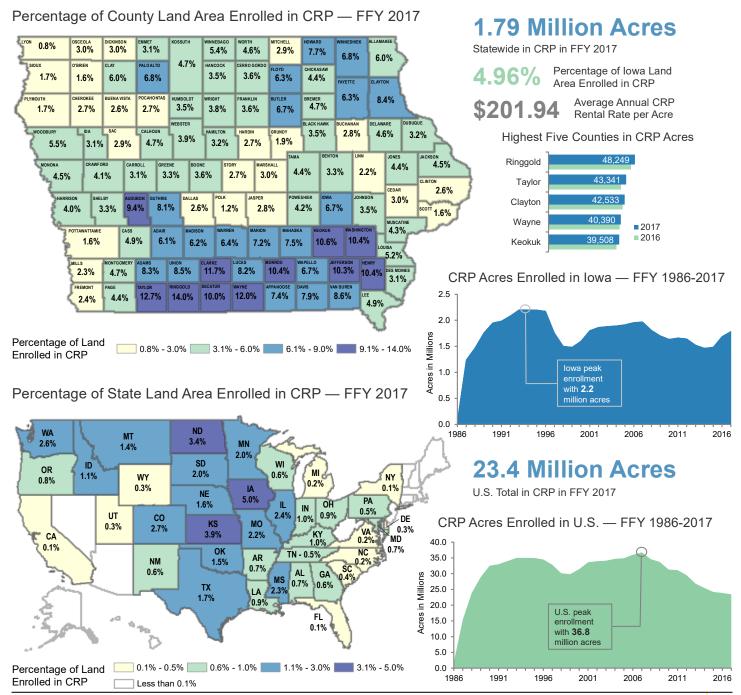
Conservation Reserve Program - FFY 2017

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a land conservation program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA). It is a voluntary program that contracts with agricultural producers to remove environmentally sensitive land from production and plant vegetation that will control soil erosion, improve water quality, and enhance wildlife habitat. FSA provides participants with annual rental payments and cost-share assistance. Continuous signup enrollment contracts are 10 to 15 years in length.

The 2018 Farm Bill made the following program changes:

- The enrollment cap was expanded with a gradual increase to 27 million acres by 2023. At least 8.6 million acres must be devoted to continuous practices and two million acres to grassland practices. There is an additional target of at least 40% of continuous CRP acres to water quality practices under the CLEAR (Clean Lakes, Estuaries, and Rivers) Initiative.
- Annual rental rates were reduced to 85% of the county rental rate for general CRP sign up and 90% for continuous sign up.
- The program was modified to allow for emergency grazing or haying in times of natural disaster without a reduction in rental rates.



Source: USDA Farm Service Agency, USDA Agriculture Survey; LSA calculations LSA Staff Contact: Deb Kozel (515.281.6767) <u>deb.kozel@legis.iowa.gov</u>

