United States Department of Agriculture

Indiana Natural Resources Conservation Service

CONSERVATION

Your Farm | Your Plan

Using Your Conservation Plan to Boost Your Bottom line

A comprehensive conservation plan is the first step to managing all the natural resources on your farm. The planning process followed by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service combines existing production methods with recommended conservation practices to best manage your farm's unique natural resources, while allowing you to grow sustainability and productivity.

Following your conservation plan provides several other benefits including:

- Complying with environmental regulations and USDA compliance requirements
- Increasing the overall effectiveness of your farm's conservation practices
- Improving water quality on your farm and in your watershed
- Improving wildlife habitat

Your Step-by-Step Conservation Roadmap

Your conservation plan is the end product of the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservation planning process. As your conservation decision partner, NRCS provides free assistance to landowners like you to reach land use and natural resource goals. Our local offices, staffed with conservation professionals with local knowledge, can help you make well-informed conservation decisions.

Helping People Help the Land.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

During the planning process, will work closely with you on your farm. We will:

- discuss your objectives
- examine your natural resource concerns
- point out areas for possible protection and improvement
- discuss your economic goals for the farm, your current farming operations and your future plans.
- review your conservation practice options
- help you weigh your alternatives

We will help you balance the needs for profit, protection and productivity. Each of these factors is considered when NRCS writes a plan for your approval and implementation.

The final plan provides you a step-by-step roadmap for meeting your natural resource conservation goals. It includes helpful information on each of the practices included in your plan: how they benefit your farm, how to maintain them, and how they help the soil, water and wildlife.

Getting Started

Using a conservation plan makes it easier to identify how and when you could qualify for Farm Bill financial assistance to help you install conservation practices. Or receive incentives for trying new ones.

By developing a conservation plan, and working to add conservation to your farm, you will be protecting your land's ability to provide for your family and future generations. The plan provides your path for profit, protection and production.

The final decision is yours. NRCS is here to help you meet your natural resource conservation goals, while supporting your farm's profitability.

For More Information

Contact your local NRCS office (http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/in/contact/local/) to get started. Or visit our website to get more information today at:

www.in.nrcs.usda.gov