



CSP is for working ag lands.



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United States Department of Agriculture

# Conservation Stewardship Program



TOGETHER  
WE CAN DO  
MORE.

Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service



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# Your Stewardship Goals.

## OUT ASSISTANCE.



NRCS conservation planners work with producers one on one to accomplish their conservation goals through CSP.

Have you ever looked across your property and thought about some land management goals you would like to take to the next level? Maybe we can help.

No one knows more about your land than you do, and no one knows more about conservation than we do. Together we can develop a plan tailored to your land and your goals to help you increase productivity and protect the value of your land.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) helps you build on your existing conservation efforts while strengthening your operation. Whether you are looking to improve grazing conditions, increase crop yields, or develop wildlife habitat, we can custom design a CSP plan to help you meet those goals. We can help you schedule timely planting of cover crops, develop a grazing plan that will improve your forage base, implement no-till to reduce erosion or manage forested areas in a way that benefits wildlife habitat. If you are already taking steps to improve the condition of the land, chances are CSP can help you find new ways to meet your goals.



## Sustainable Production

CSP is for working lands. It is the largest conservation program in the United States with 70 million acres of productive agricultural and forest land enrolled in CSP. Thousands of people have chosen to enroll in the program because it helps them enhance natural resources and improve their business operation.

CSP participants are seeing real results. Some of these benefits include:

- Increase in cattle gains per acre
- Increase in crop yields
- Increase in wildlife populations
- Decrease in producer inputs
- Greater resilience to impacts of weather extremes



Through CSP, we can help you build your business while implementing conservation practices that help ensure the sustainability of your entire operation. Good land stewardship not only conserves the natural resources on your farm, ranch or forest, it also provides multiple benefits to local communities, including better water and air quality and wildlife habitat, as well as food and fiber.

## Management Makes a Difference

Every piece of property is unique with opportunities to improve natural resources and address any areas of concern. Human activities contribute to the condition of natural resources on the land -- they can help improve them or contribute to their decline,

which can result in what we refer to as a “resource concern.” We can help you recognize the resources on your land and develop a management plan to improve them. Examples of CSP management activities that can improve resource concerns are:

- Grazing management to improve wildlife habitat
- Extend filter strips to reduce excess sediment, nutrients and chemicals in surface water
- Plant cover crops to reduce wind and water erosion
- Plant range grasses to improve soil health and wildlife habitat

## Investment in the Future

From enrollment to planning and implementation, many CSP participants feel the process of working with their NRCS conservation planner helps build an awareness about the resources on their land and helps them look at their land in a more comprehensive and engaging manner. Most participants find that the reporting and tracking that they do in CSP gives them valuable information to refine their operation and make management adjustments that have a positive outcome on their land and their bottom line.

## How do I apply?

If you feel like you are ready to take your conservation efforts to the next level – we are here to help. You can apply for CSP any time throughout the year but there will be announced cutoff dates for ranking and funding opportunities. For more information on applications visit [www.nrcs.usda.gov/csp](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/csp) or visit your local Service Center.

Managing riparian buffers to benefit wildlife is a popular CSP enhancement activity.

