



Conservation crop rotation

Massachusetts field offices

Greenfield Field Office

Serving Franklin County

55 Federal Street, Greenfield, MA 01301

413-772-0384 ext. 3

Hadley Field Office

Serving Hampden and Hampshire counties

195 Russell Street, Hadley, MA 01035

413-585-1000 ext. 3

Holden Field Office

Serving Worcester County

52 Boyden Road, Holden, MA 01520

508-829-4477 ext. 3

Pittsfield Field Office

Serving Berkshire County

78 Center St., Suite 206, Pittsfield, MA 01201

413-443-1776 ext. 3

Westford Field Office

Serving Essex, Middlesex and Suffolk counties

319 Littleton Road, Westford, MA 01886

978-692-1904 ext. 3

Wareham Field Office

Serving Bristol, Norfolk and Plymouth counties

8 Thatcher Lane, Suite 2, Wareham, MA 02571

508-295-5151 ext. 2

West Yarmouth Field Office

Serving Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket counties

303 Main St, Route 28, West Yarmouth, MA 02673-4661

508-771-6476 or 6518



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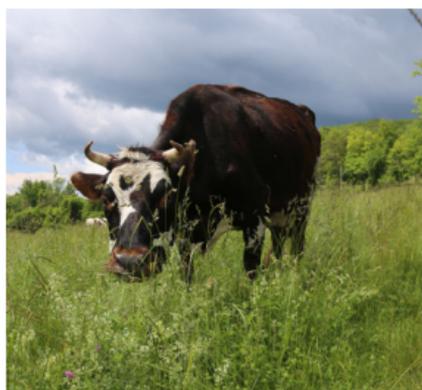
Access control fence | Integrated Pest Management



United States Department of Agriculture

Conservation Stewardship Program

Maintain, improve, or adopt new conservation practices



Rotational grazing | Tree/shrub establishment | Reduced tillage



Massachusetts
Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

ma.nrcs.usda.gov

The CSP Program

Maintain, improve, or adopt new



Forage and biomass planting for pollinator habitat

What is CSP?

Through CSP, agricultural producers and forest landowners earn payments for actively managing, maintaining, and expanding conservation activities – like cover crops, rotational grazing, ecologically-based pest management, buffer strips, and pollinator and beneficial insect habitat – while maintaining active agricultural production.

Crop producers, dairy farmers, forest landowners, poultry producers, organic farmers, and specialty crop farmers all participate in the program.

What makes CSP unique?

CSP taps into your deep-rooted commitment to conservation. When you voluntarily enroll in the program, it helps you enhance natural resources and improve your business operation. You enroll your entire agricultural operation under a five-year contract, with the option to renew for another five years.

NRCS helps you maintain or improve existing conservation activities and adopt new ones. The program offers greater incentives if you want to kick your conservation up a notch with bundles of enhancements with higher payment rates.



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How does CSP work?

Most agriculture producers approved to participate in CSP have already been implementing conservation practices on their land. CSP steps in and offers enhancements for those practices.

For example, if you have been practicing prescribed grazing, CSP would give you options to enhance that practice with activities such as grazing management to improve plants for wildlife, or grazing management to reduce soil compaction, or grazing management to improve riparian function, just to name a few.

If you decide to enroll in CSP, the local NRCS conservation planner will have a one-on-one consultation with you to evaluate your current management system and the natural resources on your land. The NRCS conservation planner will present a variety of CSP enhancement alternatives for you to consider implementing on your land, based on existing conservation practices.

The variety of CSP practices offered give you a lot of freedom to select enhancements that help you meet your management goals. These improvements bring out your land's best potential.

Once you choose the enhancements that best fit your operation, CSP offers annual incentive payments for installing these practices on your land.

If you want to take it a step further, CSP also offers bundles where you can select a suite of enhancements and receive an even higher payment rate.

Are you eligible for CSP?

To participate in CSP:

- ◆ You must be in compliance with highly erodible land and wetland conservation requirements, and have current farm records with USDA Farm Service Agency.
- ◆ You must have effective control of the land for the term of the proposed contract, be actively engaged in the day-to-day management of the agricultural operation, and share in the risks associated with agricultural production.
- ◆ You must also be meeting the stewardship threshold for at least two resource concerns at the time of application.

Contact your local NRCS office to learn more about the program and determine if you meet these requirements.

How do you apply?

If you feel that you are ready to take your conservation efforts to the next level – we are here to help. You can apply for CSP any time throughout the year, but there will be announced cutoff dates for ranking and funding opportunities.

For more information on applications visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/csp or visit your local USDA Service Center.



Windbreak and shelterbelt renovation