Natural Resources Conservation Service - Maine

Implementing an organic system requires a tactful approach to successfully carry out common agrictultural activities, such as managing pests and building soil health.

Legislative Initiative

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill) highlights the availability of technical and financial assistance to help producers of all commodities meet their conservation goals, including producers transitioning to organic farming and currently certified organic producers. It specifically includes help to agricultural producers transitioning to organic farming.

EQIP for Organic Transition

There is an initiative to assist producers transitioning to organic farming with development of a "Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition." Technical and financial assistance is being made available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). The assistance from NRCS through the EQIP Program helps producers plan and implement conservation practices to allow their organic operations to be environmentally sustainable.

What is a CPSOT

A Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition (CPSOT) is a conservation activity plan (CAP) documenting decisions by producers who agree to implement a system of conservation practices which assist the producer to transition from conventional farming systems to an organic production system.

Developing a CPSOT

Conservation Plans Supporting Organic Transition will be developed by a Technical Service Provider (TSP), who is certified by NRCS and placed on an "approved list" to provide technical assistance to producers for specific conservation programs administered by USDA. Certified TSPs can be found at **http://techreg.sc.egov.usda.gov/**, or through your local NRCS office.

2020 Payment Rate General / HU*		
Plan Supporting Crops AND Livestock		
$4,266	/	$5,119
Plan Supporting Crops OR Livestock		
$3,640	/	$4,368

*Historically Underserved

Application Deadline

Applications are being accepted on a continuous basis.

Need More Information? Contact:

Androscoggin/Sagadahoc Counties
254 Goddard Road
Lewiston, ME 04241
(207) 753-9400

Aroostook County:

Central Aroostook
735 Main Street, Suite #3
Presque Isle, ME 04769
(207) 764-4153

Southern Aroostook
304 North Street
Houlton, ME 04730
(207) 532-2087

St. John Valley
139 Market Street, Suite
106 Fort Kent, ME 04743
(207) 834-3311

Cumberland and York Counties
306 U.S. Route 1, Suite A1
Scarborough, ME 04074
(207) 883-0159

Franklin County
107 Park Street
Farmington, ME 04938
(207) 778-4767

Hancock County
474 Bucksport Road
Ellsworth, ME 04605
(207) 812-9711

Kennebec and Lincoln Counties
(207) 622-7847

Oxford County
17 Olson Road
So. Paris, ME 04281
(207) 743-5789

Penobscot County
1423 Broadway, Suite #2
Bangor, ME 04401
(207) 947-6622, ext. 3

Piscataquis County
42 Engdahl Drive
Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426
(207) 564-2321

Somerset County
70 East Madison Road
Skowhegan, ME 04976
(207) 474-8324

Waldo and Knox Counties
46 Little River Drive
Belfast, ME 04915
(207) 338-1964

Washington County
8 M&M Place, Suite 5B
Machias, ME 04654
(207) 255-3995