

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

A Farm Bill conservation program

FARM BILL OVERVIEW

The Farm Bill is a federal law renewed every five years that provides loans, grants, and technical assistance to advance a variety of food and farm-related concerns, covering topics such as agriculture, nutrition, conservation, energy, and rural development. The latest Farm Bill passed in December 2018, called the "Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018."



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) can help you manage your existing on-farm conservation, and add new conservation practices to your farming toolkit, like cover crops, resource-conserving crop rotations, buffer strips, rotational grazing, and more. The CSP program is a "reward" program -- it rewards farmers, ranchers, and land stewards for their past and current conservation. The best part is that you can get paid for the conservation you may already be doing on your land. CSP can also help you take the next step to increase conservation and install or adopt additional conservation activities.



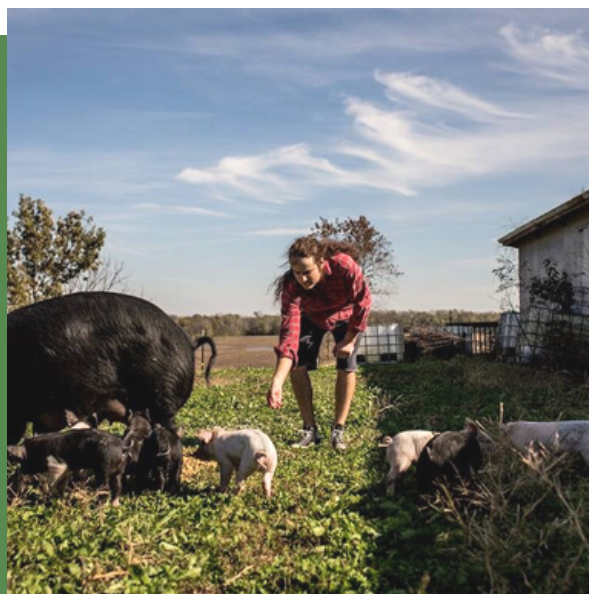
EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS & PRACTICES

THIS PROGRAM CAN FUND

- Cover crops
- Conservation crop rotations
- Forage and biomass planting
- Rotational grazing
- Ecologically-based pest management
- Buffer strips

DOES THIS APPLY TO YOU?

CSP applies to you if you already engage in conservation activities on your land and want to get rewarded for it or increase your current activities with additional conservation practices. All private agricultural land, including cropland, pasture, and rangeland, is eligible to enroll in CSP.



APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications are received on a rolling basis and reviewed annually, typically in spring. If you miss the review period, your application will be considered for the next round of funding.

WHERE TO APPLY

Contact your local NRCS office, which you can locate at <https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>.

LOCAL CONTACT INFO

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County NRCS offices can be found online at <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>.



Additional resources: National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, "CSP Program Basics":
<http://sustainableagriculture.net/publications/grassrootsguide/conservation-environment/conservation-stewardship-program/#basics>