Who We Are
The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture known worldwide for its accomplishments and innovations in conservation. We help the people we serve take necessary steps to conserve soil, protect wildlife, restore water quality, promote good land use, and implement measures to conserve the Nation’s natural resources for future generations.

NRCS formed during the Dust Bowl days of the 1930s - when dust storms ravaged the Nation’s farmland - stripping away millions of tons of topsoil. Since that time, NRCS has helped farmers protect and conserve soil and other natural resources on America’s private lands.

Careers
NRCS employs about 450 full-time workers in Iowa, second in the nation for most full-time NRCS employees.

Some jobs require a college degree, such as a soil scientist, soil conservationist, biologist, or an engineer. Others may require working knowledge and experience, such as a soil conservation technician.

NRCS also offers careers for people trained in the following areas:

- Accounting
- Agronomy
- Business Administration
- Cartography
- Contracting
- Ecology
- Forestry
- Geographic Information Systems
- Geology
- Human Resources
- Hydrology
- Information Technology
- Landscape Architecture
- Legislative Affairs
- Plant Sciences
- Program and Administrative Assistance
- Public Affairs and Communications
- Purchasing
- Sociology
- Watershed Management
- Wetland Science

Iowa high school environmental science students.

USDA-NRCS
210 Walnut Street, Room 693
Des Moines, IA 50309
(515) 284-6655
Helping People Help the Land
www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov
USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
**A Leader in Ag Production**

As one of the most agriculturally productive states in the nation, Iowa faces many pressures on its natural resources. Iowa has more than 90,000 farms with $12 billion of sales.

Iowa ranks third nationally in total agricultural production. It leads in the production of grain corn, hogs and chicken eggs. Iowa ranks second in soybeans, and fourth in overall livestock production. Challenges include improving water and air quality, reducing soil erosion and enhancing wildlife habitat.

In just the last decade Iowa’s strong agricultural foundation has positioned the state to lead the nation in wind energy, renewable fuels - ethanol and biodiesel, biomass, and other next generation technologies.

**A Great Place to Live**

What people find when they make Iowa home is a genuinely great place to live, work, play, and raise a family. They discover a place where neighbors are friendly, commutes are short, and quality public education is a reality.

» Iowa is ranked the nation’s 2nd-most livable state by CQ Press.
» Iowans enjoy the 8th-lowest housing costs.
» Iowans pay the lowest combined average auto insurance of any state in the nation.
» Iowans enjoy the 6th-shortest commute time.

**Working for NRCS**

NRCS offers the security of government employment, competitive salaries, and vacation and sick leave for full-time employees, and numerous opportunities for career advancement. To help students take advantage of summer employment opportunities, Iowa NRCS offers salaries, travel expenses and lodging assistance in our summer trainee program.

**Job Opportunities**

If you’re interested in our summer trainee program or if you’re ready to create a career in Iowa with NRCS, please contact the Human Resources staff or visit: jobssearch.usajobs.opm.gov/a9nrcshqp.asp to see a list of NRCS job opportunities.