



**Natural Resources
Conservation Service**

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NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE ANNOUNCES FUNDS FOR GEORGIA'S 2014 CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANTS PROGRAM

ATHENS, GA, March 17 , 2014 --- Acting State Conservationist, Greg Kist, for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Georgia today announced that the NRCS is requesting applications for Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies. Applications are due by May 9.

For fiscal year 2014, up to \$150,000 is available for the Georgia State CIG competition. Individual grants will not exceed \$75,000 from NRCS. Funds will be awarded through a statewide competitive grants process. Applications are requested from eligible government or non-government organizations, or individuals for competitive consideration of grant awards for projects between one and three years in duration.

The preferred method of submitting applications is electronically through Grants.gov. Applications may also be submitted via e-mail to: dale.bogardus@ga.usda.gov. Applications submitted through U.S. Postal Service, express mail or overnight courier service should be addressed to: Dale Bogardus, State CIG Technical Contact, NRCS, 355 East Hancock Avenue, Mail Stop 200, Athens, GA 30601.

All applications regardless of how they are submitted must be received by 4:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time (EST) on **May 9, 2014**.

Funding Categories include the following; Energy, Adaptation to Drought, Specialty Crops and Soil Health. A description of each of these funding categories can be found at the Georgia NRCS Web site, <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ga/programs/financial/cig/>.

A full announcement of the Georgia CIG State Component is available on-line at Grants.gov. A search by agency (Browse by Agency), and a more detailed search, selecting "Department of Agriculture," should aid in locating the Georgia Conservation Innovation Grant State Component.

****MORE****

For further questions please contact Dale Bogardus at dale.bogardus@ga.usda.gov.

NRCS is USDA's lead conservation agency and has worked hand-in-hand with farmers and landowners for 79 years to conserve natural resources on private lands.

Georgia landowners can learn more about conserving natural resources by contacting NRCS Georgia through USDA Service Centers or by visiting the NRCS Georgia homepage at www.ga.nrcs.usda.gov.

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