

Considerations in Selecting a Contractor

Producer Considerations

1. Discuss your expectations:
 - a. Meet NRCS conservation practice standards and permitting requirements.
 - b. The project will be completed by a certain date.
2. Discuss past experience in constructing the planned and designed conservation practices.
3. Ask for a list of references and contact regarding the contractor's past performance.
4. Consider geographic location.

Contract Considerations

A contract spells out the who, what, where, when, and cost of your project. The agreement should be clear, concise, and complete.

The contract should include, but is not limited to, the following information:

- Contractor's name, address, phone.
- Items of work to be completed.
- Payment schedule.
- Obligation to obtain necessary approval or permits (SD One-Call, etc.).
- How modifications (change orders) will be handled:
- A modification is a written authorization to the contractor to make a change or addition to the work described in the original contract.
- Liquidated damages if the project is not completed on time.

Oral promises should be added to the written contract.