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News Release

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Morgan, Guernsey Counties Eligible for Conservation Enhancement Funding

Application Deadline is January 15, 2021

COLUMBUS, OH, Dec. 8, 2020 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is offering financial and technical assistance to eligible landowners in Morgan and Guernsey Counties through the Conservation Enhancement and Outreach Project. Application deadline for FY21 funding consideration is January 15, 2021.

The conservation measures available through the Conservation Enhancement and Outreach Project protect natural resources while enhancing pasture, crop, and forestland. Nutrient management practices, such as animal waste storage facilities and conservation cover, protect water quality and improve soil health. Brush and herbaceous weed control practices improve forest and grasslands by stemming the spread of invasive and noxious plants that often crowd out native plants or harm livestock. High tunnel systems extend the growing season and provide a source of locally grown produce. Several other conservation practices are also available for site-specific natural resource management needs.

This project will utilize Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding. EQIP is a voluntary conservation program that helps agricultural producers protect the environment while promoting agricultural production. With EQIP, NRCS conservation experts provide technical assistance to implement environmentally beneficial conservation practices on working agricultural land.

Individuals interested in applying for the Conservation Enhancement and Outreach Project should contact their [local NRCS conservationist](#) as soon as possible. Be sure to check the status of your Service Center when you reach out to us. For offices with restrictions on in-

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person appointments, we are still available by phone, email, and through other digital tools. Your Service Center's status is available at <https://www.farmers.gov/coronavirus/service-center-status>.

Applications signed and submitted to NRCS by the January 15 deadline will be evaluated for fiscal year 2021 funding. Visit Ohio NRCS website under "[EQIP Funding Categories](#)" for more details. To learn more about EQIP or other technical and financial assistance available through NRCS conservation programs, visit [Get Started with NRCS](#) or contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

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