Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MD FY 2026 State Technical Committee Meeting

March 16, 2026

- FY 2025 Metrics & Accomplishments
- Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP)

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

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FY 2025 Metrics & Accomplishments

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FY 2025 MD NRCS PROGRAM OBLIGATIONS

PROGRAM	CONTRACTS	OBLIGATION	ACRES
ACEP	2	$600,000	180
AMA	6	$258,466	188
CSP	102	$6,117,136	24,053
EQIP	266	$17,070,393	16,743
RCPP	24	$2,333,079	603
TOTAL	401	$26,379,074	41,767

DATA IS FROM PT AS OF 11/25/2025

FY 2025 MD NRCS PROGRAM OBLIGATIONS: CHESAPEAKE BAY

PROGRAM	CONTRACTS	OBLIGATION	ACRES
ACEP	1	$600,000	180
AMA	4	$203,450	123
CSP	100	$6,075,488	23,911
EQIP	233	$15,830,489	15,748
RCPP	24	$2,333,079	603
TOTAL	362	$25,246,918	40,565

DATA IS FROM PT AS OF 11/25/2025

FY 2025 MD NRCS RCPP CONSERVATION FUNDING

RCPP Project	CONTRACTS	OBLIGATION
2019 – Achieving WIP Goals & Nutrient Management Compliance in MD	2	$731,328
2445 – Million Acre Challenge	7	$483,998
2697 – Engaging Small AFOs in the Nutrient Management Planning Process	2	$887,682
3119 – Connecting Small and Urban Farmers in the Baltimore and Washington D.C. Urban Corridor with Conservation Resources	11	$219,268
2659 – Maryland Clean Water Commerce Outcomes Project (AFA)	2	$10,803
TOTAL	**24**	**$2,333,079**

DATA IS FROM PT AS OF 12/2/2025

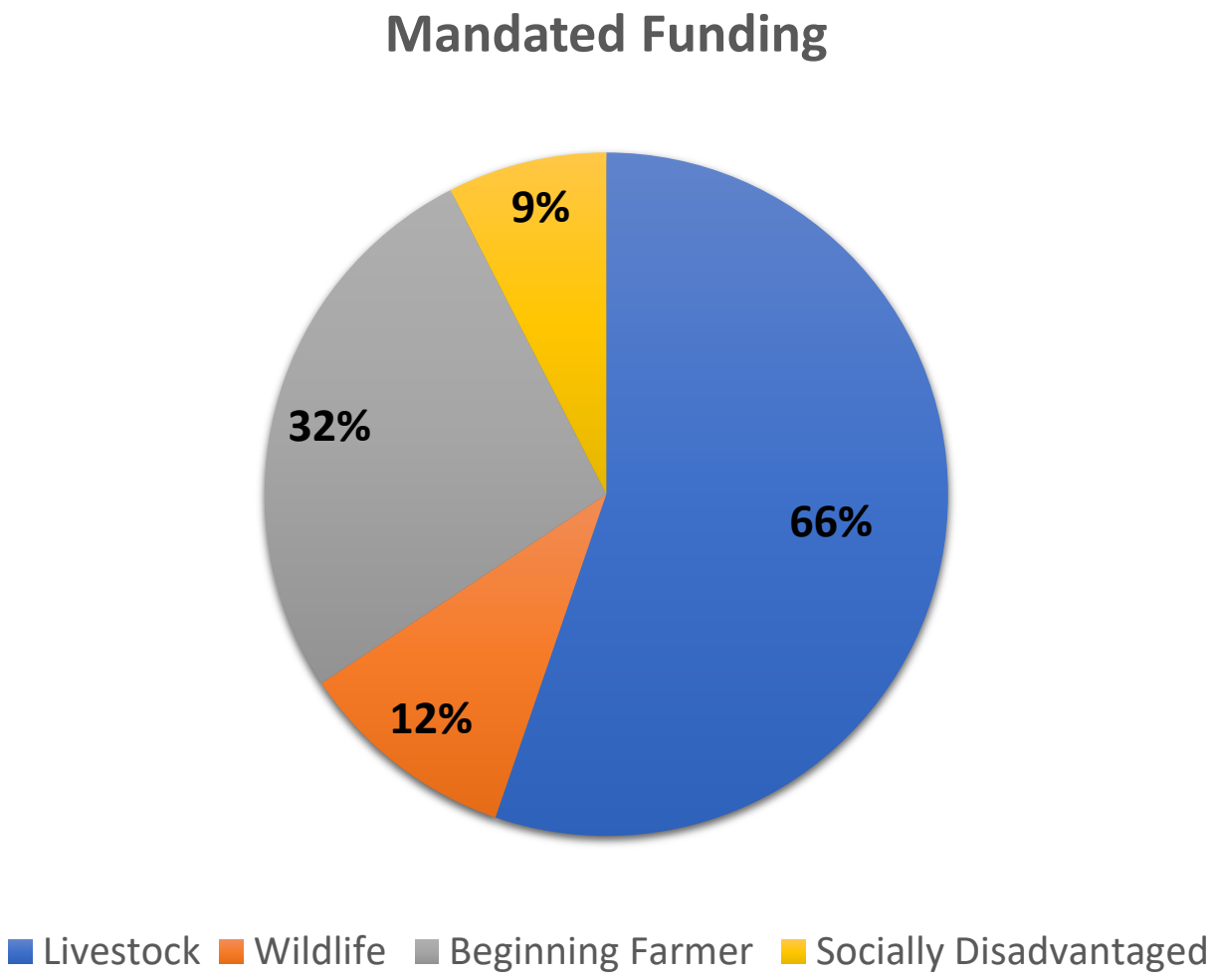
FY 2025 EQIP – Obligations

Farm Bill has national funding mandates

- ❑ 50% Livestock
- ❑ 10% Wildlife
- ❑ 5% Beginning Farmer
- ❑ 5% Socially Disadvantage Farmer

MD 2025 EQIP Summary

- ✓ 66% Livestock
- ✓ 12% Wildlife
- ✓ 32% Beginning Farmer
- ✓ 9% Socially Disadvantage Farmer



FY 2025 – EQIP & CSP Financial Assistance Breakdown

EQIP

Total FA: $17,070,393 Million

266 Total Contracts

16,743.4 acres contracted

CSP

Total FA: $6,117,136 Million

102 Total Contracts

24,053.9 acres contracted

DATA IS FROM PT AS OF 11/25/2025

FY 2025 – ACEP & AMA Financial Assistance Breakdown

AMA

Total FA:	General FA	Initiatives FA
$17,231,910 Million	$15,191,551 Million	$2,040,359 Million

ACEP

Total FA:	General FA	Initiatives FA
$17,231,910 Million	$15,191,551 Million	$2,040,359 Million

DATA IS FROM PT AS OF 11/25/2025

FY 2025 EQIP General – Top Ten Practices

Planned

Code	Practice	# of Items	Total Extent
382	Fence (ft)	157	266,791.3
561	Heavy Use Area Protection (sqft)	125	188,132.0
484	Mulching (ac)	91	41.5
614	Watering Facility (no)	88	1,170.0
516	Livestock Pipeline (ft)	86	66,795.0
325	High Tunnel Systems (sqft)	76	195,090.0
528	Grazing Management (ac)	68	2,376.3
314	Brush Management (ac)	64	1,022.8
512	Pasture and Hay Planting (ac)	53	1,114.0
328	Conservation Crop Rotation (ac)	45	35.3

Obligated

Code	Practice	Total Extent	Total Obligation
561	Heavy Use Area Protection (sqft)	118,132	$2,241,275
367	Roofs and Covers (no)	16	$2,201,709
325	High Tunnel Systems (sqft)	195,090	$1,502,336
643	Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities (ac)	54.9	$1,453,625
313	Waste Storage Facility (no)	15	$1,226,584
382	Fence (ft)	266,791.3	$1,146,925
309	Agrichemical Handling Facility (no)	4	$594,259
314	Brush Management (ac)	1,022.8	$493,805
595	Pest Management Conservation System (ac)	6,734.5	$391,214
590	Nutrient Management (ac)	4,989.5	$391,194

FY 2025 Chesapeake Bay Conservation Practice Highlights

- 2,418 acres of Grazing Management
- 1,876 acres of Forest Stand Improvement
- 23 Animal Waste Storage Facilities
- 23 Roof and Covers
- 1,120 acres Pasture and Hay Planting
- 63 acres of Habitat Restoration to support sustainable oysters farming

MD NRCS installed more than 2,035 conservation practices.

Practices improving soil erosion, water quality, soil quality, plant health and productivity, and wildlife habitat.

26% percent of Maryland designated as a source water protection area

- Practices that significantly improve water quality and quantity receive a higher payment rate.

Thank you

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Regenerative Agriculture Pilot Program (RPP)

EQIP

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
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Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP)

- **What is Regenerative Agriculture for NRCS?**
  - ❖A conservation management approach that emphasizes natural resources through improved soil health, water management, and natural vitality for the productivity and prosperity of American agriculture and communities.
- **What are the benefits of regenerative agriculture to producers and the land?**
  - ❖A farmer first, outcomes-based approach to conservation designed.
  - ❖Returning the agency to its core mission, helping people help the land, by addressing whole-farm resource concerns through support for voluntary regenerative agriculture conservation plans.
- **How is assistance for the Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP) offered?**
  - ❖RPP will offer financial and technical assistance through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).

Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP)

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Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP)

- Revitalize whole farm planning
- States will target approx. 25% of EQIP and CSP FA for FY26
- Technical assistance funds to support whole farm planning using 900 codes and agreements
- Prioritize regenerative agriculture management practices

Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP)

Program	Land Evaluation	Resource Concerns	Soil and Water RC Thresholds	Primary RPP Practices	Soil Health Testing
Minimum 5-year contract on land under control of the customer and part of the application	Planner and customer will determine the extent of the “whole farm” to be evaluated	All applicable Resource Concerns will be evaluated	Must be at met condition on at least one land unit or land use by the end of the contract	One Primary RPP Practice planned or currently being implemented	Planned and implemented in the first and last year of the contract, at a minimum

RPP Primary Practices & Activities

- Conservation plans and contracts may include not only primary practices, but also supporting and other practices and activities necessary to achieve comprehensive conservation objectives.
- These practices are designed to address a range of land uses, including **crop, forest, pasture, and range lands**.

Code	Practice/Activity Name
328	Conservation Crop Rotation
330	Contour Farming
331	Contour Orchard & Perennial Crop
340	Cover Crop
554	Drainage Water Management
511	Forage Harvest Management
666	Forest Stand Improvement
449	Irrigation Water Management
484	Mulching
590	Nutrient Management
595	Pest Management Conservation System
528	Grazing Management
329	Residue & Tillage Management, No Till
345	Residue & Tillage Management, Reduced
585	Stripcropping
CEMA 216	Soil Health Testing
CEMA 217	Soil & Source Testing for Nutrient Management
CPA 199	Conservation Plan

Questions & Answers

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