
Technical Service Provider (TSP)
Webinar
for
Conservation Activity Plans (CAP)
Forest Management
Irrigation Water Management
Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition

February 4, 2010

Shannon Zezula, State Resource Conservationist

Ken Collins, State Forester

Beth Clarizia, Agricultural Engineer

Tony Bailey, Conservation Agronomist / TSP Coordinator

Farm Bill Programs - NRCS

- 2008 Farm Bill

- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) - Authority to support development of Conservation Activity Plans (CAPs)

- Purpose is to identify and document conservation treatment needs for eligible land.

- FY 2009 Pilot Year - In Indiana, only 3 certified TSPs...

What can CAPs do for NRCS?

- The private sector can work with producers to do the conservation planning work normally completed by NRCS

- CAPs provide the:
 - “What’s going on...” plus the
 - “What are some options...”

- Focused on operations where NRCS may have limited time or expertise

What can CAPs do for NRCS and producers?

- Provides an opportunity for landowners to get timely, professional assistance to:
 - Identify the resource concerns on their operation (soil erosion, water quality impacts, invasive species, etc.)

- Provide a variety of options that are compatible with their objectives

What can CAPs do for NRCS and producers?

- The producer can then make sound decisions, and can apply for additional assistance with NRCS to implement their preferred alternative



What CAPs are NOT

- The CAP is not a substitute for the ‘traditional’ TSP service of providing producers the details (designs), installation or checkout of practices...that comes later (and is an additional opportunity for TSPs)



Farm Bill Programs - NRCS

- NRCS State Conservationists determine which CAPs their state will participate in.



□ 12 types of CAPs nationally

102	Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan – Written
106	Forest Management Plan – Written
110	Grazing Management Plan – Written
114	Integrated Pest Management Plan – Written
118	Irrigation Water Management Plan – Written
122	Agricultural Energy Management Plan – Written
126	Comprehensive Air Quality Management Plan – Written
130	Drainage Water Management Plan – Written
134	Conservation Plan Supporting Transition from Irrigation to Dry-land Farming Plan – Written
138	Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition – Written
142	Fish and Wildlife Habitat Management Plan – Written
146	Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan - Written

Conservation Activity Plans Available in Indiana

Forest Management Plan



Irrigation Water Management Plan



Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition



Conservation Activity Plans (CAP)

EQIP Financial Assistance (FA)

- ❑ Producer may apply for EQIP program assistance for development of a conservation activity plan. If approved for funding, the producer will select TSP from TechReg.



2009 Payment Rates for CAPs

Practice Name	Scenario	Payment Rate
Forest Mgmt Plan	< 20 ac	\$ 225
	20-79 ac	\$ 338
	80+ ac	\$ 413
Irrigation Plan		\$ 488
Organic Plan		\$ 413

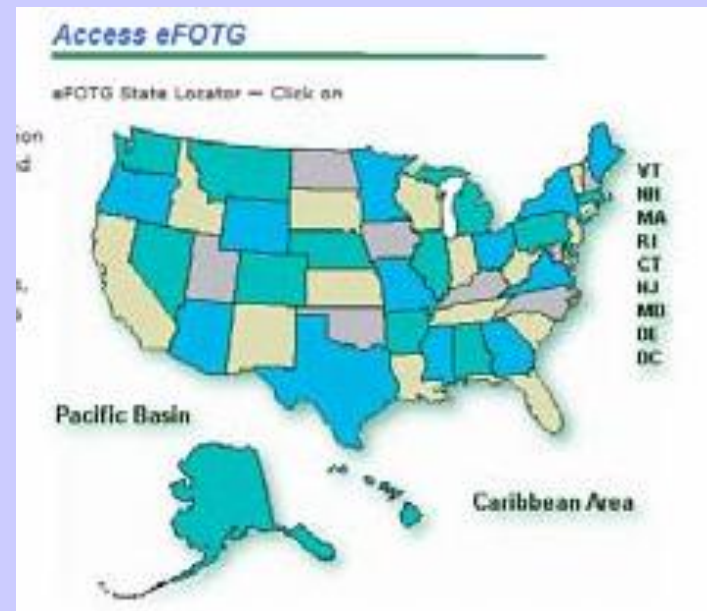
Indiana CAP Summary for FY 2009

Code	Practice	#	Obligation
138	Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition	4	\$1,898
118	Irrigation Water Management Plan	5	\$2,440
106	Forest Management Plan	35	\$11,562

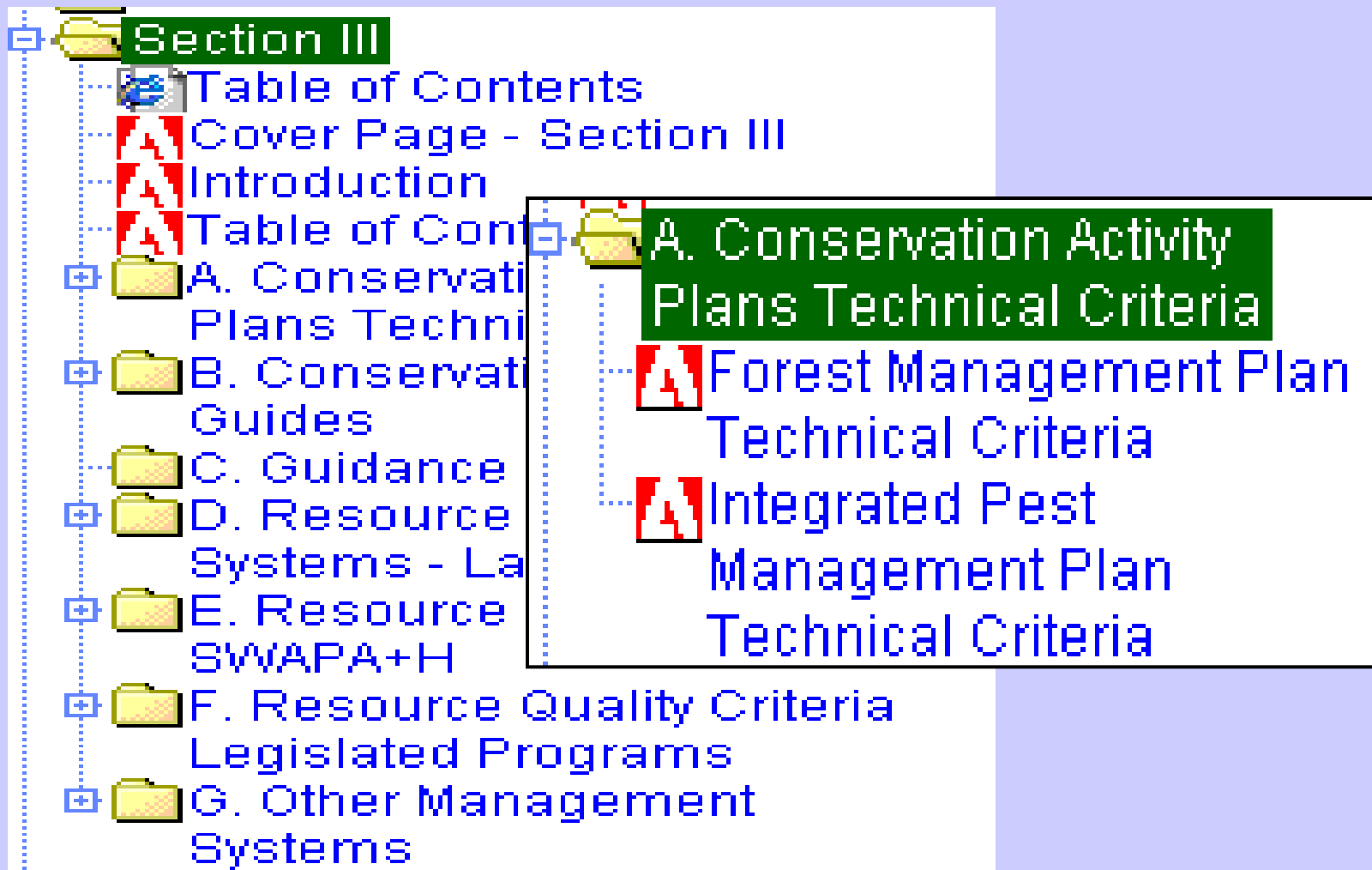
- FY2009 Pilot Year Activities – CAP plans:
 - In Indiana, only 3 certified TSPs...

CAP Requirements

- NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) provides technical requirements to meet when developing Conservation Activity Plans:
- www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/Section_III



CAP Requirements



Indiana CAP Requirements

eFOTG - Section_III

106 Forest Management Plan Checklist - NRCS Indiana <i>[5-2009] Based on Forestry Management Plan Conservation Activity Plan Standard 106</i>		
County <input type="text"/>	Date Plan Submitted <input type="text"/>	Farm # : <input type="text"/> Tract #s: <input type="text"/> Acres of plan: <input type="text"/>
Producer/Owner [Name, Address, Phone, Email] <input type="text"/>		Technical Service Provider [Name, Address, Phone, Email, TSP ID Number] <input type="text"/>
<p align="center"> 106 Forestry Management Plan Components Components 1-7 are <i>required</i> to be included in the Plan to the producer – refer to the 106 standard in Section III of the Electronic Field Office Technical Guide for specific details. Include this completed checklist and a copy of the plan and other deliverables (electronic preferred) identified in this checklist to NRCS. </p>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	1) Producer's conservation objectives are identified.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	2) Include a list of the existing resource concerns per National Planning Procedures Handbook (NPPH) list of resource concerns, and alternatives that were discussed with the producer and their expected impacts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plan includes the statement "Before any of the recommended practices are installed, a sufficient Environmental Evaluation must be completed by NRCS". 	

Forest Management Plans

- Producers conservation objectives are identified
 - Examples: aesthetics, timber management, wildlife, etc.
- Plan Map (can be on a soil map e.g. web soil survey)
 - Location of forest stands
 - Stands are numbered (e.g. Stand 1, 2, 3 or Field 1, 2, 3)



Forest Management Plans (cont)

- Stand description(s) in the management plan
 - Size of stand in acres
 - Stocking rate (basal area and/or trees per acre)
 - Presence of invasive species
 - Species, location (which stand or field)
 - Percent coverage
 - Acres effected
 - Environmentally sensitive areas
- Desired Future Condition by Forest Stand(s)
 - Stocking rate (basal area)
 - Species composition, size classes
 - Estimated schedule of timber harvesting
 - If Forest Stand Improvement is planned
 - Indicate planned basal area before and after

Forest Management Plans (cont)

- Conservation Plan (documentation of decisions)
 - Table format is recommended (example)
 - Planned Practices

Stand/Field Number	Practice	Extent	Planned Year(s)
1b	Pest Management (595)	5 Acres Eastern part of woods (see map).	2010 2011 2012
Note: Approx. 40% coverage of Bush Honeysuckle is present covering 5 acres.			
1	Forest Stand Improvement (666)	25 Acres	2011

Irrigation Water Management Plans

- Water Source
- Scheduling
- System
- Efficiency
- List Practices
- Discussion with Producer



Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition

- Only addresses conservation elements of Organic System Plan
- Resource concerns (erosion, Water Quality, etc.)
- Plan map
- Sensitive areas, Buffers
- Crop rotation
- Planting / tillage system



CAP Plan Criteria

- National Environment Policy Act (NEPA) Documentation
 - NRCS (CPA-52) as a checklist
 - <http://www.in.nrcs.usda.gov/tsp.html>
- Cultural Resources and other Resource Concerns and Special Environmental Concerns

Indiana TSP CPA-52

23	Existing/Benchmark	No Action				Alternative 1				Alternative 2			
		Trend		Amount, Status, Description	↓ if meets QC or needs action	Trend		Amount, Status, Description	↓ if meets QC or needs action	Trend		Amount, Status, Description	↓ if meets QC or needs action
		short	long			short	long			short	long		
24	Conditions												
25	(Analyze and record the												
26	existing/benchmark												
27	conditions for each												
28	identified concern)												
29	SOIL												
30	Erosion (Sheet and Rill)				meets								meets
	Erosion (Wind)				QC								QC
	Erosion (Ephemeral Gully)				meets								meets
	Erosion (Classic Gully)				QC								QC
	Erosion (Streambank)				meets								meets
	Erosion (Shoreline)				QC								QC
	Erosion (Irrigation Induced)				meets								meets
	Erosion (Mass Movement)				QC								QC
41					meets								meets
42					QC								QC
43					meets								meets
44					QC								QC
45					meets								meets
46	<u>Prime and Unique</u>	These Special Environmental Concerns were not evaluated for this Conservation Activity Plan, but will be evaluated, documented, and addressed by a Responsible Federal Official prior to implementing any of the alternatives - per NRCS Indiana fiscal year 2009 guidance.											
47													
48													
49	WATER												
50					meets								meets
51					QC								QC
52					meets								meets
53					QC								QC

Page 1

J. Other Agencies and Broad Public Concerns		No Action	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
Easements, Permissions, or Permits Required and Agencies Consulted				
Identify any additional environmental, resource-protection, or land use laws or regulations or concerns to address:				
K. Mitigation				
L. Preferred Alternative	Preferred alternative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Supporting reason			

M. The information recorded above is based on the best available information:

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Signature	Title	Date

THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS ARE TO BE COMPLETED BY THE RESPONSIBLE FEDERAL OFFICIAL (RFO). Sections "N" & "O" do not need to be completed when only Technical Assistance is provided (e.g. conservation plan development).

The RFO is to use the NRCS-CPA-52 to determine whether there are significant adverse environmental effects or "extraordinary circumstances" that would preclude the applicability of a categorical exclusion or the tiering process. Review definitions below of significance and extraordinary circumstances as defined by context and intensity (40 CFR Part

P. NEPA Compliance Finding (check one)

The preferred alternative:

Action required

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1) is not a federal action subject to NRCS regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR Part 650)	Document in "Q" below. No additional analysis is required
<input type="checkbox"/>	2) is a federal action that is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis and there are no <u>extraordinary circumstances</u> .	Document in "Q" below. No additional analysis is required
<input type="checkbox"/>	3) is a federal action that has been sufficiently analyzed in an existing published NRCS state, regional, or national NEPA document and there are no predicted <u>significant adverse environmental effects or extraordinary circumstances</u> .	Document in "Q" below. No additional analysis is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4) is a federal action that has been sufficiently analyzed in another Federal agency's NEPA document (EA or EIS) that addresses the proposed NRCS action and its' effects and has been formally adopted by NRCS . NRCS is required to prepare and publish the agency's own Finding of No Significant Impact for an EA or Record of Decision for an EIS when adopting another agency's EA or EIS document.	Contact the State Environmental Liaison for list of NEPA documents formally adopted and available for tiering. Document in "Q" below. No additional analysis is required
<input type="checkbox"/>	5) is a federal action that has NOT been sufficiently analyzed or may involve predicted significant adverse environmental effects or extraordinary circumstances and may require an EA or EIS.	Contact the State Environmental Liaison. Further NEPA analysis required.

Q. Rationale Supporting the Finding

These Special Environmental Concerns were not evaluated for this Conservation Activity Plan, but will be evaluated, documented, and addressed by a Responsible Federal Official prior to implementing any of the alternatives - per NRCS Indiana fiscal year 2009 guidance.

I have considered the effects of the alternatives on the Resource Concerns, Economic and Social Considerations, Special Environmental Concerns, and Extraordinary Circumstances (as outlined in the NECH 610.22).

R. Signature of Responsible Federal Official:

Signature

Title

Date

TSP & CAP Requirements

TSPs Requirements for Qualification:

- Certified through TechReg:
- techreg.usda.gov/



The screenshot shows the TechReg website header and main content area. The header features the USDA logo and the text "United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service" on the left. The main title "TechReg" is prominently displayed in a large, stylized font, with "Technical Service Provider Registry" written below it. To the right of the title is a 3D cube graphic with red and white faces. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for "Home", "About TechReg", "FAQ", "Help", "Contact Us", and "Logout".

The main content area is divided into two sections. On the left is a "Search USDA" box with a search input field and a "Go" button. Below this is a "TechReg" section with links for "Login" and "New User". Further down is a "TechReg Resources" section with a link for "Conservation Activity Plans".

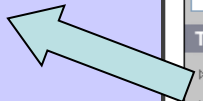
The right section is titled "Technical Service Provider Training" and features a small image of people in a classroom setting. The text below the image reads: "NRCS provides TSP's access to The Agriculture Learning (AgLearn) Service educational services for Technical Service Providers. NRCS provides <http://www.aglearn.usda.gov> to TSP's so that they may take online courses needed for certification or recertification. Required courses and available courses, along with upcoming training opportunities, and instructions for registering at AgLearn, are located below."

TechReg Web Site (http://techreg.usda.gov)

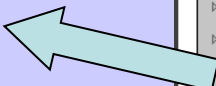
The screenshot shows the TechReg website with the following elements:

- Header:** USDA logo, "United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service", and "TechReg Technical Service Provider Registry".
- Navigation:** Home, About TechReg, FAQ, Help, Contact Us, Logout.
- Search:** "Search USDA" with a "Go" button.
- Left Sidebar:** TechReg (Login, New User), TechReg Resources (Conservation Activity Plans, Certification Categories, Civil Rights Responsibilities, News, Online Resources, State TSP Coordinators, Training, Upcoming Training, View Terms and Conditions), Business Opportunity (Federal, Grants.gov), Other Resources (USDA Offices), Feedback (Comment to TechReg Team).
- Main Content:** "Welcome to TechReg" section with a "Technical Service Provider Registry" image and text: "NRCS's online tool for Technical Service Providers to register, become certified, and manage their TSP profiles." Below it, "TechReg also helps landowners locate and choose certified registered technical service providers who can help them meet their conservation goals." A "How do I Access TechReg?" section explains the eAuthentication process.
- Right Sidebar:** "I Want To..." list: Find a TSP, Find Technical Service Payment Rates, Become a TSP, Receive TSP Training, Complete TSP Renewal, Register A Business, Add Categories to my Profile, Add States to my Profile, Update My Contact Info/Profile. "I Need Help With..." list: Frequently Asked Questions.
- Bottom:** "Spotlights" section with "News" (Sign up for TechReg News and NRCS NewsList), "TS Payment Rates" (Find the maximum value that the producer will be reimbursed via his/her contract with NRCS), "USDA Customers" (Find Technical Service Providers working in your state or county), and "TSP Brochure" (Expanding Conservation Technical Assistance Capacity on Private Lands).

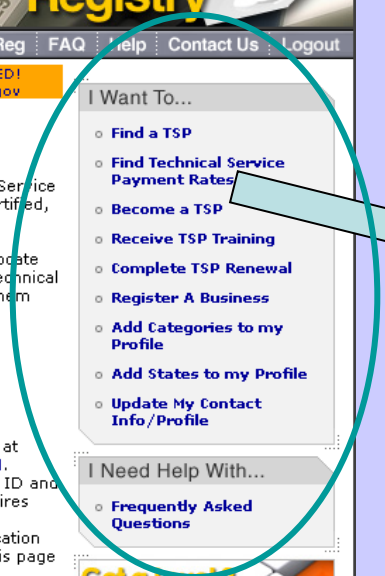
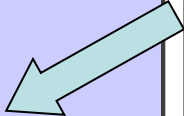
Site Login
(USDA eAuth login)



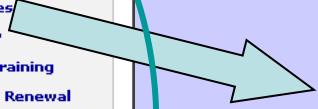
Online Resources



Upcoming Training



Help!



Register as a TSP

For additional instructions, see TechReg homepage “I want to ... Become a TSP”:

- Step 1 - Get USDA Level 2 eAuthentication Account (User ID and password)
 - Start with internet plus visit USDA Service Center (SCIMS)
- Step 2 - Login to TechReg (must complete Step 1)
 - Complete Profile Part I: Background
 - Complete Profile Part II: Certification Categories
 - *Complete appropriate trainings* (eAuth User ID & Password)
 - Submit applicable sample plan for review / approval
 - Sign agreement
- Step 3 – Become Certified

Getting a USDA eAuthentication Account

• <http://www.eAuth.eGov.USDA.gov>

1

Use the Internet to obtain a USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account:

1. From your internet browser go to the USDA eAuthentication site at:
<http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/eauthCreateAccount.html>
2. Follow the steps described to request a Level 2 account.
 - Fill out the online registration form.
 - Create a user ID and password.
 - Respond to the confirmation e-mail the system sends to you.

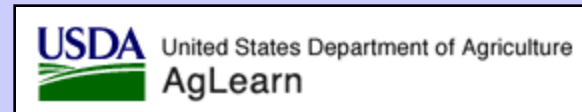
OR

CAP Training Requirements

See TechReg homepage “I want to ...
Receive TSP Training”:

- All applicants
- Courses through Aglearn (free):

www.aglearn.usda.gov/



- TSP Orientation
- Conservation Planning (modules 1-5)
- Modules 1-6 of the NRCS Web-based Cultural Resources Training
- NRCS Level 1 Environmental Compliance

Certification Requirements (cont.)

Additional training:

- Forest Mgmt Plan
 - Introduction to Conservation Forestry Planning (**)
- Irrigation & Organic
 - no additional training

http://www.aglearn.usda.gov/

The screenshot shows the AgLearn website homepage. At the top left is the USDA logo with the text "United States Department of Agriculture AgLearn Learning just got easier!". To the right is a banner with the text "Knowledge... A Powerful Tool. Courses Designed for You." and a photo of three smiling people. Below the banner is a navigation bar with "About AgLearn", "Help", and "Contact Us".

On the left side, there is a "Learner Center" sidebar with the following links and descriptions:

- Learner Login**: Requires a USDA eAuthentication User ID
- Administrator Center**
 - Administrator Login**: Go here to see the latest Admin resources and tools
- Resource Center**
 - Will AgLearn Work on My Computer?**: Steps to Save You Time
 - Trouble Logging In?**: Click Here to Resolve
 - External Registration**: Create your USDA eAuthentication User ID and Register in AgLearn.
 - New User?**: Click here for a tour of AgLearn.

Two orange arrows point from the text "Site Login (USDA eAuth login)" to the "Learner Login" link, and from "Will AgLearn work on my computer?" to the "Will AgLearn Work on My Computer?" link.

The main content area has a "Welcome to AgLearn!" section with the text: "Help your career and increase your knowledge with new and exciting courses built for you." Below this is a "Learning Resources" section with a "New Courses - Just Released! Updated June 2009" sub-section. It lists:

- SkillSoft - Latest Additions!**: Check out all of the newest courses now available in AgLearn!
- The Enhanced AgLearn Tour**: Learn what's new and different!
- The SF-182 Online Interactive Course**: How to submit, approve and verify!
- The AgLearn Supervisor Online Interactive Course**: Many improvements for supervisors, including an "at a glance" dashboard of "My Employees!"

An orange arrow points from the text "AgLearn Tour" to the "The Enhanced AgLearn Tour" link.

Below the Learning Resources is a "Continuing Education" section with a list of links:

- [Project Management Institute](#)
- [National Association of State Board of Accountancy](#)
- [International Information Systems Security Certification Consortium](#)
- [Human Resource Certification Institute](#)
- [Six Sigma Credentialing Program](#)

At the bottom of the main content area is an "FAQ's" section with links for:

- [Adding My Email Address to My AgLearn Profile](#)
- [Selecting My Supervisor in AgLearn](#)

On the right side of the page, there are three promotional boxes:

- Start Planning Today for Tomorrow.**: Features a photo of a man in a red shirt working on a car. Text: "Learn more about retirement planning"
- Learn More!**: Features a silhouette of a head with a glowing brain. Text: "Check out all the great categories to help your career. Get Started Today!"
- We Won!**: Features a globe icon. Text: "Our commitment to building the best learning environment has paid off. Find out more." and "PLATEAU Insights 2008".

At the bottom of the page is a footer with the text: "AgLearn.USDA.gov | USDA.gov | Accessibility Statement | Privacy Policy | Non-Discrimination Statement"

Site Login
(USDA eAuth
login)

Will AgLearn
work on my
computer?

AgLearn
Tour

Register for AgLearn – Step 1 Registration

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
AgLearn
Learning just got easier!

*Knowledge...
A Powerful Tool.*
Courses Designed for You.

About AgLearn Help Contact Us

Learner Center
[Learner Login](#)
Requires a USDA eAuthentication User ID

Administrator Center
[Administrator Login](#)
Go here to see the latest Admin resources and tools

Resource Center
[Will AgLearn Work on My Computer?](#)
Steps to Save You Time

[Trouble Logging In?](#)
Click Here to Resolve

[External Registration](#)
Create your USDA eAuthentication User ID and Register in AgLearn.

[New User?](#)
Click here for a tour of AgLearn.

Welcome to AgLearn!
Help your career and increase your knowledge with new and exciting courses built for you.

Learning Resources

New Courses - Just Released! *Updated June 2009*
[SkillSoft - Latest Additions!](#)
Check out all of the newest courses now available in AgLearn!

[The Enhanced AgLearn Tour](#)
Learn what's new and different!

[The SF-182 Online Interactive Course](#)
How to submit, approve and verify!

[The AgLearn Supervisor Online Interactive Course](#)
Many improvements for supervisors, including an "at a glance" dashboard of "My Employees!"

Continuing Education

- [Project Management Institute](#)
- [National Association of State Board of Accountancy](#)
- [International Information Systems Security Certification Consortium](#)
- [Human Resource Certification Institute](#)
- [Six Sigma Credentialing Program](#)

FAQ's

[Adding My Email Address to My AgLearn Profile](#)
[Selecting My Supervisor in AgLearn](#)

Start Planning Today for Tomorrow.
Learn more about retirement planning

Learn More!
Check out all the great categories to help your career. Get Started Today!

We Won!
Our commitment to building the best learning environment has paid off.
PLATEAU Insights 2008
Find out more.

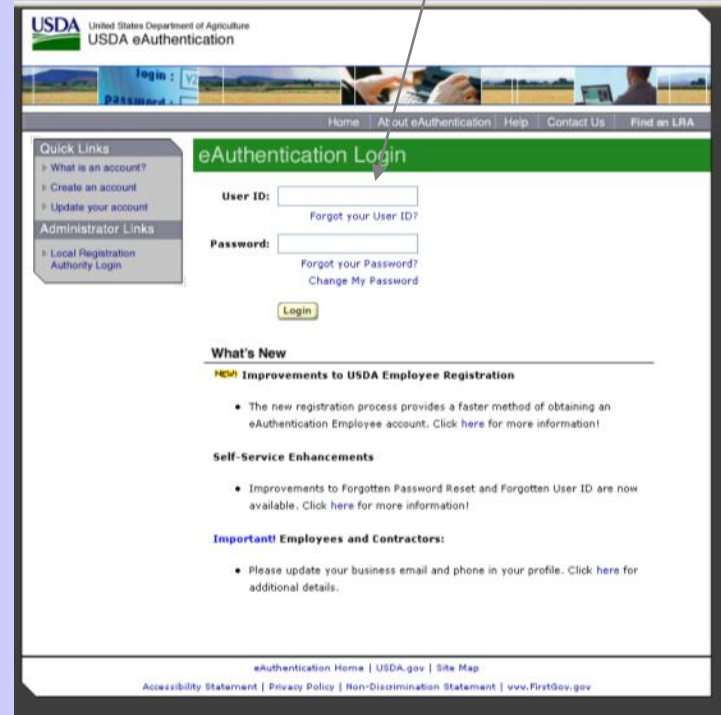
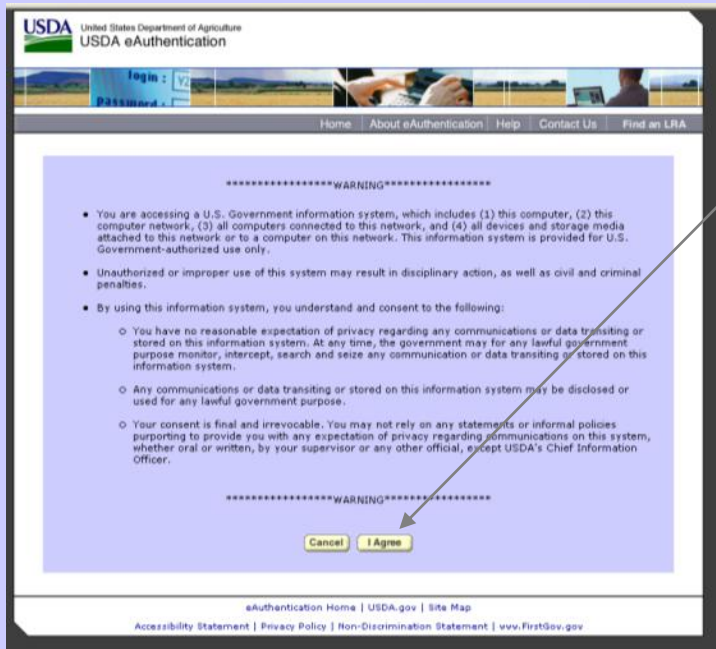
AgLearn.USDA.gov | USDA.gov | Accessibility Statement | Privacy Policy | Non-Discrimination Statement

Click on External Registration

Note: You **must** have an eAuth account before you can register.

Register for AgLearn

Login with you eAuth User ID and Password



Register for AgLearn – Step 1

- At the User Registration screen
This step requires you to validate the information in your account -- full name, address, email, and provide the name of the USDA agency and USDA point of contact sponsoring your account in AgLearn.
- Select **NRCS-TECHNICAL SERVICE PROVIDER** as “Agency of Sponsoring Individual”
- Enter “Point of Contact” – (NRCS DC, Training Coordinator, etc...)
- After completing all information on the User Registration screen, click “Submit Registration”.

Register for AgLearn – Step 2 Verification

- The “Point of Contact” will receive an e-mail requesting that he/she verify user’s information.
- The “Point of Contact” contacts NRCS Training Coordinator that he/she has verified the information and the NRCS Training Coordinator to activate your account.

Register for AgLearn – Step 3 Activation

- The NRCS Training Coordinator will activate your account within 72 hours.

TechReg Web Site (<http://techreg.usda.gov>)

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

TechReg

Technical Service Provider Registry

Home About TechReg FAQ Help Contact Us Logout

IDEAS FOR SIMPLIFYING THE TSP PROCESSES WANTED!
Click this link or send your email to: tsp@wdc.usda.gov

Search USDA

TechReg

- ▶ Login
- ▶ New User
- TechReg Resources**
 - ▶ Conservation Activity Plans
 - ▶ Certification Categories
 - ▶ Civil Rights Responsibilities
 - ▶ News
 - ▶ Online Resources
 - ▶ State TSP Coordinators
 - ▶ Training
 - ▶ Upcoming Training
 - ▶ View Terms and Conditions
- Business Opportunity**
 - ▶ Federal
 - ▶ Grants.gov
- Other Resources**
 - ▶ USDA Offices
- Feedback**
 - ▶ Comment to TechReg Team

Welcome to TechReg

NRCS's online tool for Technical Service Providers to register, become certified, and manage their TSP profiles.

TechReg also helps landowners locate and choose certified registered technical service providers who can help them meet their conservation goals.

How do I Access TechReg?

Technical service provider secure access to TechReg is managed using USDA eAuthentication. You can register for your eAuthentication account online at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/eauthCreateAccount.html>. This process is easy and starts online by creating a user ID and password and confirming your email. The final step requires visiting a local USDA Service Center to complete the eAuthentication process. Once you have your eAuthentication account, you can click on the 'Login' link on the top of this page and enter your user ID and password on the USDA login screen.

Spotlights

- News**
Sign up for TechReg News and NRCS NewsList
Read TSP Express Newsletter
- TS Payment Rates**
Find the maximum value that the producer will be reimbursed via his/her contract with NRCS
- USDA Customers**
Find Technical Service Providers working in your state or county
- TSP Brochure**
Expanding Conservation Technical Assistance Capacity on Private Lands

I Want To...

- Find a TSP
- Find Technical Service Payment Rates
- Become a TSP
- Receive TSP Training
- Complete TSP Renewal
- Register A Business
- Add Categories to my Profile
- Add States to my Profile
- Update My Contact Info/Profile

I Need Help With...

- Frequently Asked Questions

Get a Level 2 eAuthentication Account for TechReg

TechReg
Resources

Proficiency Criteria for CAPs

- ❑ Proficiency Criteria is posted on TechReg using national criteria
- ❑ Conservation Activity Plan Proficiency Criteria under separate subheading

The screenshot shows the TechReg website, a platform for Technical Service Providers (TSPs) to register and manage their profiles. The header includes the USDA logo and the text "United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service TechReg Technical Service Provider Registry". The main content area is titled "Welcome to TechReg" and provides information on how to access the site, including a link to the eAuthentication process. A sidebar on the left contains navigation links such as "Search USDA", "TechReg", "Login", "New User", "TechReg Resources", "Conservation Activity Plans", "Certification Categories", "Civil Rights Responsibilities", "News", "Online Resources", "State TSP Coordinators", "Training", "Upcoming Training", "View Terms and Conditions", "Business Opportunity", "Federal", "Grants.gov", "Other Resources", "USDA Offices", and "Feedback". A right sidebar lists "I Want To..." options like "Find a TSP", "Find Technical Service Payment Rates", "Become a TSP", "Receive TSP Training", "Complete TSP Renewal", "Register A Business", "Add Categories to my Profile", "Add States to my Profile", and "Update My Contact Info/Profile". Below this is a "Frequently Asked Questions" section and a "Get a Level 2 eAuthentication Account for TechReg" banner. The main content area also features "Spotlights" for "News" (Sign up for TechReg News and NRCS NewsList), "TS Payment Rates" (Find the maximum value that the producer will be reimbursed via his/her contract with NRCS), "USDA Customers" (Find Technical Service Providers working in your state or county), and "TSP Brochure" (Expanding Conservation Technical Assistance Capacity on Private Lands).

Certification Categories and Options

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

TechReg

Technical Service Provider Registry

Home About TechReg FAQ Help Contact Us Logout

Search USDA [Go]

TechReg

- Login
- New User

TechReg Resources

- Conservation Activity Plans
- Certification Categories
- Civil Rights Responsibilities
- News
- Online Resources
- State TSP Coordinators
- Training
- Upcoming Training
- View Terms and Conditions

Business Opportunity

- Federal
- Grants.gov

Welcome to TechReg

NRCS's online tool for Technical Service Providers to register, become certified, and manage their TSP profiles.

TechReg also helps landowners locate and choose certified registered technical service providers to help them meet their conservation goals.

How do I Access TechReg?

Technical service provider secure access to TechReg is managed using USDA eAuthentication. You can register for your eAuthentication account online at <http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/eauthCreateAccount.html>. This process is easy and starts online by creating a user ID and password and confirming your email. The final step requires visiting a local USDA Service Center to complete the eAuthentication process. Once you have your eAuthentication account, you can click on the 'Login' link on the top of this page and enter your user ID and password on the USDA login screen.

I Want To...

- Find a TSP
- Find Technical Service Payment Rates
- Become a TSP
- Receive TSP Training
- Complete TSP Renewal
- Register A Business
- Add Categories to my Profile
- Add States to my Profile
- Update My Contact Info/Profile

I Need Help With...

- Frequently Asked Questions

Get a Level 2 eAuthentication Account

News
Sign up for TechReg News and NRCS

TS Payment Rates
Find the maximum

Technical Service Categories and Criteria Options for Certification

Note: This document lists all categories and the options for certification within each category. You only need to meet the criteria for ONE option group to satisfy the certification requirements for a category. However, you must meet ALL of the criteria within the selected option group.

Categories	Options	Criteria
Certified Conservation Planner (Current)		Start Date: 4/3/2003, End Date: 0.
	Conservation Planning Option 1 - Certification	Conservation Planning State Certification: Possess a current certification as a certified conservation planner from a NRCS approved training program for the state and localities to be serviced.
	Conservation Planning Option 2	Conservation Planning Knowledge: Possess and demonstrate the following knowledge, skills and abilities: a) Awareness of the specific program rules and regulations for 2002 Farm Bill programs, b) Skill in applying the NRCS conservation planning process, c) Ability to plan and implement conservation practices common to the geographic area, d) Skill in applying approved erosion prediction technology (Revised Universal Soil Loss equation, Wind Erosion Equation, Wind Erosion Prediction System), e) Skill in using applicable site vulnerability assessment tools, Conservation Planning NRCS Training Modules 1-9: Complete modules 1 through 9 of NRCS Conservation Planning Course or an equivalent NRCS approved Conservation Planning Training. Conservation Planning References: Provide two locations or customer references where technical service has been provided that can verify your experience and proficiency planning, designing, installation/layout, and check-out of Certified Conservation Planner practices.
	Conservation Planning Option 3 - NAICC Certification	Conservation Planning Knowledge: Possess and demonstrate the following knowledge, skills and abilities: a) Awareness of the specific program rules and regulations for 2002 Farm Bill programs, b) Skill in applying the NRCS conservation planning process, c) Ability to plan and implement conservation practices common to the geographic area, d) Skill in applying approved erosion prediction technology (Revised Universal Soil Loss equation, Wind Erosion Equation, Wind Erosion Prediction System), e) Skill in using applicable site vulnerability assessment tools, Conservation Planning NRCS Training Modules 1-9: Complete modules 1 through 9 of NRCS Conservation Planning Course or an equivalent NRCS approved Conservation Planning Training. Conservation Planning References: Provide two locations or customer references where technical service has been provided that can verify your experience and proficiency planning, designing, installation/layout, and check-out of Certified Conservation Planner practices. NAICC Certification: Crop Certification through the National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants (NAICC).
Channel and Streambank Stabilization		Start Date: 3/1/2003, End Date: Channel Bank Vegetation (322), Channel Stabilization (384), Clearing and Snagging (326), Obstruction Removal (300), Streambank and Shoreline Protection (380).
	Channel Option 1	Channel Experience: Experience and knowledge in planning, design, layout, inspection and certification of Channel and Streambank Stabilization practices including any applicable Standards and Specifications. Channel References: Provide two locations or customer references where technical service has been provided that can verify your experience and proficiency planning, designing, installation/layout, and check-out of Channel and Streambank Stabilization practices. Conservation Planning NRCS Training Modules 1-9: Complete modules 1 through 9 of NRCS Conservation Planning course. Anyone can take the first 5 modules of the Conservation Planning Course, self-paced, off of the internet. The web site for the course is: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/catalog/consplan.html Engineer License - State: A current Professional Engineer's license as required by law in the state of practice.
CNMP Plan Approval		Start Date: 3/1/2003, End Date: Animal Mortality Facility (316), Channel Bank Vegetation (322), Closure of Waste Impoundment (360), Composting Facility (317), Conservation Cover (327), Conservation Crop Rotation (328), Contaminated Wetland (616), Contour Buffer Strips (332), Contour Farming (330), Cover Crop (340), Cross Wind Ridge (358A), Cross Wind Trap Strips (358C), Deep Tillage (324), Dissection (362), Feed Management (592), Field Border (366), Filter Strip (393), Grassed Waterway (412), Heavy Use Area Protection (361), Hedge-row Planting (423), Herbaceous Wind Barrier (603), Hillside Ditch (423), Lined Waterway or Outlet (468), Manure Transfer (634), Melching (494), Nutrient Management (590), Pumping Plant (533), Residue Management, No-Till (239B), Residue Management, No-Till Strip

Questions?



For more information contact:

Tony Bailey
Agronomist / TSP Coordinator

tony.bailey@in.usda.gov

(317) 290-3200 x345

Shannon Zezula
State Resource Conservationist

shannon.zezula@in.usda.gov

(317) 290-3200 x388

References

- Forest Management Plan (106) Checklist
http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/IN/106_Forestry_Mgmt_Plan_IN_Checklist.doc
- Irrigation Water Management Plan (118) Checklist
http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/IN/118_Irrigation_Water_Mgmt_IN_Checklist.doc
- Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition Plan (138) Checklist
http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/IN/138_Cons_Plan_Supporting_Organic_Trans_IN_Checklist.doc
- TSP TechReg Homepage
<http://techreg.usda.gov/>
- I Want to Become a TSP
<http://techreg.usda.gov/TSPApplicationIntro.aspx>
- I Want to Add Categories to My Profile
<http://techreg.usda.gov/TSPApplicationIntro.aspx>
- TSP Environmental Evaluation (CPA-52)
<http://www.in.nrcs.usda.gov/TSP/TSP-CPA-52.xls>