



United States Department of Agriculture

Conservation Innovation Grants

In New Hampshire



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.
New Hampshire • January 2017



USDA-NRCS and Conservation District Offices

New Hampshire State Office
273 Locust St., Suite 2D
Dover, NH 03820
603-868-7581

Belknap County Conservation District
64 Court Street
Laconia, NH 03246
603-527-5880

Concord Field Service Center Merrimack County Conservation District
10 Ferry St., Suite 211
Concord, NH 03301
603-223-6021

Conway Field Service Center Carroll County Conservation District
P.O. Box 533, 73 Main Street
Conway, NH 03818
603-447-2771

Epping Field Service Center
Knightly Plaza
629 Calef Highway, Suite 201
Epping, NH 03042
603-679-1587

Lancaster Field Service Center Coos County Conservation District
4 Mayberry Lane
Lancaster, NH 03584
603-788-4651

Milford Field Service Center Hillsborough County Conservation District
Chappell Professional Ctr., #468,
Rte. 13 South
Milford, NH 03055
603-673-2409

Orford Field Service Center Grafton County Conservation District
19 Archertown Rd., Suite 1
Orford, NH 03777
603-353-4651

Rockingham County Conservation District
110 North Road
Brentwood, NH 03833
603-679-2790

Sullivan County Conservation District
95 County Farm Rd.
Unity, NH 03743
603-542-4891

Strafford County Conservation District
264 County Farm Road
Dover, NH 03820
603-749-3037

Walpole Field Service Center Cheshire County Conservation District
11 Industrial Park Dr.
Walpole, NH 03608
603-756-2988

New Hampshire
Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

nh.nrcs.usda.gov



Conservation Innovation Grants

Grants for Innovative Conservation Technology



What is CIG?

Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) is a voluntary program intended to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies while leveraging Federal investment in environmental enhancement and protection, in conjunction with agricultural production.

Under CIG, Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds are used to award competitive grants to non-Federal governmental or non-governmental organizations, Tribes, or individuals.

What are the benefits of CIG?

CIG enables NRCS to work with other public and private entities to accelerate technology transfer and adoption of promising technologies and approaches to address some of the Nation's most pressing natural resource concerns.

CIG will benefit agricultural producers by providing more options for environmental enhancement and compliance with Federal, State, and local regulations. The Natural



Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) administers CIG. The CIG requires a 50-50 match between the agency and the applicant and has two funding components - national and state.

How does CIG work?

Funding for CIG is announced each year through a Request for Proposals (RFP). Funds for single- or multi-year projects, not to exceed three years, will be awarded through a nationwide competitive grants process.

CIG competitions will emphasize projects that have a goal of providing benefits over a large geographic area. These projects may be watershed-based, regional, multi-State, or nationwide in scope.



How do you apply?

Applications should describe the use of innovative technologies or approaches, or both, to address one or more natural resource conservation concerns.

All National CIG applications must include a letter to the NRCS State Conservationist requesting a letter of review. State Conservationists will review proposed National projects for potential duplication of effort, ethics concerns, and consistency with NRCS needs and overall EQIP objectives.

What is the State CIG component?

In addition to the nationwide grants competition, the State component emphasize projects that have a goal of providing benefits within a limited geographic area. Projects may be farm-based, multicounty, small watershed, or Statewide in scope. Public notices in New Hampshire will announce the availability of funds for the State CIG competitions.

Who is eligible to apply for CIG?

Proposed projects must involve EQIP-eligible producers. CIG funds that are used to provide direct or indirect payments to individuals or entities to implement structural, vegetative, or management practices are subject to EQIP eligibility requirements, including the \$450,000 EQIP payment limitation and adjusted gross income (AGI) limits.

Following are two general examples of projects that would be eligible for funding under CIG:

- Market-based environmental credit trading projects addressing one or more natural resource concerns;
- Community-based solutions to watershed based or regional natural resource concerns that cannot be addressed by a single producer, or by a group of producers taking individual on-farm actions.

