

At a Glance:
**Conservation of Private
Grazing Land Program**

May 2008

Overview

The Conservation of Private Grazing Land (CPGL) Program is a voluntary program that helps owners and managers of private grazing land address natural resource concerns while enhancing the economic and social stability of grazing land enterprises and the rural communities that depend on them. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) manages this program.

Legislative Changes

CPGL is reauthorized in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) through 2012.

Benefits

Grazing lands cover a vast area and provide a diversity of ecological and economic benefits to local residents and society in general. Healthy grazing lands provide water for urban and rural uses, livestock products, flood protection, wildlife habitat, air purification, and carbon sequestration. These lands also provide aesthetic value, open space, and vital links in the enhancement of rural social stability and economic vigor.

Eligibility

All owners and managers of private grazing land are eligible to receive technical assistance from NRCS.

How CPGL Works

CPGL provides NRCS technical assistance to owners and managers of private grazing land to voluntarily conserve or enhance their

resources to meet ecological, economic, and social demands.

This assistance offers opportunities for:

- Maintaining and improving the management and aesthetic character of private grazing land;
- Implementing grazing land management technologies;
- Protecting and improving water quality and quantity;
- Maintaining and improving wildlife and fish habitat;
- Enhancing recreational opportunities; and
- Identifying opportunities and encouraging diversification and the use of sustainable grazing systems.

Requests for technical assistance through CPGL are prioritized by NRCS and the local conservation district to ensure that assistance is provided in a fair and equitable manner.

This program does not include financial assistance. However, financial assistance may be provided through other Federal, State, and local programs that address grazing land resource concerns.

More Information

For more information about the CPGL Program and other Farm Bill topics, please visit the U.S. Department of Agriculture Web site <http://www.usda.gov/farmbill> or the Natural Resources Conservation Service Web site <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cpgl>.

