

Landowners can receive cost share for conservation practices.

5 Important Reasons to Protect Rathbun Lake

Landowners in the Rathbun Lake watershed are the key to protecting water quality in the lake. Landowners who install conservation practices on land in the watershed can help reduce the sediment and phosphorus that are carried in runoff to Rathbun Lake. There has never been a better time for landowners in the watershed to take action to protect Rathbun Lake. Here are five important reasons:

REASON #1

Rathbun Lake is the only source of drinking water for almost all the farms, homes, and businesses in the watershed.

REASON #2

Water quality in Rathbun Lake is threatened by the large amounts of sediment and phosphorus that enter the lake from land in the watershed.

REASON #3

Poor water quality in Rathbun Lake negatively affects the lake as a source of drinking water and impacts other uses of the lake such as recreation.

REASON #4

Landowners can receive one-on-one, on-farm assistance from professional staff to help them plan and install conservation practices on their land.

REASON #5

Landowners can receive significant financial assistance to help pay for the cost of installing conservation practices on their land in the watershed.

Hundreds of landowners have already installed conservation practices on their land in the watershed to protect Rathbun Lake. Commonly installed practices are terraces, ponds, cover crops, and seeding cropland to hay and pasture. **Landowners in the Rathbun Lake watershed area of Appanoose, Clarke, Decatur, Lucas, Monroe, and Wayne Counties who are interested in installing conservation practices should contact their local Soil and Water Conservation District office.**

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