The Soil Health Partnership (SHP) promotes the adoption of soil health practices for economic and environmental benefit.

Who is SHP?
The Soil Health Partnership was established in 2014 as a result of The Nature Conservancy, Bayer, the Environmental Defense Fund, and the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) sharing a vision to develop a farmer-led research network that could measure the impacts of implementing soil health practices on working farms. True to our vision of being led by farmers, and existing to serve farmers, SHP is a program of NCGA under the Stewardship Action team and serves as their flagship sustainability program.

What does SHP do?
By building a peer-to-peer network, the Soil Health Partnership partners with farmers to explore the economic and environmental benefits and risks of soil health practices. At SHP, we view the process of implementing soil health practices as a transition that takes time and planning to ensure producers are successful.

Our program is farmer-focused and flexible to what the grower wants to try on their farm, and with the knowledge and experience of our Field Managers, we work directly with the producer to advise them and set them up for a successful transition. SHP also collects on-farm data that enable farmers to understand the long-term changes in soil health in order to make management decisions based on regional data sets.

Interested in learning more about SHP? Contact your local Field Manager:
Maddy Rabenhorst – 605-421-4090 or rabenhorst@ncga.com
What kind of growers does SHP work with?

We work with a wide variety of growers who are interested in learning more about soil health practices. Our network ranges from growers who are just beginning to experiment with soil health to experienced experts. Most importantly, we work with growers who are eager to learn and try new ways to make soil health practices successful on their farms.

As a SHP grower, you will work closely with one of our local Field Managers to help you choose which trial type and trial layout to select and implement on your farm. We currently use two different kinds of trial layouts to help evaluate soil health practices. Our strip trial design is an intensive research trial with 8+ replicated strips and is a 5-year program. Our side-by-side field trial design is a more simplified research design and a 3-year program. For both trial layouts our minimum trial size is 20 acres.

Grower expectations:

- As an SHP grower you will receive:
  - Soil sampling results (soil health & nutrient analysis)
  - Agronomic field checks
  - Yield and economic data analysis
- One-on-one support from your Field Manager throughout the year
- Invites to exclusive SHP grower meetings

Grower requirements:

- Complete the appropriate management each year on your SHP trial
- Own or have access to a GPS yield monitor
- Provide yield data and management information each year
- Participate in outreach activities (Being an advocate for our program, hosting a Field Day, participating in a farmer panel, etc.)

Visit soilhealthpartnership.org to learn more SHP trials.