



Who We Are, What We Do

Seventy percent of our Nation's land base is privately owned. Therefore, the fate of America's natural resources – soil, water, air, plants and animals– rests in the hands of private landowners.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) works hand-in-hand with these landowners through voluntary incentive-based conservation that promotes the win-win of the conservation movement—productive and sustainable lands.

Created out of the Dust Bowl, America made an historic commitment to the stewardship of private land and natural resources by recognizing that the long-term welfare of all Americans rested in the hands of farmers and ranchers.

Over the past 75 years, NRCS has developed into the leader of conservation implementation.

With an annual budget in excess of \$4 billion and a versatile team of almost 12,000 professionals in 2,800 offices across the country, we pride ourselves in being on-the-ground and closely connected with the people and communities we serve.

We still honor America's commitment through our daily mission—to help private landowners tackle America's ever-changing environmental challenges with science-based solutions.

NRCS has adapted and evolved to meet the contemporary challenges of the time. To this day we lead the conservation movement and ensure private lands are environmentally and economically sustainable for the benefit of the farmer and the nation as a whole.

97 MILLION ACRES

of land are currently enrolled in NRCS programs, providing improved water quality and quantity, soil health and wildlife habitat across America.

182,658 LANDOWNERS

currently participate in NRCS programs, installing conservation practices that benefit the land, the community & the Nation as a whole.

Every Hour

11 acres of our Nation's wetlands are restored by private landowners. At of the beginning of 2012, 2.5 million acres are enrolled in the Wetlands Reserve Program.

700,000 CARS OFF THE ROAD

In California alone, farmers & conservationists helped clear the air by replacing old diesel engines with ones that run up to 71% cleaner, reducing NOx emissions.

From soil conservationists and biologists to geologists and engineers, our experts directly work with landowners to develop conservation plans, create and restore wetlands, manage natural ecosystems and provide nutrient and animal waste management,

We are committed to “helping people help the land” and our passion is derived from the principle of natural resource stewardship—ensuring that the benefits we all enjoy, such as cleaner air and water, improved soil and abundant wildlife, are enjoyed now and for generations to come.

We believe that productive lands can co-exist with a healthy environment and we are ready to lead the American conservation movement forward in a renewed and reinvigorated direction.

Helping People Help the Land

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