

# Environmental Quality Incentive Programs for Wisconsin Landowners



## What is the Environmental Quality Incentives Program?

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary program that promotes agricultural production, forest management and environmental quality. EQIP offers financial and technical assistance to farmers and landowners to install or implement conservation practices on their land that protect soil and water quality.

## The Plan

Applicants develop a conservation plan with the help of NRCS for acreage enrolled in EQIP. Conservation practices must meet NRCS technical standards.

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

## The Professionals

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

Technical Assistance is free. Contact your local NRCS Service Center to discuss what conservation practices will work best for you.

## Eligibility

Landowners or agricultural producers who farm agricultural land are eligible. Projects are selected on addressing resource concerns and providing environmental value. EQIP offers payments for over 100 conservation practices to help all types of farmers and landowners.

## How to Apply

Landowners or agricultural producers may apply by contacting their local NRCS Service Center in the county in which the land is located.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. [EQIP Factsheet](#) • April 2017

EQIP applications are accepted throughout the year. Cutoff dates are scheduled to allow for current year ranking and selection of applications for funding. NRCS, with advice from the State Technical Committee, local working groups, or both, as appropriate, will rank and select applications received up to the cutoff dates.

Visit the website below to review current EQIP cutoff dates, eligibility information, and special initiative opportunities.

## Wisconsin Priorities

EQIP offers assistance for all types of agriculture, including:

- Specialty crops
- Organic farming
- Forestry
- Historically underserved farmers\*

\*higher payment rates available

## Some of the Eligible Practices

- Grassed waterways
- Cover crops
- Nutrient management
- Prescribed grazing plans
- Forest management
- Buffer strips
- Contour strip cropping
- Watering systems
- Stream exclusion
- Critical area plantings
- Pollinator Habitat
- Manure management systems including storage structures and barnyard runoff protection

For more information about EQIP, visit:

[www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/programs](http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/programs)



Wisconsin

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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