



# Natural Resources Conservation Service



## WHO WE ARE

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) helps farmers, ranchers and forest landowners make critical investments in their operations and local communities by providing the financial and technical assistance needed to harness America's wealth of natural resources to feed and clothe a growing world.

Our voluntary, locally driven, science-based conservation solutions are tailored to individual operations - helping hardworking farmers implement proven practices to ensure all of America's farms, ranches, and private lands are economically viable and thriving.

## NRCS PROGRAMS

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND EASEMENT PROGRAMS

- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**  
Assists farmers, ranchers and forest landowners integrate conservation into working lands.
- **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)**  
Helps producers and landowners build on existing conservation efforts while strengthening operations.
- **Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)**  
Supports landowners, land trusts, and other entities protect, restore, and enhance wetlands or protect working farms and ranches through conservation easements.

### PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

- **Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)**  
Brings a partner-driven approach to conservation that funds solutions to natural resource challenges on agricultural land. By leveraging collective resources and collaborating on common goals, RCPP demonstrates the power of public-private partnerships in delivering results for agriculture and conservation.
- **Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) Program**  
Supports the development of new tools, approaches, practices, and technologies to further natural resource conservation on private lands.

### WATERSHED PROGRAMS

- **Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program**  
Federal emergency recovery program that helps communities rebuild after natural disasters.
- **Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Program**  
Helps federal, state, local and federally recognized tribal governments protect and restore watersheds.
- **Watershed Rehabilitation (REHAB) Program**  
Helps project sponsors rehabilitate aging dams reaching end of design life and/or no longer meeting safety criteria or performance standards.

## HOW WE HELP FARMERS AND RANCHERS

- 1 One-on-One Technical Assistance**  
Offers free conservation planning advice to farmers wanting to implement conservation practices.
- 2 Financial Assistance**  
Provides financial resources to share the cost of implementing conservation practices with farmers.
- 3 Science-Based Conservation**  
Provides farmers and ranchers with conservation assistance backed by sound science and research, including expertise in soil health and classification, conservation engineering, plants and water supply.
- 4 Locally Driven**  
Empowers local communities and partners to leverage federal resources and drive local results.
- 5 Voluntary Participation**  
Administers voluntary programs that farmers can choose to participate in based on their goals.
- 6 Putting American Dollars to Work**  
Equips our rural communities to prosper today and in the future by increasing operational productivity.

## WANT TO WORK WITH US?

Interested agricultural producers should contact NRCS at their local USDA Service Center. Find local offices and more information on programs at [nrcs.usda.gov](https://nrcs.usda.gov).

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