

# Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)



## The Program

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary conservation program that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality. EQIP offers financial and technical help to assist landowners install or implement conservation practices on their land.

## The Process

Farmers will develop a conservation plan, if they don't already have one, for the acreage benefitted by the EQIP practices. Conservation practices must meet NRCS technical standards.

NRCS evaluates and ranks each application, with higher priorities given to the practices that address local resource concerns, and provide the most environmental benefit.

## The Professionals

NRCS has skilled professional staff available to help you plan and design conservation improvements for your farm.

Technical Assistance is free. Contact the NRCS office to set up a time for NRCS to visit your farm to see what conservation practices will work best for you.

## The Practices

EQIP offers flat rate payments for over 70 conservation practices to help all types of farmers.

### Common Conservation Practices

- ~ Grassed waterways
- ~ Buffer strips
- ~ Cover crops
- ~ Contour stripcropping
- ~ Nutrient management
- ~ Streambank protection
- ~ Grazing plans
- ~ Watering systems
- ~ Cattle crossings
- ~ Animal waste management systems

Check out the list of eligible practices and payments on the web at [www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/EQIP](http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/EQIP)

The 2008 Farm Bill offers assistance for all types of agriculture, including:

- Specialty crops
- Organic farming
- Forestry
- Socially disadvantaged farmers

\*higher payment rates available



## Helping People Help the Land

For more information visit [www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov) or contact NRCS at your local USDA Service Center.