

What kind of technical assistance is available?

The Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) Program helps people voluntarily conserve, improve and sustain natural resources by planning and implementing conservation practices that address natural resource concerns.

The program aims to:

- Assist individual land users, communities, conservation districts, and other units of State and local government and Federal agencies to meet their goals for resource stewardship and comply with State and local requirements. NRCS assistance to individuals is provided through conservation districts.
- Assist agricultural producers to comply with environmental provisions, such as highly erodible land (HEL) and wetlands. NRCS makes HEL and wetland determinations and helps land users develop and implement conservation plans to comply with the law.
- Provide technical assistance to participants in USDA cost-share and conservation incentive programs.
- Collect, analyze, interpret, display, and disseminate information about the condition and trends of the Nation's soil and other natural resources so that people can make good decisions about resource use and about public policies for resource conservation.
- Develop effective science-based technologies for natural resource assessment, management, and conservation.

Benefits of CTA:

Technical assistance is for planning and implementing natural resource solutions to:

- ▶ Reduce erosion
- ▶ Improve soil health
- ▶ Improve water *quantity and quality*
- ▶ Improve and conserve wetlands
- ▶ Enhance fish and wildlife habitat
- ▶ Improve air quality
- ▶ Improve pasture and range health
- ▶ Reduce upstream flooding
- ▶ Improve woodlands
- ▶ Address other natural resource issues

To Summarize...

At your request, NRCS can help you make informed and sound decisions to conserve and protect natural resources on your farm. Your land, operation, and goals are unique, and NRCS staff can help tailor conservation to fit your farm. The working relationships that landowners and communities have with their local NRCS staff are unique.

One-on-one help through flexible, voluntary programs occurs every day in [local NRCS office](#) across the country. It is the way NRCS does business, and it works. NRCS works with partners to

leverage additional conservation assistance for agricultural producers and landowners in priority conservation areas.

To obtain conservation technical assistance in Spanish, contact your [local NRCS office](#) or one of the PA NRCS Spanish speaking staff members. If you have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, or if English is not your primary language, upon your request, NRCS can provide interpretation free of cost. Visit the [Limited English Proficiency \(LEP\) Program page](#) to learn more!

[Financial assistance](#) for conserving your natural resources is also available.

To learn how to get started with NRCS, click on the link: [Cinco Pasos para Obtener Asistencia](#).

The [2014 Farm Bill](#) was enacted on February 7, 2014. NRCS offers voluntary Farm Bill conservation programs that benefit both agricultural producers and the environment. Some programs will be available immediately, while others will require limited time to be set up within the agency. For details are on each program page contact your local USDA Service Center.