

Conservation Agreements

A Conservation Agreement (CA) is an agreement between a landowner and Manitoba Habitat Conservancy (MHC) that recognizes and permanently conserves or maintains the wildlife habitat, water quality and biodiversity on their property.

Eligible Habitats or Land Cover Types Include:

- Wetlands and Wetland Habitat
- Native Prairie or Tame Seeded Grasslands
- Riparian Areas and Woodlands
- Other natural areas or wildlife habitats

Conservation Agreement Term:

Conservation Agreements are registered on title as a caveat and are permanent.

Agricultural Use

Landowners continue farming those areas on their land as they have in the past.

Payment

Payments are based on land value and can be a lump sum cash payment, an official donation receipt, or a partial cash payment and donation receipt.

Ownership and Access

Landowners retain ownership and control access to the property.

What to Include

Landowners decide what habitats or areas on the land to enroll.

Oil and Gas

Mineral rights are not impacted by the CA.

Conservation Agreement Types:

1. **Purchase** – Landowner receives financial payment
2. **Donated** – Landowner receives a tax receipt



FAQ

Does a conservation agreement affect how I manage the land?

No – There is no restriction on grazing or haying practices. Wetlands may be occasionally cultivated when they dry up in drought situations.

What is the minimum number of acres required for an agreement?

Approximately 40 acres – The acres do not have to be in one block and smaller projects will be considered.

Does MHC check on the habitat or follow up?

Yes – MHC is responsible for annual aerial and/or ground-based monitoring of all Conservation Agreements.

Does a conservation agreement affect land value?

Possibly – Many factors influence land sales, including conservation agreements, which can be positive or negative depending on individual situations.

Who is in charge of the property taxes?

Landowners continue to be responsible for the payment of all property taxes.

Can landowners buy out the conservation agreement?

No – The landowner should take the necessary time required to make an informed decision of what habitat areas to include, when considering a conservation agreement.



Need More Information?

Visit MHC at mbhabitat.ca



Manitoba Habitat Conservancy is a non-profit organization working to maintain and enhance Manitoba's natural landscapes in cooperation with conservation partners and landowners. Charity #:126479468 RR 0001