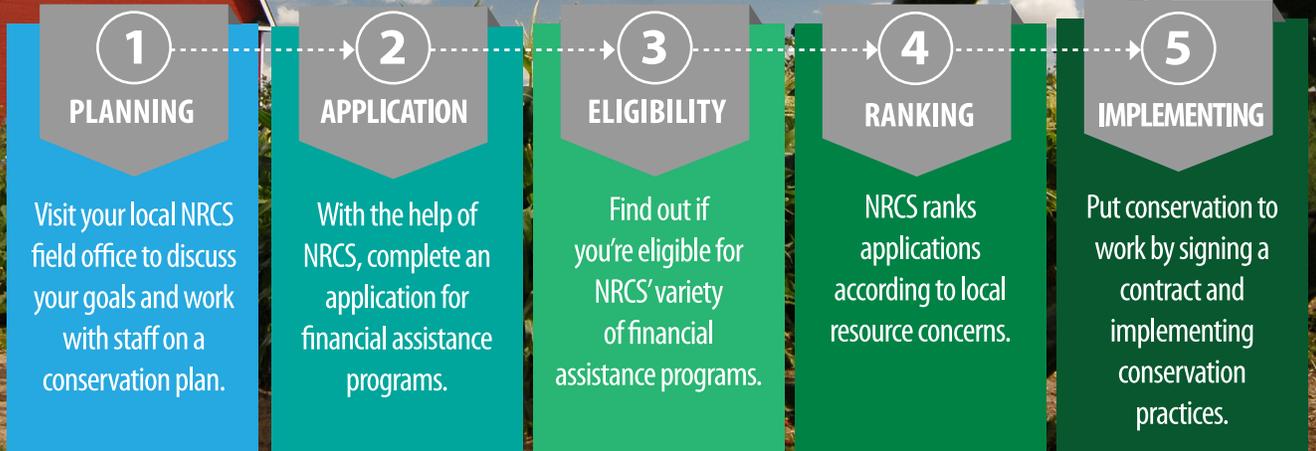


# 5

## Steps to Assistance

How to Get Assistance from NRCS for Farms, Ranches and Forests



### Get Started with NRCS

**Do you farm or ranch and want to make improvements to the land that you own or lease?**

Natural Resources Conservation Service offers technical and financial assistance to help farmers, ranchers and forest landowners.

**1 Planning** **To get started with NRCS, we recommend you stop by your local NRCS field office.**

**We'll discuss your vision for your land.**

NRCS provides landowners with free technical assistance, or advice, for their land. Common technical assistance includes: resource assessment, practice design and resource monitoring. Your conservation planner will help you determine if financial assistance is right for you. Please keep in mind that financial assistance is paid when work is complete.

**2 Application** **We'll walk you through the application process. To get started on applying for financial assistance, we'll work with you:**

- To fill out an AD 1026, which ensures a conservation plan is in place before lands with highly erodible soils are farmed. It also ensures no wetland areas are farmed.
- To meet other eligibility certifications.

Once complete, we'll work with you on the application, or CPA 1200.

Applications for most programs are accepted on a continuous basis, but they're considered for funding in different ranking periods. Be sure to ask your local NRCS district conservationist about the deadline for the ranking period to ensure you turn in your application in time.

**3 Eligibility** **As part of the application process, we'll make sure you are eligible.**

**To do this, you'll need to bring:**

- An official tax ID (Social Security number or an employer ID)
- A property deed or lease agreement to show you have control of the property; and
- A farm tract number.

If you don't have a farm tract number, you can get one from USDA's Farm Service Agency. Typically, the local FSA office is located in the same building as the local NRCS office. You only need a farm tract number if you're interested in financial assistance.

**4 Ranking** **NRCS will take a look at the applications and rank them** according to local resource concerns, the amount of conservation benefits the work will provide and the needs of applicants.

**5 Implementing** **If you're selected, you can choose whether to sign the contract for the work to be done.**

Once you sign the contract, you'll be provided standards and specifications for completing the practice or practices, and then you will have a specified amount of time to implement. Once the work is implemented and inspected, you'll be paid the rate of compensation for the work if it meets NRCS standards and specifications.

*USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

To find out more, go to: [www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted)



**NEW  
HAMPSHIRE**

**Conservation Districts**

Belknap County Conservation District  
64 Court Street  
Laconia, NH 03246  
603-527-5580  
www.belknapccd.org

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

Cheshire County Conservation District  
11 Industrial Park Dr.  
Walpole, NH 03608  
603-756-2988  
www.cheshireconservation.org

Coos County Conservation District  
4 Mayberry Lane  
Lancaster, NH 03584  
603-788-4651  
www.cooscountyconservation.org

Grafton County Conservation District  
19 Archertown Rd., Suite 1  
Orford, NH 03777  
603-353-4651  
www.graftonccd.org

Hillsborough County Conservation District  
#468, Rte. 13 South, Milford, NH 03055  
603-673-2409  
www.hillsboroughccd.com

Merrimack County Conservation District 10  
Ferry St., Suite 211  
Concord, NH 03301  
603-223-6023  
www.merrimackccd.org

Rockingham County Conservation District  
110 North Rd., Brentwood, NH 03833  
603-679-2790  
www.rockinghamccd.org

Strafford County Conservation District 264  
County Farm Rd., Dover, NH 03820  
603-749-3037  
www.straffordccd.org

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

**New Hampshire Association  
of Conservation Districts:  
www.nhacd.net**

**Help for beginner, veteran,  
limited-resource, and historically  
underserved farmers**

The Agricultural Act of 2014, provides higher payments for land owners who qualify as beginning farmers, limited resource producers, or those who are “socially disadvantaged” because they belong to racial or ethnic groups that have historically been subjected to prejudice. Such landowners could receive up to 90 percent of the practice payment rate associated with planning and implementing conservation practices. Additionally, applications submitted by beginning farmers that are also veterans will be given high priority.



**NRCS and conservation districts:  
partners in conservation**

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is a federal agency that helps people help the land through scientifically based, locally led voluntary conservation efforts.

NRCS works in partnership with New Hampshire’s ten conservation districts, which help identify and address natural resource concerns in local communities, and coordinate public and private resources to meet local needs on a grassroots level.

A conservation district is a division of state government established under state law to conserve and wisely manage resources and partner with state and federal agencies to deliver programs, education and technical assistance to their communities. Visit [www.nhacd.net](http://www.nhacd.net) to locate your conservation district and to learn more.

USDA is an equal opportunity employer, provider, and lender.

**NRCS**

**NRCS offices**

**New Hampshire State Office**  
273 Locust St., Suite 2D  
Dover, NH 03820  
603-868-7581  
Richard P. Ellsmore,  
State Conservationist  
rick.ellsmore@nh.usda.gov

**Concord Field Service Center**  
Serving Belknap and  
Merrimack Counties  
10 Ferry St., Suite 211  
Concord, NH 03301  
603-223-6023

**Conway Field Service Center**  
Serving Carroll and  
Belknap Counties  
73 Main St.  
Conway, NH 03818  
603-447-2771

**Epping Field Service Center**  
Serving Rockingham and  
Strafford Counties  
629 Calef Highway, Suite 203  
Epping, NH 03042  
603-679-1587

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

**Milford Field Service Center**  
Serving Hillsborough County  
#468, Rte. 13 South Milford,  
NH 03055  
603-673-2409

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

**Walpole Field Service Center**  
Serving Cheshire and  
Sullivan Counties  
11 Industrial Park Dr.  
Walpole, NH 03608  
603-756-2988

[www.nh.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nh.nrcs.usda.gov)