

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

Natural Resources Conservation Service



USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service - New Jersey offers voluntary Farm Bill programs that benefit both agricultural producers and the environment.

Overview

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) provides technical and financial assistance to producers to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, increased soil health and reduced soil erosion and sedimentation, improved or created wildlife habitat, and mitigation against drought and increasing weather volatility.

Benefits

Through EQIP, NRCS provides agricultural producers with one-on-one help and financial assistance to plan and implement improvements, or what NRCS calls conservation practices. Together, NRCS and producers invest in solutions that conserve natural resources for the future while improving agricultural operations.

Program at a Glance

NRCS may visit your property to inventory your natural resources and identify opportunities for conservation improvements. Then you will decide how best to address your natural resource concerns. These decisions will be part of your EQIP application and will be recorded in a Conservation Plan. NRCS offers over 100 unique practices designed for working farms and forests.

Who is Eligible?

Farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners who own or rent agricultural land, meet the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) payment limitations and are in compliance with the highly erodible land conservation (HELC) and wetland conservation (WC) provisions.

EQIP assistance can be used on all types of agricultural operations, including:

- Conventional and organic
- Specialty crops and commodity crops
- Forestry and wildlife
- Historically underserved farmers*
- Livestock operations

*Increased and advance payments available for historically underserved producers (beginning, limited resource, socially disadvantaged, and military veterans).



How to Apply

Applications for EQIP financial assistance are accepted throughout the year. Planning and ranking usually takes place in the Fall or Winter, and contracts are awarded in the Spring.

If your application is ranked and selected, you will enter into a contract with NRCS to receive financial assistance for the cost of implementing conservation practices. Payment rates for conservation practices are reviewed and set each fiscal year.

Apply at your local USDA Service Center, which can be found on the back of this document, or at farmers.gov/servicelocator.

More Information

For more information, visit nrcs.usda.gov/farmbill or farmers.gov.

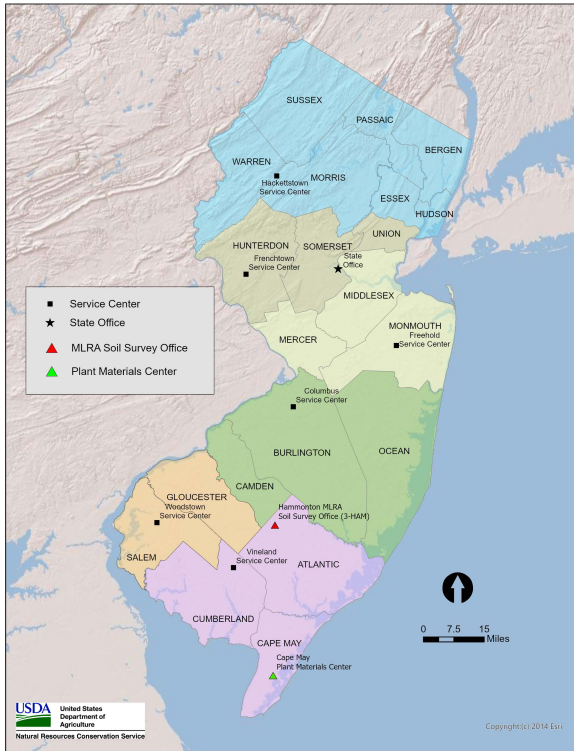
Top New Jersey EQIP Practices

- Cover Crop
- Brush Management
- Forest Stand Improvement
- Structures for Wildlife
- Tree/Shrub Establishment
- Mulching
- Conservation Cover
- Underground Outlet
- Fence
- Lined Waterway or Outlet
- High Tunnel System

Natural Resources Conservation Service

nrcs.usda.gov

New Jersey Service Centers



FREEHOLD (serving Mercer, Middlesex, and Monmouth Counties)

4000 Kozloski Rd., PO Box 5033
Freehold, NJ 07728

PHONE: 732-462-0075, ext. 3
FAX: 855-305-7205

COLUMBUS (serving Burlington, Camden, and Ocean Counties)

1971 Jacksonville-Jobstown Road
Columbus, NJ 08022

PHONE: 609-267-1639, ext. 3
FAX: 855-305-7200

WOODSTOWN (serving Gloucester and Salem Counties)

51 Cheney Road, Suite 2
Woodstown, NJ 08098

PHONE: 856-769-1126, ext. 3
FAX: 855-305-7335

VINELAND (serving Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland Counties)

1318 South Main Rd.
BLDG 5 Suite A
Vineland, NJ 08360

PHONE: 856-285-7678
FAX: 855-305-7259

HACKETTSTOWN (serving Bergen, Hudson, Essex, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, and Warren Counties)

Hackettstown Commerce Park,
Building #1
101 Bilby Rd.
Hackettstown, NJ 07840

PHONE: 908-852-2576, ext. 3
FAX: 855-305-7207

FRENCHTOWN (serving Hunterdon, Somerset, and Union Counties)

687 Pittstown Rd., Suite 2
Frenchtown, NJ 08825

PHONE: 908-782-4614, ext. 3
FAX: 855-305-7436



New Jersey

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