

Conservation Stewardship Program

Improving land sustainability and productivity



What is CSP?

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) rewards private landowners for actively managing and maintaining existing conservation activities while offering additional opportunities to improve natural resource and land management goals.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides increased financial and technical assistance to producers interested in expanding conservation efforts on the landscape to address resource concerns, improve conservation performance, and/or target multiple resource concerns in a comprehensive and cost-effective manner.

CSP may provide many benefits, including increased crop productivity, decreased inputs, wildlife habitat improvements and increased resilience to weather extremes. CSP also encourages adoption of new technologies and management techniques.

Contact your local NRCS office today to learn how the agency can help you improve conservation efforts on your agricultural or forestry operations. Apply by the sign-up date to be considered for funding in the current cycle. Applications for assistance are accepted on a continuous basis and do not guarantee a contract. If an application is accepted and you decline the contract, there is no financial obligation by either party.



Apply by April 7, 2023

**Take your operation to the next level
by building on existing conservation
activities**

How Conservation Can Work For You

Existing activity payments are provided annually to maintain existing conservation and are based on:



1. Amount of acreage enrolled in each eligible land use.



2. Level of conservation and number of applicable resource concerns met at the time of enrollment.



Additional activity payments vary each year and are based on:



1. Extent to which conservation activities are adopted annually (units vary).



2. Type and frequency of new conservation activities implemented.

Existing Activity Payment for Land Uses: *Annual land use payments are based on existing stewardship; number of land uses/amount of acreage enrolled; and adoption of new conservation activities.



Cropland

Earn up to \$2,700 plus \$7.50 per acre*

Definition: Land used primarily for production/harvest of annual/perennial field, forage, food, fiber, horticulture, orchards, vineyards, energy crops.

Resource Concerns: Degraded plant condition, pest pressure, field pesticide loss, field sediment/nutrient/pathogen loss, soil quality limitation, source water depletion, terrestrial habitat, concentrated erosion, wind and water erosion.

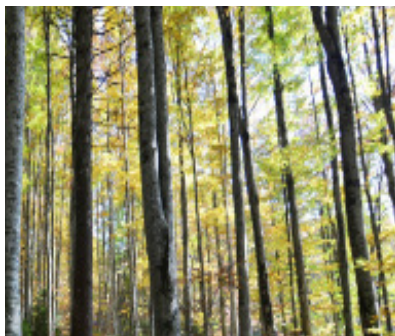


Pasture

Earn up to \$2,700 plus \$3 per acre*

Definition: Land composed of introduced or domesticated native forage species used primarily for livestock production.

Resource Concerns: Degraded plant condition, pest pressure, livestock production limitation, field sediment/nutrient/pathogen loss, soil quality limitation, source water depletion, terrestrial habitat, concentrated erosion, wind and water erosion.



Non-Industrial/Private Forestland

Earn up to \$2,100 plus \$.50 per acre*

Definition: Land on which primary vegetation is tree cover (climax, natural/introduced plant community) and use is primarily for production of wood products and/or non-timber forest products.

Resource Concerns: Degraded plant condition, fire management, pest pressure, soil quality limitation, terrestrial habitat, concentrated erosion, wind and water erosion.

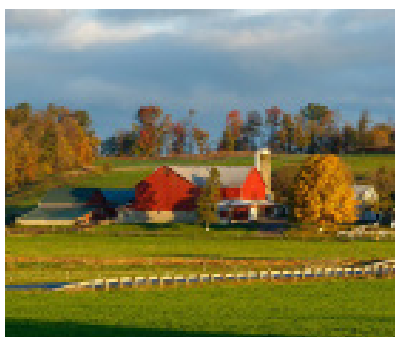


Associated Agricultural Land

Earn up to \$1,200 plus \$.50 per acre*

Definition: Land associated with farms not purposefully managed for food, forage or fiber such as idle center pivot corners, odd areas, ditches and watercourses, riparian areas, field edges, seasonal/permanent wetlands, etc.

Resource Concerns: Pest pressure, terrestrial habitat, concentrated erosion, wind and water erosion.



Farmstead

Earn up to \$1,200 plus \$7.50 per acre*

Definition: Land used for facilities and supporting infrastructure where farming, forestry, animal husbandry and ranching activities are often initiated.

Resource Concerns: Inefficient energy use, storage and handling of pollutants, terrestrial habitat, concentrated erosion.



Get Started!

Contact Your Local USDA Service Center at

<https://www.farmers.gov/working-with-us/service-center-locator>

[Ohio]

**Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service**

nrcs.usda.gov/



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