



Conservation Security Program

Initial Eligibility Questionnaire

The Conservation Security Program is designed to reward farmers and ranchers who are applying and documenting high levels of conservation and management. To be eligible for the program you must be meeting soil quality criteria and water quality criteria. To give you a better idea of whether or not you might qualify, consider the following:

Do you have control (ownership or written lease) of private land (not state or federal land) within one of the selected 2005 CSP watersheds for at least the next 5 years?

If you have cropland, do you think that your crop rotation and tillage operations are resulting in improving the structure, tilth, and organic matter of the soil?

If you apply fertilizer or manure, do you have soil or plant tissue tests and nutrient application records for at least some of your fields and crops?

If you use pesticides, do you have pesticide application records for at least some of your fields and crops?

If you graze rangeland, are you following a grazing plan that allows for a rest period for the fields?

If you graze rangeland, do you have written records of range management activities such as how many livestock are in a particular field, for how long, and during what season of the year?

If you graze rangeland, do you manage livestock access to rivers, streams, springs, or other surface waters to help protect water quality?

Are you proud to show your farm or ranch to others and do your neighbors consider you a good land steward?

If you answered yes to these questions you may be eligible for the Conservation Security Program or want to know more about the program, please plan to attend one of the public information meetings. The public information meetings will give you an overview of the program, eligibility requirements and benefits of this new USDA program.