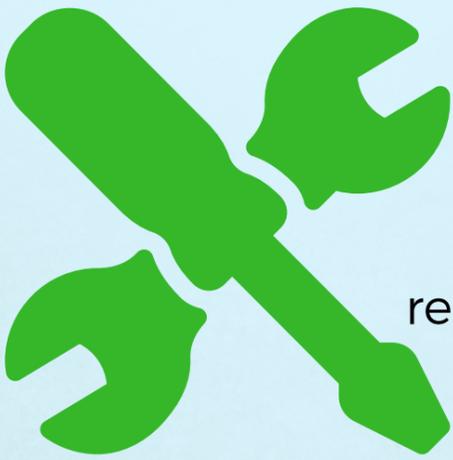


# COVER CROPS AT WORK

*Keeping the soil in place & increasing infiltration*

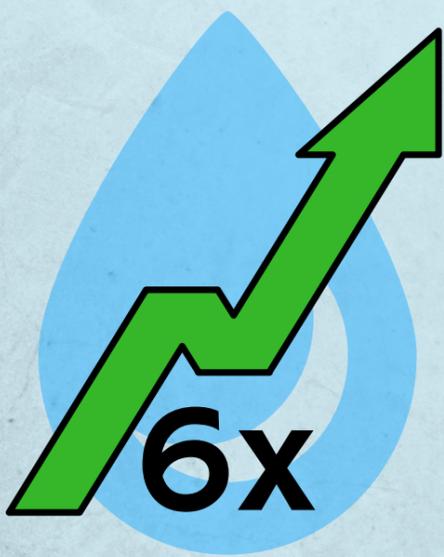
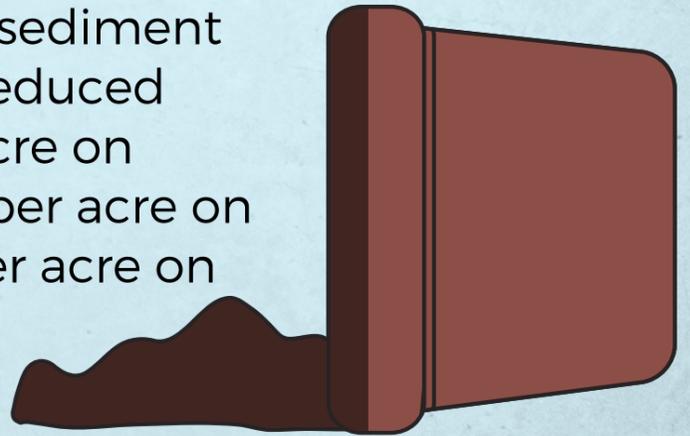


## THE TOOLKIT

Cover crops are tools to keep the soil in place, improve soil health, and reduce nutrient pollution from farm fields. The cover crop toolkit includes grasses, brassicas, legumes, and other broadleaf species.

## SOIL LOSS

Cover crops decrease, and in some cases, completely eliminate soil and sediment loss. On average, cover crops reduced sediment loss by 21 tons per acre on conventional-till fields, 6 tons per acre on reduced-till fields, and 1 ton per acre on no-till fields.



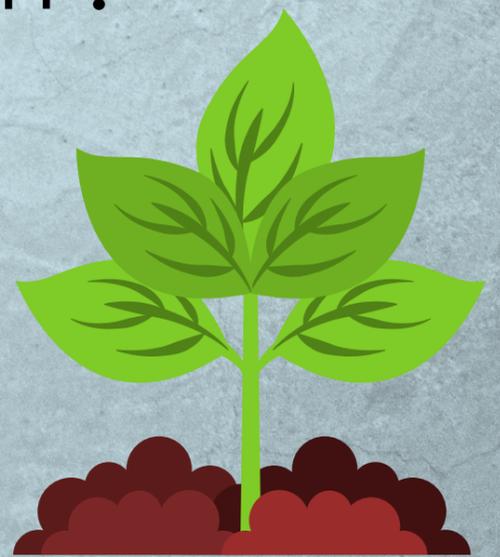
## INFILTRATION

Studies have shown that cover crops can increase water infiltration to the soil profile by two to sixfold. This improves soil water conditions and prevents excess runoff and erosion.

## HOW DO THEY DO IT?

Cover crops are able to provide these benefits to the soil because they:

- Cover and protect the soil surface from wind and water erosion
- Root into the soil profile, making channels for water flow
- Improve the soil structure
- Prevent the soil surface from sealing



**By keeping the soil in place and improving soil conditions, cover crops are mitigating pollution risk while also boosting the productive capacity of the soil.**