What is CTA?

The Conservation Technical Assistance Program (CTA) provides Washington’s farmers, ranchers and forestland owners with the knowledge and tools they need to conserve, maintain and restore the natural resources on their lands and improve the health of their operations for the future.

NRCS offers this assistance at no cost to the producers we serve. Our goal is to give our customers personalized advice and information, based on the latest science and research, to help them make informed decisions.

If a producer chooses to take the next step towards improving their operations, we can work with them to develop a conservation plan, with suggested conservation practices that can help them reach their production and conservation goals.

They can also choose to apply for financial assistance to get help installing the conservation practices outlined in their conservation plan.

Conservation Network

The CTA program works through a voluntary conservation network that fosters partnership between NRCS, conservation districts, state conservation agencies, and hundreds of private landowners. These partnerships expand the agency’s ability to put conservation on the ground - which is NRCS-Washington’s most important accomplishment. This ability to help put conservation on the ground is rooted in the continued trust and respect of Washington’s farmers and ranchers built over the decades through mutually beneficial collaboration.

CTA’s primary purposes

- **Reduce soil loss** from erosion
- **Solve** soil, water quality, water conservation, air quality, and agricultural waste management problems
- **Reduce** potential damage caused by excess water and sedimentation or drought
- **Enhance** the quality of fish and wildlife habitat
- **Improve** the long-term land sustainability
- **Assist others** in facilitating changes in land use as needed for natural resource protection and sustainability