

Derecho Damage Assistance

USDA-NRCS Special EQIP Assistance Information for Iowa Farmers



EQIP Derecho Special Signup

Iowa agricultural producers with downed crops or damaged NRCS-funded livestock building roofs, covers, gutters, or high tunnel systems that need replaced due to excessive winds from the Aug. 10 derecho may be eligible for assistance through a special Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) signup.

Iowa NRCS has \$4 million available through this special EQIP signup for affected landowners in the 42 counties that received the most wind damage (see map). **NRCS offices are accepting applications now through Oct. 2, 2020.**

Eligible Practices

There are four eligible practices producers can apply for through the EQIP Derecho Special Signup:

- » **Cover Crops** (Practice Code 340)
- » **Roofs and Covers** (Practice Code 367)
- » **Roof Runoff Structure** (Practice Code 558)
- » **High Tunnel System** (Practice Code 325)

Historically Underserved (HU) producers, including socially disadvantaged, beginning and limited resource farmers, Indian tribes and beginning farmers/veterans are eligible for an increased payment rate.

Eligibility Requirements

Agricultural producers and owners of non-industrial private forestland and Tribes are eligible to apply for EQIP. Eligible land includes cropland, pastureland, farmsteads and non-industrial private forestland.

Applicants must:

- » Control or own eligible land
- » Comply with adjusted gross income limitation (AGI) provisions

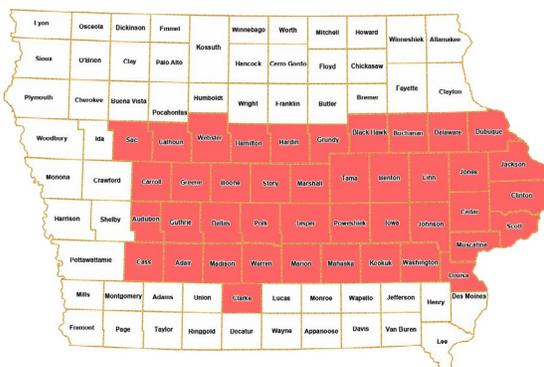
- » Be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation requirements
- » Develop an NRCS EQIP plan of operations

Financial assistance is limited and not all applications will be funded.

How to Apply

Producers facing crop damage or structural damage to eligible practices are encouraged to file an Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) application ([NRCS-CPA-1200](#)) with their local NRCS Field Office. Applications are being accepted now.

Eligible Counties



Early Start Waiver

State Conservationists, at their discretion, may grant an early start waiver based on an evaluation of the specific circumstances for which the applicant is requesting the waiver and a determination that the applicant did not start the conservation practice or activity prior to approval of the waiver. To file an Early Start Waiver, contact your local NRCS office.

For more information about NRCS damage assistance from the Aug. 10 derecho, visit your local NRCS office or go to <https://www.farmers.gov/recover/disaster-tool>.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Through EQIP, NRCS provides agricultural producers with financial resources and one-on-one help to plan and implement improvements on the land including financial assistance to treat resources caused or impacted by natural disasters.

NRCS-funded conservation practices protect your land from erosion, support disaster recovery and can help mitigate loss from future natural disasters.



Iowa

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