

Our Mission:

“The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.”

The United States Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is the primary Federal agency that works with private landowners to help them protect their natural resources and ensure that all of us enjoy the benefits of...



Who We Are...

NRCS resulted from troubled times--the Dust Bowl days of the 1930s. Dust storms ravaged the Nation’s farmland, stripping away millions of tons of topsoil.



Who We Are...

Huge dust clouds carried the soil hundreds of miles, all the way to the Atlantic Ocean.



Who We Are...

Since that time, NRCS has kept a commitment to protecting and conserving soil and other natural resources on America's private lands.

Who We Are...

We work with customers to help them reduce erosion, protect wildlife, promote good land use, and to preserve the Nation's natural resources.



Who We Are...

At NRCS, we take pride in our partnerships. We work with local soil conservation districts, RC&D Councils, Tribes, and others to inform people about the importance of conserving natural resources.



The 2002 Farm Bill is landmark legislation for conservation funding and for focusing on environmental issues. NRCS administers the following:

- Conservation of Private Grazing Program
- Conservation Security Program
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program
- Farm & Ranch Lands Protection Program
- Grassland Reserve Program
- Resource Conservation & Development Program
- Wetlands Reserve Program
- Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

What's Great About NRCS?

NRCS is recognized as a global leader in soil science and technology. The agency uses science and research to create understandable and effective solutions to natural resource problems.

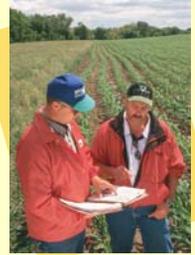
NRCS career professionals work with private landowners to develop conservation plans that meet their personal goals and objectives.



NRCS Technical Staff...

Soil Conservationists

- offer conservation planning and technical assistance to farmers and local government officials;
- suggest ways to conserve the soil, improve water quality, manage nutrients, and protect and improve wildlife habitat;
- help people set local conservation priorities; and
- plan, lay out, design, and implement conservation practices.



NRCS Technical Staff...

Rangeland Management Specialists

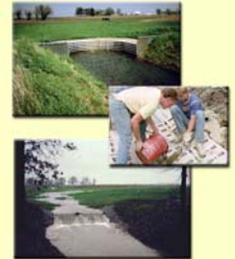
- conduct rangeland inventories
- help ranchers improve pasture and range conditions
- develop grazing lands management systems
- assist producers in weed and brush control, erosion reduction, and revegetation.



NRCS Technical Staff...

Engineers

- establish streambank and erosion control measures and water supply systems;
- design waste management systems and concrete and earthen dams; and
- work with community leaders to address urban erosion, storm water, or flooding concerns.



NRCS Technical Staff...

Engineering Technicians

- survey the land
- plot data
- lay out and design construction measures
- inventory and correlate data
- make computations
- prepare maps and cross sections of landscape profiles.



NRCS Technical Staff...

Biologists

- Provide technical support on fish and wildlife habitat development or wetland restoration
- Suggest ways to manage fish and wildlife populations and restore or develop habitat.



NRCS Technical Staff...

Soil Scientists

- *map and classify soils,*
- *identify soil problems, such as compaction and erosion,*
- *create digital soil maps and databases,*
- *prepare and use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data and resources,*
- *sample soils and evaluate soil quality*



Other Technical Staff...

- **Administrative**
- **Agricultural Economist**
- **Agronomist**
- **Archeologist**
- **Biologist**
- **Computer Specialist**
- **Environmental Specialist**
- **Forester**
- **Geologist**
- **Geographic Information Specialist**
- **Plant Materials Specialist**

How can you help?

Earth Team Volunteers

The Earth Team Volunteer Program needs your skills and talents.

The program offers outstanding and exciting opportunities for people in search of professional work experience or academic credit or who just want to do their part to preserve and protect the natural resources.



For More Information

Contact your local NRCS office listed in the phonebook under "United States Government" or visit our website at:

www.nd.nrcs.usda.gov



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