



Overview

Animals deposit fecal matter directly into streams or on land where it runs into the watershed. Data suggests domesticated animals are contributing to elevated levels of fecal coliform bacteria in the Anchorage bowl and Cottonwood Creek watersheds.

This initiative aims to improve water quality through conservation practises such as composting, buffers, erosion control, and other nutrient management systems.

Assistance

Horse and small livestock owners, gardeners and hobby farmers should contact an NRCS office. Financial assistance payments, as part of a Farm Bill conservation contract in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) can benefit you and your community.

Eligibility

You will need to establish eligibility and records for your land. NRCS will help you complete an application while explaining which conservation practices are available and best suited for your property. All applications for funding consideration during fiscal year 2013 must be received by June 15, 2013. This initiative is expected to last for up to three years.





Questions and Answers

Is there a minimum of acreage I must own?

No. Any individual, legal entity, Tribe or joint operation engaged in agriculture or livestock production can qualify.

What is considered "agricultural production"?

Any growing of produce, like gardening, or raising animals, like owning chickens, is considered "ag".



What constitutes small livestock? What about dogs?

Domesticated animals such as dogs and cats are not considered livestock. Livestock includes but is not limited to the following:

- Alpacas
- Dairy cattle
- Rabbits
- Swine
- Beef cattle
- Horses
- Poultry
- Turkeys
- Bison
- Llamas
- Sheep or goats
- Fish produced by aquaculture methods

What if I rent the property?

Renters qualify long as you have control of the land, from a lease or other agreement through the contract period.

Do I need to live right on a creek?

No. The property only needs to be located in the designated watershed.

How many animals are required to qualify?

There is no minimum number of animals or animal waste.



Helping People Help the Land

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Contact your NRCS office for more information

Cottonwood Creek
Wasilla Office (907) 373-6492

Anchorage Bowl
Kenai Office (907) 283-8732

State Office (907) 761-7760
www.ak.nrcs.usda.gov

