United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS ENERGY INITIATIVE: A BRIGHT IDEA

TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE NOW AVAILABLE

It's no surprise that energy is a major business expense.

Fortunately, farmers and ranchers in Washington now have a significant opportunity through the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Energy Initiative, to conserve energy. You can benefit from practices such as improved irrigation systems, pumping plant upgrades, and tillage management.

Energy conservation can make you even more competitive by cutting fuel and nitrogen inputs, reducing energy use, and lowering operation costs.

Find out more on the back...

APPLICATION SUMMARY

THE ON-FARM ENERGY INITIATIVE is a continuous sign up, and applications may be submitted at any time. Applications will be evaluated periodically as funding becomes available.

APPLICATION EVALUATION PERIOD

Applications will be evaluated periodically as funding becomes available. Check the Washington NRCS website for deadline information.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FIELD OFFICE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EQIP ENERGY INITIATIVE

TAKE THE FIRST STEP...

Energy audits or whole-farm energy planning is the first step toward energy-saving opportunities.

Through the EQIP Energy Initiative, NRCS will provide you with cost-share incentives for the development of an Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP)– also called an energy audit. Operations will be evaluated on energy used in the cultivation, protection, harvesting, processing, and storage of crops and in the feeding, housing, and processing of animals and animal products.

The EQIP Energy Initiative is a unique, multi-faceted "whole-farm" approach that will help you find the resources that lead to major energy savings – for you!

2 WAYS TO SAVE...

To best meet the needs of the diverse types and sizes of Washington's farms and ranches, there are two types of energy programs: **Headquarters** and **Landscape**.

1. The **Headquarters** program will identify ways to conserve energy on farmsteads through an Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP), commonly called an on-farm energy audit. This includes buildings and equipment used around the farmstead.

2. The **Landscape** program analyzes agricultural operations (crop/pasture management, forestry practices, manure handling, and other farming activities) and provides financial assistance to implement NRCS-recommended conservation practices on your farm or ranch.

Both programs provide cost-effective alternatives and recommendations for energy conservation through an energy audit (AgEmp).

Energy audits (AgEMPs) are developed by certified Technical Service Providers (TSPs) and will take only a few hours of your time. Once you have an approved AgEmp you will be eligible to receive assistance to implement recommended conservation practices.

VISIT YOUR LOCAL NRCS FIELD OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND START SAVING ENERGY – AND DOLLARS – TODAY!

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ENERGY EFFICIENT MEASURES

IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT

FARMSTEAD IMPROVEMENTS

TILLAGE MANAGEMENT

PUMPING PLANT IMPROVEMENTS