



**Conservation Planning** is the integral “first step” that all crop and non-cropland conservation decisions are built upon. True conservation planning involves not only a working knowledge of the science behind the resources and potential management solutions, but an understanding of the cultural, social and economic factors that influence a landowner’s decisions.

A farm’s conservation plan is the base document from which all other land management options should start. Whether the farmer is considering switching to rotational grazing, implementing a pest management plan or expanding their livestock operation, a poor or non-existent conservation plan can mean the difference between success or failure.

**CCA/TSP Training** takes the essentials from the core courses and provides TSPs/CCAs with a solid basis to integrate their existing knowledge with the basic field/technical skills required of conservation planners.

- **Understanding RUSLE2 Soil Loss Model**

A combination of an online course and field experience. During the class, students will collect necessary data (shooting slopes, etc.) to run the program. If possible, participants should provide their own laptops.

- **Introduction to Conservation Planning for TSPs/CCAs**

March 26-27, UW-Platteville Pioneer Farm

A full-day, in-the-field session that introduces private sector consultants to shooting slopes, residue management, conservation options, understanding agency technical standards and cultural/heritage resources.

CCAs/TSPs who complete the above 1 1/2 days then join agency staff for the Conservation Planning Training.

*This conservation training curriculum was developed by University of Wisconsin Extension, University of Minnesota Extension, partner conservation agencies and private sector consultants as a component of the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture-funded Great Lakes Regional Water Program.*



**Conservation Planning Training** has several components that are targeted at specific audiences, based on experience and needs.

- **Core Conservation Training** for agency staff with less than two years experience.
- **Conservation Planning Training** for agency staff with three to five years experience.
- **CCA/TSP Training** for private sector consultants producing conservation plans.

Visit our website

<http://conservation-training.uwex.edu>

**Conservation Professional Training Program**

Environmental Resources Center, 445 Henry Mall, Room 202

Madison, WI 53706

608-262-0020

[cptp@uwex.edu](mailto:cptp@uwex.edu)

## Technical Service Provider (TSP) Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) Orientation

**TSP orientation** Feb. 20; Madison, Appleton, Chippewa Falls; also available online

This one-day course provides private sector consultants, agronomists, and technical professionals with an introduction to assisting landowners as Technical Service Providers (TSPs). It is highly recommended that participants begin the TSP process (<http://techreg.usda.gov/TSPApplicationIntro.aspx>) before the course is held.

**Conservation Planning modules 1-5** Feb. 20; Madison, Appleton, Chippewa Falls; also available online

Hands-on setup/updating of your TechReg profile. This course also is the first in the TSP Mentoring Series to help walk TSPs through the development of their first CAP (Conservation Activity Plan). PLEASE NOTE: TSP Orientation and Conservation Planning Modules 1-5 are also available online via the USDA AgLearn system. This course is a live classroom version of the same material.

**TSP CAP Resource Assessment** Date and location TBD

This one-day course focuses on the farmstead, cropland and pasture resource assessment process for Conservation Activity Plans (CAPs). Participants will complete this on-farm session with an understanding of the resource assessment process and what is required for a Conservation Activity Plan.

### Conservation Planning Mentoring

This opportunity provides up to two hours of group/one-on-one mentoring to review the draft plan and provide suggestions and guidance prior to plan submittal to NRCS for certification.

### TSP Web Update

A two-hour web conference designed to update TSPs on changes in NRCS policy/procedures and answer questions about the certification process.

## Additional Courses for Continuing Education

- **Introduction to Prescribed Burning**

Offered by the Woodland School, Baraboo

<http://www.aldoleopold.org/woodlandschool/>

- **Hydric Soils and Wetland Delineation Training**

UW-LaCrosse Continuing Education and Extension has several wetland courses scheduled around the state.

<http://www.uwlax.edu/conted/wetland/>

## Conservation Planning Training

These sessions are for agency staff with three to five years experience, agency staff who have completed Core Conservation Training and TSPs/CCAs who have completed the CCA/TSP training sessions.

- **Conservation Planning 1**

March 27-28, UW-Platteville Pioneer Farm

This two-day module focuses on sheet/rill/ephemeral erosion, resource concern identification (upland and lowland), forestry and modeling tools used to quantify resource concerns.

- **Conservation Planning 2**

June 25-26, Northcentral Technical College, Antigo

This two-day module focuses on soil quality, ecological principals in agricultural production, grazing, organic and alternative agriculture operations.

- **Conservation Planning 3**

August 13-14, Chilton UW-Extension office

This two-day module focuses on drainage issues (karst, tile drainage), livestock and the conservation plan, vegetable crops and farmstead evaluation (note - TSPs/CCAs who have completed the CNMP site assessment training will skip one day of this module).

- **Conservation Planning 4 - Pulling the Plan Together**

October 8-9, Hancock Ag Research Station

The final two-day module focuses on issues in irrigated vegetable production, wind erosion (both in sands and non-sandy soils), groundwater issues and cranberries.

- **Basic and Advanced Wetland Plant Identification Course**

A two-day course covering identification of common wetland plants and field identification of degraded wetlands.

<http://conservation-training.uwex.edu/>

- **Forestry Conservation Activity Plan Training Series**

For a complete listing of Forestry Workshops offered, visit:

[http://conservation-training.wisc.edu/course\\_listing/list\\_courses?technical\\_area=8](http://conservation-training.wisc.edu/course_listing/list_courses?technical_area=8)