



**Natural Resources
Conservation Service**

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DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATIONS TO FEBRUARY 7.

ATHENS, GA, Jan. 13, 2014 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has extended the deadline for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) new enrollments for fiscal year 2014 through February 7.

CSP is an important Farm Bill conservation program that helps established conservation stewards with taking their level of natural resource management to the next level to improve both their agricultural production and provide valuable conservation benefits such as cleaner and more abundant water, as well as healthier soils and better wildlife habitat.

“We are pleased to provide this additional time to allow more Georgia farmers, ranchers and forest landowners to apply for this important program that rewards their long term commitment to conservation,” State Conservationist James E. Tillman, Sr. said.

The program emphasizes conservation performance — producers earn higher payments for higher performance. In CSP, producers install conservation enhancements to make positive changes in soil quality, soil erosion, water quality, water quantity, air quality, plant resources, animal resources and energy.

Eligible Georgia landowners and operators can enroll in CSP through February 7, 2014 to be eligible during the fiscal year 2014. While local NRCS offices accept CSP applications year round, NRCS evaluates applications during announced ranking periods. To be eligible for this year’s enrollment, producers must have their applications submitted to NRCS by the closing date.

Learn more about CSP by visiting the [Georgia NRCS website](#) or a [local NRCS field office](#).

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