What is the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative?

Through the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI), NRCS offers a variety of technical assistance to landowners and operators interested in grazing.

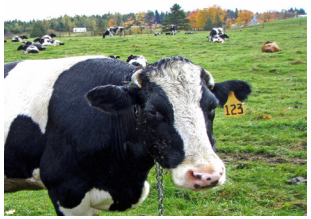
The development of a conservation plan for your entire agricultural operation can help you effectively deal with the challenges on your farm and assist you in taking advantage of new opportunities.

A prescribed grazing plan is a tool used to manage your livestock and forages to maximize productivity for long-term sustainable use.

How We Can Help

Access to good quality water is essential to an effective grazing system. NRCS can help you fence livestock out of surface water and wetlands, plant riparian buffers and install fencing and alternative livestock watering facilities for prescribed grazing.

An essential part of keeping pastures and livestock productive is managing your soil fertility and forage quality.



NRCS assistance can include nutrient management, pest management (including control of invasive species), pasture and hayland planting, composting and manure utilization.

Additional grazing and pasture management practices could include: animal trails and walkways, transition to organic production, heavy use area protection, feed management, and manure storage facility.

NRCS also offers a variety of conservation practices to enhance upland and wetland wildlife habitat.

Financial Assistance

There's a great deal of funding available to New Hampshire producers through programs like the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP).

You need to work with your local NRCS office to determine your eligibility and to find out specific details about programs and practices that will work on your farm.

Cost-Share Programs

NRCS cost-share programs are available to all farmers that meet basic eligibility requirements. This includes all landowners and operators:

- Who are engaged in crop or livestock production on eligible land (pasture, cropland, hayland, forested land, farmstead, etc.) may participate;
- Must own or control the land and agree to install and maintain specific eligible conservation practices;
- All grazing land applications are evaluated against each other to determine the environmental benefits of the proposed work. Funding is competitive statewide; and
- Applications with the greatest environmental benefits are funded first.

Granite State Graziers

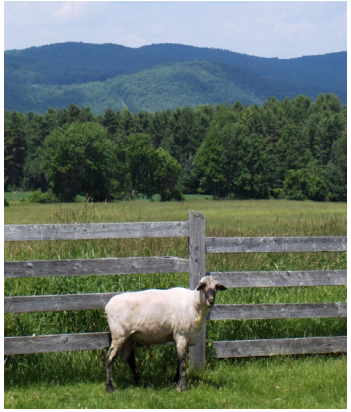
The Granite State Graziers is the GLCI Steering Committee in New Hampshire. They exist **to strengthen the viability and sustainability of New Hampshire's farms through forage and grazing based agriculture.**

The Granite State Graziers (GSG) are an advisory group of New Hampshire farmers that plan educational activities about grazing and pasture management.

For more information about GSG please call the NRCS State Office, 603-868-7581, and speak with the GLCI State Coordinator.

Benefits of Grazing Lands

- An available supply of food and fiber
- Clean air
- Healthy wildlife populations and habitat
- Improved fisheries and aquatic systems
- Healthy riparian areas
- Improved water quality and quantity
- Reduced potential for flooding
- Less sediment in streams and reservoirs



For more information on NRCS in New Hampshire visit:

www.nh.nrcs.usda.gov

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USDA-NRCS/ Conservation District Offices

New Hampshire 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

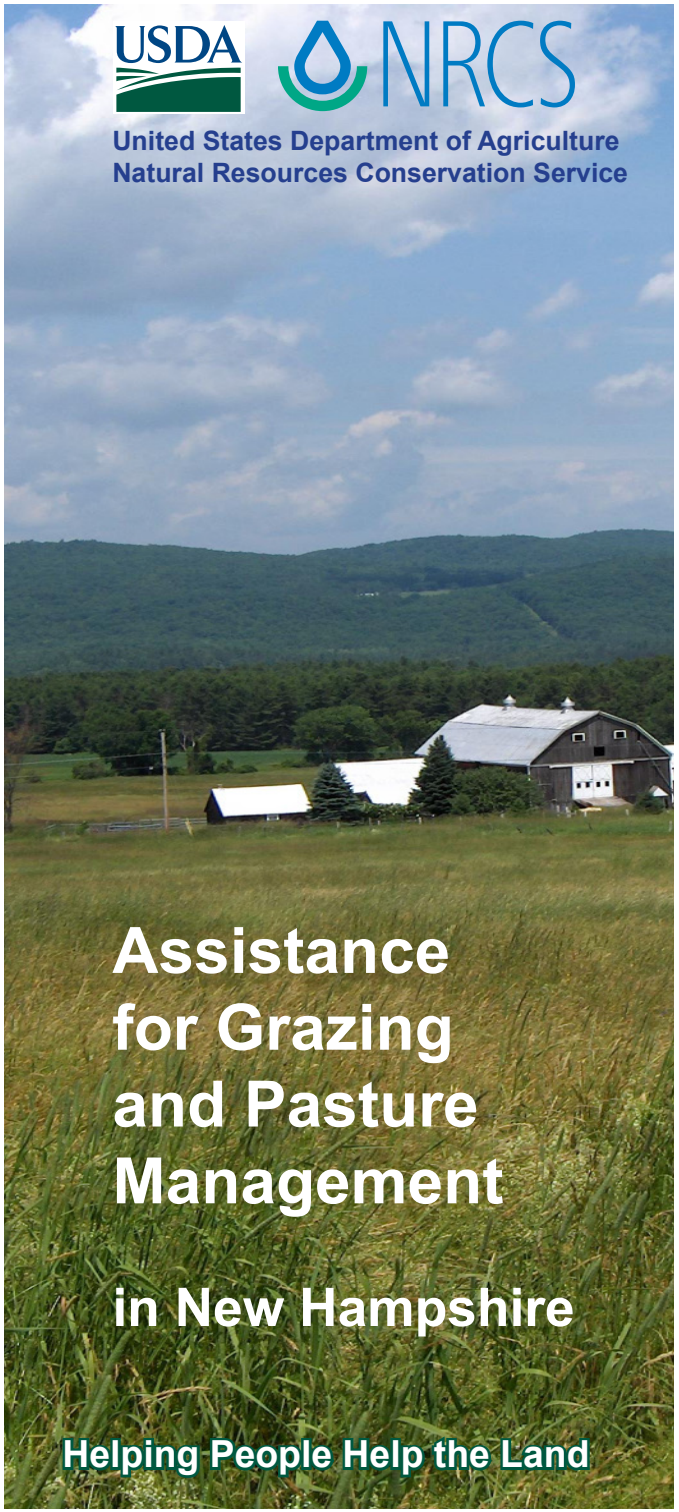
Rockingham County Conservation District
110 North Road, Brentwood,
NH 03833
603-679-2790

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

Woodsville Field Service Center
Grafton County Conservation District
250 Swiftwater Rd., Room 6,
Woodsville, NH 03785
603-747-2001



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United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Assistance for Grazing and Pasture Management

in New Hampshire

Helping People Help the Land