Walk-In Access (WIA) provides public hunting opportunities on private land and rewards landowners for keeping their ground in high quality habitat.

WIA includes 31 counties in western Minnesota. See map on back.

WIA land is for hunting only. No target practice, trapping, dog training, camping, horseback riding or fires are allowed.

No motorized vehicles are allowed on WIAs.

In 2013, a $3.00 WIA validation will be required when using WIAs. This validation is available at all ELS agents and will help determine WIA participation levels.

WIA targets parcels of 40 acres or more, already enrolled in conservation programs such as Reinvest in Minnesota or Conservation Reserve Program. River bottoms, wetlands and other high-quality habitat will also be considered for WIA.

Landowners are paid by the acre to allow hunting access, with bonuses if more than 140 contiguous acres are enrolled, if the land is within 1/2 mile of existing state or federal hunting land, or if a multi-year contract is signed.

Local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) work directly with landowners to enroll acres in the program.

Recreational use laws provide extra liability protection for WIA acres under MN State Statute 604A.20 to 604A.27. Private leases are not covered under this statute.

The future of WIA depends on participation from local landowners, responsible use by hunters and future funding through the state legislature.

Please support Walk-In Access!

For more information about the WIA program, enrolled lands and the WIA Code of Conduct for Hunters, visit www.mndnr.gov/walkin
Minnesota Walk-In Access (WIA) Program Counties - 2015

SWCD Counties Participating in the WIA Program
- Enrolled sites
- No enrolled sites
- Outside WIA Program Area

Contact Neighboring county SWCD for enrollment in Nicollet, Nobles or Grant County

Date: 2015-06-17