

Integrated Conservation Training Program

Tired of sorting through training opportunities trying to find what's right for you?

Looking for integrated training specifically designed for your needs?

Budget constraints have you balancing an effective staff with limited professional development dollars?

Prefer hands-on approaches that not only teach, but show you how to implement conservation on the land?

Hoping to increase your professional skills and marketability?

If you answer “yes” to any of these questions, then you’ve found the answer!

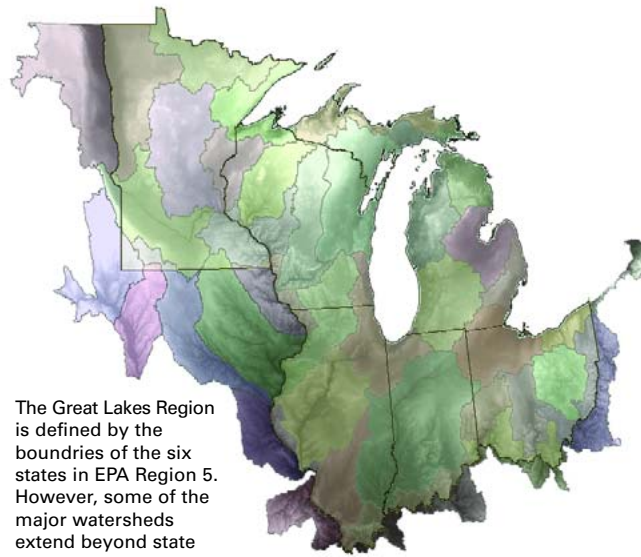
Integrated, cost-effective conservation training

Simple, on-line registration

<http://conservationtraining.uwex.edu>

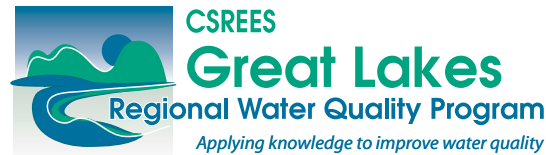
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The Great Lakes Region is defined by the boundaries of the six states in EPA Region 5. However, some of the major watersheds extend beyond state boundaries.

Training Sponsored by



in conjunction with:

Knowledge to Go
Purdue Extension



UW Extension

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The Great Lakes program works to improve water quality through education and outreach programs supported by the best available research. The program builds on the strengths of the Extension Water Quality Programs at the Land Grant Universities throughout the Great Lakes States and fosters partnerships that lead to effective water quality management.



United States Department of Agriculture
NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

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Integrated Conservation Training Program

For Conservation Professionals

Partner Agencies

Private Consultants

TSPs

CCAs

Conservation Planning is the critical “first step” that determines all subsequent crop and non-crop-land conservation decisions. True conservation planning involves not only a working knowledge of the science behind the resource and potential management solutions, but an understanding of the cultural, social and economic factors that influence a landowner’s decisions.

A farm’s conservation plan is the base document from which all other land management options should start. Whether the farmer is considering switching to rotational grazing, implementing a pest management plan or expanding a livestock operation, a poor or non-existent conservation plan can mean the difference between success or failure.



Sponsored by the Great Lakes Regional Water Quality Leadership Team, this training program has several components that are targeted at specific audiences, based on experience and needs.

Core Conservation Training *(for staff with less than 2 years experience)*

Core Conservation Training is a three-session series designed to introduce new employees to the basics of conservation and working with landowners. This series (along with Conservation Planning Training) is being collaboratively developed and piloted by Extension and NRCS in Wisconsin and Minnesota, and includes skill development in the crucial concepts of:

- **Listening to landowners**
- **Customer service**
- **Basics (and science of) conservation planning**
- **Program implementation.**

Conservation Planning Training *(for staff with 3-5 years experience)*

Conservation Planning Training is a five-session series providing a research-based approach to whole-farm conservation planning for agency and private sector staff. By focusing on the entire ecosystem scale (from watershed down to parts of a particular field), this training series provides a hands-on approach to:

- **Conservation plan development**
- **Landowner education**
- **Implementation and evaluation**
- **Working with the private sector**

Practice-Specific Training Options *(for staff looking for specialized, hands-on training)*

Practice-Specific Training offers advanced training programs designed to bring both private sector consultants (CCAs, TSPs) and agency staff to a common knowledge level. Sessions in these series tightly focus on understanding the science behind best management practices, interpreting technical standards and evaluation/improving planning documents.

Seminars in these series include a mix of online training, hands-on field experience and classroom sessions. Courses will focus on:

- **Managed Intensive Grazing**
- **Comprehensive Nutrient Management Planning**
- **Pest management (595)**
- **Wetlands**
- **Forestry**
- **Prescribed burning**

These sessions are being piloted by Extension in Wisconsin, with expansion to the partner states anticipated shortly thereafter. Four of the programs (CNMP, Grazing, Pest Management and Prescribed Burning) started in the spring and summer of 2004, and the remainder will begin in fall and winter of 2004. In addition, annual continuing education sessions are also envisioned as a part of this training.



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