



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

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“Transmitted via E-mail”

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MINNESOTA BULLETIN: 300-4-9

SUBJECT: LTP – CSP TRAINING SESSION

Purpose. To distribute information on this week’s Conservation Security Program (CSP) training session.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2004

On Friday January 16, 2004, from 10:00 to 12:00 Mr. Hunt and the state office CSP team will be holding a net-conference CSP training session. The conference coordinates and password will be provided as soon as possible. The net-conference will be received and viewed by field and area office staffs at selected out-state locations. Information on the viewing locations is being finalized by your ASTC (FO) and will be distributed later this week. Due to logistical and equipment concerns we intend to limit areas to no more than 2 viewing locations.

On January 2nd Secretary Veneman announced the release of the CSP proposed rule which has a 60 day public comment period. The state office is currently in the process of setting up several listening forums throughout the state at which we will be explaining the proposed rules and soliciting comments from our partners, producers, and the public. Prior to conducting any of these forums we are first committed to training you concerning what we know about CSP. Our commitment to keep you informed, along with previously scheduled training, has led to the timing of this session.

Each ASTC (FO) will designate a site facilitator who will be responsible to organize and coordinate questions and comments from their group. At this point the CSP rule is strictly a proposal and we won’t have all the answers to your questions.

The draft agenda for this training session is as follows:

CSP Training Session

- 10:00 Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions
- 10:20 Overview of the CSP Proposed Program Rules followed by Questions
- 11:00 CSP Example and Potential Payments followed by Questions
- 11:20 Schedule for Minnesota CSP Listening Sessions
- 11:30 Expectations for Field Staff and How to Provide Comments on the Rule
- 11:40 Possible CSP Implementation Timelines
- 11:50 Wrap-up and Additional Questions
- 12:00 Sign-off

Prior to this session, all staff are encouraged to access the CSP web site via the NRCS home page and, at a minimum, review the CSP summary of the proposed rule.

Direct any questions on the information in this bulletin to Paul Flynn, State Resource Conservationist.

WILLIAM HUNT
State Conservationist

DIST: AC
FO
ARC
Joe Wiltsey, Training Coordinator, Crosslake, MN