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Steps to Assistance

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

1 PLANNING

Visit your local NRCS field office to discuss your goals and work with staff on a conservation plan.

2 APPLICATION

With the help of NRCS, complete an application for financial assistance programs.

3 ELIGIBILITY

Find out if you're eligible for NRCS' variety of financial assistance programs.

4 RANKING

NRCS ranks applications according to local resource concerns.

5 IMPLEMENTING

Put conservation to work by signing a contract and implementing conservation practices.

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



**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 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