



National Association of Conservation Districts

NACD's Farm Bill Requests

General Farm Bill Requests:

- Pass a bipartisan farm bill that supports producers and bolsters locally led conservation. A new farm bill is long overdue. America's producers, agricultural communities, and conservation delivery system require support, certainty, and policy changes.
- Keep conservation investments provided by the Inflation Reduction Act in conservation programs and integrate them into the conservation title of the farm bill.
- Examine NRCS conservation payment rates in response to rising prices.
- Address barriers to conservation program participation and provide outreach for underserved producers and tribes.
- Avoid one-size-fits-all policies within programs.
- Support the availability and administration of local technical assistance and conservation planning.
- Provide USDA-wide access to the Experienced Services Program to provide additional support for the next generation of conservation workers.
- Support integration, innovation, and funding for urban communities across conservation programs.
- Reform the Technical Service Provider Program to ensure it is a reliable option for producers seeking qualified technical assistance.



Program Specific Requests:

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP):

- Streamline and simplify EQIP application and contracting processes.
- Avoid new national funding directives for specific resource concerns or practices.
- Support conservation incentive contracts.

Conservation Steward Program (CSP):

- Streamline and simplify CSP application and implementation processes.
- Annually update conservation practices, enhancements, activities, and bundles.
- Allow criteria determinations and selections to be made at the local level.
- Support new and additional conservation practices within an operation.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP):

- Provide the highest payment rates for marginal lands.
- Re-establish Signing Incentive Payments and Practice Incentive Payments.
- Increase the CRP payment limit to \$100,000 per year.
- Expand producers' ability to utilize haying and grazing.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP):

- Require RCPP sponsors to work with conservation districts and Local Working Groups.
- Streamline and clarify RCPP's application, contracting, and implementation processes.

Small Watershed and Flood Prevention Program (PL-566):

- Increase funding for PL-566.
- Increase the Federal cost-share for rehabilitation projects and streamline program delivery.

Forestry:

- Support Good Neighbor Authority, the Forest Inventory and Analysis Program, Forest Stewardship Program, and State and Private Forestry programs.
- Support wildfire mitigation, disaster assistance, urban forestry, and historically underserved communities.



About NACD

The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) represents a nationwide network of 3,000 conservation districts and their state/territory associations, working with millions of landowners and farmers to manage and protect private and public working lands in the United States. Districts are local units of government that help put locally led, voluntary, and incentive-based conservation programs into action.

Contact

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