

What is Conservation Technical Assistance?

The Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) program provides voluntary conservation technical assistance to land-users, communities, units of state and local government, and other Federal agencies in planning and implementing conservation systems. This assistance is for planning and implementing conservation practices that address natural resource issues. It helps people voluntarily conserve, improve and sustain natural resources.



Why does NRCS offer CTA?

Technical assistance is for planning and implementing natural resource solutions to reduce erosion, improve soil health, improve water quantity and quality, improve and conserve wetlands, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, improve air quality, improve pasture and range health, reduce upstream flooding, improve woodlands, and address other natural resource issues.

CTA program objectives are:

* To assist individual landusers, communities, conservation districts, and other units of State and local government and Federal agencies to meet their goals for resource stewardship and assist individuals to comply with State and local requirements.

NRCS assistance to individuals is provided through conservation districts in accordance with the memorandum of understanding signed by the Secretary of Agriculture, the governor of the state, and the conservation district.

Assistance is provided to land users who want to

voluntarily apply conservation and to those who must comply with local or State laws and regulations.

* To assist agricultural producers to comply with the highly erodible land (HEL) and wetland (Swampbuster) provisions of the 1985 Food Security Act as amended by the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 3801 et. seq.) and the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 and wetlands requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. NRCS makes HEL and wetland determinations and helps land users develop and implement conservation plans to comply with the law.

* To provide technical assistance to participants in USDA cost-share and conservation incentive programs. (Assistance is funded on a reimbursable basis from the CCC.)

* To collect, analyze, interpret, display, and disseminate information about the condition and trends of the Nation's soil and other natural resources so that people can make good decisions about resource use and about public policies for resource conservation.

* To develop effective science-based technologies for natural resource assessment, management, and conservation.

How does CTA work with Farm Bill programs?

The conservation technical assistance program provides tech-



nical assistance for implementation of the HEL and Wetland provisions authorized in the 1996 Farm Bill. NRCS technical field staff make HEL and wetland determinations and assist land-users to develop and implement conservation practices needed to ensure compliance with USDA program eligibility. In addition, conservation plans are designed to address soil, water, air, plant, and animal resource concerns which may lead to voluntary participation in other NRCS programs.

Summary

The working relationships that landowners and communities have with their local NRCS staff are unique. One-on-one help through flexible, voluntary programs occurs every day in local NRCS offices across the country. It is the way NRCS does business, and it works. To obtain conservation technical assistance, contact your local USDA-NRCS office.



The benefits of CTA

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offers technical assistance for planning and implementing natural resource solutions to

- Reduce erosion
- Improve soil health and productivity
- Improve water quantity and quality
- Improve and conserve wetlands
- Enhance fish and wildlife habitat and restore natural ecosystems
- Improve air quality
- Improve pasture health
- Improve woodlands
- Address other natural resource issues

For more information on Conservation Technical Assistance in New Hampshire visit:

www.nh.nrcs.usda.gov

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USDA-NRCS/Conservation District Offices

NH State Office

2 Madbury Rd.
Durham, NH 03824
603-868-7581

Belknap County Conservation District

719 North Main St., Rm. 203,
Laconia, NH 03246
603-527-5880

Concord Field Service Center

Merrimack County Conservation District
10 Ferry St., Suite 211,
Concord, NH 03301
603-223-6021

Conway Field Service Center

Carroll County Conservation District

73 Main St.
Conway, NH 03818
603-447-2771

Epping Field Service Center

Knightly Plaza
629 Calef Highway, Suite 201
Epping, NH 03042
603-679-1587

Lancaster Field Service Center

Coos County Conservation District

4 Mayberry Lane, Lancaster,
NH 03584
603-788-4651

Milford Field Service Center

Hillsborough County Conservation District
Chappell Professional Ctr.,
#468, Rte. 13 South,
Milford, NH 03055
603-673-2409

Orford Field Service Center

Grafton County Conservation District
19 Archertown Rd., Suite 1
Orford, NH 03777
603-353-4651

Rockingham County Conservation District

110 North Road, Brentwood,
NH 03833
603-679-2790

Sullivan County Conservation District

24 Main Street
Newport, NH 03773
603-863-4297

Strafford County Conservation District

259 County Farm Rd, Unit #3,
Dover, NH 03820
603-749-3037

Walpole Field Service Center

Cheshire County Conservation District

11 Industrial Park Dr.
Walpole, NH 03608
603-756-2988



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Conservation Technical Assistance in New Hampshire



Helping People Help the Land