



# MINNESOTA LAND • LAKES • LEGACY

**CONSERVATION IN ACTION TOUR  
AUGUST 11 & 12, 2015**

**Early-bird registration will end before you know it. [Register](#) today!**

The Conservation in Action Tour early-bird registration deadline—which offers deep discounts on the cost of the popular tour of leading conservation agriculture sites—has been extended to July 10, according to organizers at the Conservation Technology Information Center (CTIC).



Registering by July 10 is a good way to ensure not only a seat on the tour but also a spot at the tour hotel, notes CTIC's executive director, Karen A. Scanlon, because

that's the last day rooms will be held open for tour participants. The hotel is otherwise sold out.

The tour begins the evening of August 11 with an opening reception and networking event. On Wednesday, August 12, the group will loop from the Twin Cities through a wide range of farms in southeastern Minnesota. Farmers managing hundreds of thousands of acres of rich farmland draining into the Mississippi River have spawned many creative partnerships to address soil and water conservation needs.

The 2015 Conservation in Action Tour is organized by CTIC in partnership with the Goodhue, Rice and Dakota Soil and Water Conservation Districts; Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts; Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources; Minnesota Department of Agriculture; Minnesota Agricultural Water Resource Center; Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The Mosaic Company is the 2015 Conservation in Action tour leader sponsor. Evening social is sponsored by John Deere.

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For information or to register for the event, visit [www.ctic.org/CIATours](http://www.ctic.org/CIATours), or contact Crystal Hatfield at [hatfield@ctic.org](mailto:hatfield@ctic.org) or (765) 494-9555.

The area recently found itself in the center of a raging debate over regulations requiring vegetated buffers along creeks and rivers. Local farmers are also at the vanguard of many highly effective practices that protect soil and water quality.



“This promises to be a fascinating and thought-provoking tour for farmers, crop consultants, government representatives,

non-profit agency staff, university researchers, ag retailers and more,” says Scanlon. “It’s not only an up-close look at a wide range of conservation systems, it’s a great opportunity to meet other conservation-minded people from all over the country with all sorts of perspectives.

“The challenge is that past Conservation in Action Tours have sold out, so we’re urging everybody to take advantage of the early-bird registration to ensure that they’ll have a place on the tour,” she adds.

Among the highlights of the tour will be:

- Vegetative and saturated buffers
- Drainage water management technologies
- New vertical tillage equipment
- Strip till systems
- Fertilizer and manure management strategies
- Vegetable, commodity crop and livestock operations
- Research and ag retailer demonstrations and more.

Early-bird registration fees range from \$25 for farmers, students and media to \$100 for non-member companies and organizations. CTIC is applying for CEU accreditation for Certified Crop Advisors attending the tour.



Registration includes an opening social event at the Mall of America sponsored by John Deere on the evening of August 11, and a full day of farm visits on August 12 including breakfast, lunch and a final dinner in Red Wing, Minnesota. The Mosaic Company is the 2015 Conservation in Action Tour lead sponsor.

Details on the tour agenda and a registration form are online at [www.ctic.org/CIA Tours](http://www.ctic.org/CIA Tours). Information about the two tour hotels and discount room rates are found here: [www.ctic.org/ciatours/lodging/](http://www.ctic.org/ciatours/lodging/). Participants may also reserve a space on the tour by calling Crystal Hatfield of CTIC at (765) 494-9555 or emailing her at [hatfield@ctic.org](mailto:hatfield@ctic.org).

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