

Conservation Programs for You and Your Land

USDA offers voluntary conservation programs for all kinds of land, natural resources, and people. We provide conservation programs to help reduce erosion, guard streams and rivers, restore and establish fish and wildlife habitat, improve air quality and conserve energy.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is the lead USDA agency for conservation on privately owned working lands.

For more information contact NRCS at your local USDA Service Center or visit www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov



Helping People Help the Land

Conservation Pays

Many conservation programs offer financial incentives, such as easement purchases, cost-sharing to install conservation practices, or annual payments for stewardship.

All programs are voluntary and competitive, with the best, most environmentally beneficial projects selected for funding.



Technical Help

NRCS professional and technical experts will help farmers and landowners identify what conservation systems can help, and what programs they are eligible for. NRCS helps producers plan, design and implement conservation practices on their land.



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

EQIP offers financial and technical help to install or implement needed conservation practices on working land. Over 100 conservation practices are available. Contracts provide flat rate payments based on average costs to install or implement the practices. All private land in agricultural production is eligible, including cropland, grazing and pastureland and non-industrial private forest.



Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

CSP provides payments to producers who already practice good stewardship on their land and are willing to take additional steps over the next five years. All agricultural operations and non-industrial private forest lands are eligible. Farmers receive an annual payment for five years, based on their level of stewardship.



The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)

ACEP provides financial and technical assistance to help conserve agricultural lands and wetlands.

Under the Agricultural Land Easements component, NRCS helps non-governmental organizations, Indian tribes, state and local governments protect working agricultural lands and limit non-agricultural uses of the land.

Under the Wetland Reserve Easements component, NRCS helps to restore, protect and enhance enrolled wetlands.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

RCPP promotes coordination with NRCS partners to deliver conservation programs to farmers through partnership agreements.

RCPP works on regional or watershed scales with partners to help producers increase the restoration and sustainable use of soil, water, wildlife and related natural resources.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

CRP and CREP are land set-aside programs, aimed at reducing erosion, increasing wildlife habitat, and improving water quality and forestland. The landowner sets aside cropland and plants it to some type of permanent vegetation, with annual rental payments for the length of the contract. Many types of ag land are eligible, and can be planted to trees, grass, small wetland restoration, prairie and oak savannah restoration and others.

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) manages CRP/CREP.



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Conservation Programs for Wisconsin Landowners

Enhance Wildlife Habitat



Reduce Soil Erosion



Protect Water Quality



Build Healthy Soil



Save Energy



Protect Air Quality

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.