1. The following is intended to provide examples and clarification on eligible and ineligible conservation practices for cost-share.

- **Ineligible practices** are practices that enhance or expand the farming operation.

- **Example 1:** A producer may request a new, larger mainline for the irrigation system on the farm because he or she purchased more land, or initially failed to plan for a system that would handle all of the fields that would have benefited from the practice. EQIP cannot be used to increase the size of a mainline for the production needs of a producer.

- **Example 2:** A producer may request cost-share to switch irrigation systems for surface, surge to sprinkler. The planner identifies not water quality or quantity resource concerns with the present system. The producer is not eligible for cost-share on a new sprinkler system.

- **Example 3:** A producer may request cost-share assistance for irrigation water management. The planner identifies the need for upgrading some of the system components. Components with short life-spans, such as nozzles and valves are not eligible for cost-share. These items are considered routine maintenance items.

- **Eligible practices** are those that are not permanently installed, and that address a resource need as identified during the conservation planning process.

- **Example 1:** A producer’s old steel irrigation mainline has rusted out and is in need of replacement. The planner identifies the inability to implement irrigation water management due to the inadequacy of the existing mainline. The producer is eligible for cost-share on a new mainline. The existing practice (steel mainline in example) must have exceeded its established useful life.

- **Example 2:** A landowner requests cost-share to install a permanent sprinkler system on land that is now rented to someone else. The renter has installed a portable sprinkler system that will be removed after the present crop is mature. A surface irrigation system is present that is still in working condition, but it contributes significantly to water quality problems when in use. The landowner is eligible for cost-share to install a permanent sprinkler system.