



RHODE ISLAND

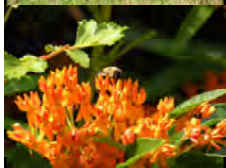
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)



The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary program that provides technical and financial assistance to farmers and forest land owners who want to improve and protect their soil, water, air, plants and animals.

BENEFITS of EQIP

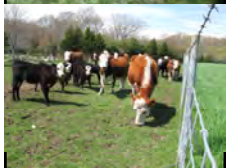
- Participants may receive financial and technical assistance to apply structural and management conservation practices to address natural resource concerns.
- Enhanced production and overall ecosystem health on agricultural lands and forest land.
- Improved quality of natural resources.



Common PRACTICES

Do any of these sound good to you?

- Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans
- Erosion Control
- Forestry Plans
- Forest Stand Improvement
- Heavy Use Area Protection
- High Tunnels
- Irrigation Systems
- Pasture and Hayland Planting
- Pasture Fencing
- Pollinator Habitat
- Prescribed Grazing
- Woodland Thinning
- Riparian Buffers
- Waste Storage Facilities
- Wildlife Habitat



APPLY for Funding

- Contact RI NRCS at 401-828-1300 or your local Conservation District (see info on back).
- Fill out EQIP Application.
- Submit to your local NRCS office.



NRCS Conservation Practices (top to bottom): High Tunnels, Grazing Plans, Pollinator Habitat, Forest Thinning, Pasture Fencing for Prescribed Grazing, Forest Patch Cuts, Irrigation Systems.

RI NRCS

60 Quaker Lane, Suite 46
Warwick, RI
401-828-1300

www.ri.nrcs.usda.gov



NRCS Conservation Practices (left to right): Pollinator habitat, Management Plans for enhanced livestock production, Forest Management.

Cropland ♦ Pasture ♦ Hayland ♦ Forestland

What to EXPECT when you apply

- Correspondence with a Conservation Planner.
- A property evaluation — including a **site visit** to *inventory* existing natural resources, *identify* resource concerns and *discuss* your long-term goals & objectives for your land.
- A Conservation Plan developed by the Planner.
- Application ranking through a statewide ranking system.
- Contract development based on ranking score and available funds.

Important POINTS—call to find out more!

- Applications may be submitted year-round.
- Available funds are distributed at various times throughout the year, based on the statewide ranking system.
- Rankings continue until all EQIP funds are obligated.
- Funding for EQIP is authorized by the 2018 Farm Bill.
- Practices funded may be determined annually by the National USDA-NRCS office.
- Historically underserved farmers (limited resource, beginner, socially disadvantaged, Tribes) may be eligible for higher practice payment rates to implement conservation practices and plans.



Your Local Conservation Districts are ready to assist you!

Eastern RI Conservation District

Serving Newport and Bristol Counties

401-934-0842 or info@easternriconservation.org

Northern RI Conservation District

Serving Providence County

401-934-0840 or mallard.nricd@gmail.com

Southern RI Conservation District

Serving Kent and Washington Counties

401-500-0422 or gfuller@sracd.org