

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

EQIP is a voluntary conservation program that helps agricultural producers in a manner that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible goals. Through EQIP, agricultural producers receive financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices that optimize environmental benefits on the land.

Accepting Applications

EQIP applications are accepted on a continuous basis, however, NRCS establishes application “cut-off” or submission deadline dates for evaluation, ranking and approval of eligible applications. EQIP is open to all eligible agricultural producers.

Eligibility

Agricultural producers and owners of non-industrial private forestland and Tribes are eligible to apply for EQIP. Eligible land includes cropland, rangeland, pastureland, non-industrial private forestland and other farm or ranch lands. Applicants must:

- Control or own eligible land
- Comply with adjusted gross income limitation (AGI) provisions
- Be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation requirements
- Develop an NRCS EQIP plan of operations.

Additional restrictions and program requirements may apply.

Participant Responsibilities

Applicants are responsible for completing and filing all application and eligibility paperwork as required. If funded, participants are required to sign a contract and agree to implement the planned conservation practices to NRCS standards and specifications as scheduled.

2020 EQIP Conservation Practices (examples):

Waste Storage Facility	Cover Crop	High Tunnel System
Animal Mortality Facility	Conservation Crop Rotation	Well Decommissioning
Waste Facility Closure	Field Border	Windbreak/Shelterbelt
Irrigation Water Management	Filter Strip	Wildlife Habitat Planting
Nutrient Management	Grassed Waterway	Tree/Shrub Planting
Pest Management	Water & Sediment Control Basin	Prescribed Grazing Systems
Residue/Tillage Management	Wetland Restoration	Silvopasture Establishment

There are a total of 127 conservation practices available through EQIP to address resource concerns. Please contact your local NRCS office for more information. Step-by-step assistance can be found at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/getstarted>

Benton County NRCS (320) 968-5300	Sherburne/Hennepin/Anoka County NRCS (763) 241-1170
Stearns County NRCS (320) 251-7800	Wright County NRCS (763) 682-1933

