

"Empowering Small Farms through Conservation Planning"



Utah Natural Resources Conservation Service Inrcs.usda.gov/



Our Mission, Our Vision



Mission:

"We deliver conservation solutions so agricultural producers can **protect natural resources** and **feed a growing world**."

Vision:

"A world of clean and abundant water, healthy soils, resilient landscapes, and thriving agricultural communities through voluntary conservation."











Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- Provides technical and financial assistance to agricultural producers and forest landowners to address natural resource concerns, such as:
 - Improved water and air quality
 - Conserve ground and surface water
 - Increase soil health
 - Reduced soil erosion and sedimentation
 - Improved or create wildlife habitat
 - Mitigation against drought and increased weather volatility

Other Programs

- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
- Easement (Wetland Reserve and Agricultural Land)
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
- Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA)







- **SOIL** soil erosion, soil quality degradation (compaction, organic matter, etc.), streambank erosion, etc.
- WATER Insufficient irrigation water, surface water depletion, nutrients to ground/surface waters, etc.
- AIR Greenhouse gas emissions, emissions of particulate matter, objectionable odors
- **PLANTS** Degraded plant condition, plant pest pressure
- ANIMALS Wildlife/aquatic habitat, livestock feed and forage balance, livestock shelter, etc.
- ENERGY Farm and Ranch equipment energy efficiency
- **HUMAN** Pressures from development, socio-economic barriers



SOILS

Healthy soils need to be fed and protected

- 1. No bare soils!!
- Diversity in plants = diversity in roots, nutrient cycling
- 3. Soil disturbance breaks down soil organism habitat
- 4. Keep a living root as long as possible

If you're experiencing issues with this, NRCS can help with:

- 1. Vegetative Projects Cover crops, Mulch, Perennial Cover (pollinator)
- 2. Management Projects crop rotation, soil testing







WATER

Dealing with a broken system, losing irrigation water, or want to upgrade to a higher efficiency?

- 1. Structural Projects Sprinkler Irrigation, Micro-Irrigation (surface tape, micro-sprays, etc.)
- 2. Management Projects Applying the right amount of water at the right time







AIR

Dependent on the particulate or air-quality concern:

- 1. Dust from unpaved roads, surfaces
- 2. Smells from livestock operations
- 3. Fuels used in farming/ranching operations

- Vegetative projects Windbreaks, and various types of vegetative buffers
- Management projects Evaluate combustion systems (emission efficiencies), Tillage management (reduced tillage or no-till)





PLANTS

Crops not thriving, stunted growth, inadequate nutrition?

- 1. Structural Projects high tunnels, raised beds, low tunnels
- 2. Vegetative Projects Cover crops, Pollinator habitat, Windbreaks, etc.
- 3. Management Projects Irrigation water management, Nutrient management





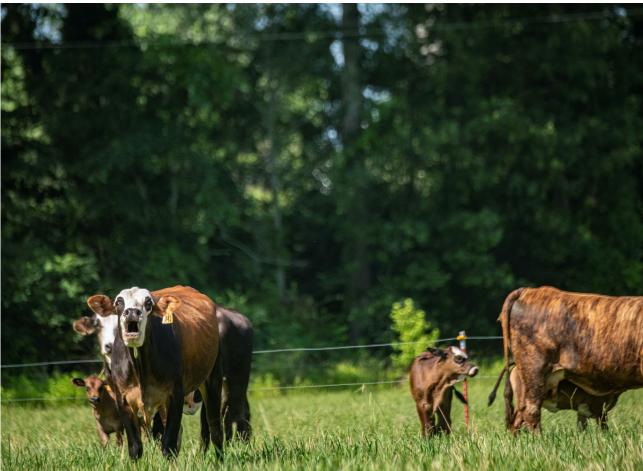


ANIMALS



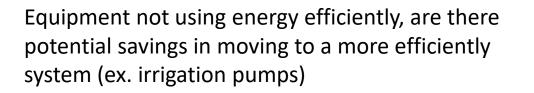
Lacking pollinators through the growing season, livestock not having their water/feed needs met?

- 1. Structural Projects grazing fencing, troughs, composting structures
- 2. Vegetative Projects pollinator habitat, pasture/range seedings, hedgerows
- Management Projects– Irrigation water management, Nutrient management, Grazing Management





ENERGY



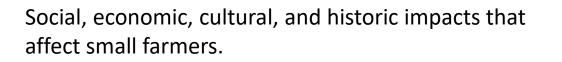
- 1. Structural Projects Higher efficiency pumps
- 2. Management Projects– Energy audits, Energy Management Plan







HUMAN



NRCS helps with:

- 1. Social and economic NRCS emphasizes equity in all program delivery.
- Cultural and historic NRCS addresses potential historic properties and artifacts early in the planning process so that customers can make informed decisions







5 Steps to Assistance



- 1. Stop by your local NRCS field office.
- 2. NRCS will guide you through the application process.
 - 1. Eligibility documents (income, environmental land compliance)
- 3. Part of the application process involves program eligibility. To do this you'll need:
 - 1. Tax ID
 - 2. Proof of Land Control

- 4. NRCS will work with the application to create a conservation plan:
 - That plan will be evaluated and ranked for funding according to eligible resource concerns, the conservation benefits the project will provide, and the needs of the applicant.
- 5. NRCS programs are competitive. Applications are preapproved for financial assistance during the scheduled fund cycle each year.
 - If selected, applicants will sign a contract going over the required standards and specifications for work. Once the project is implemented, NRCS will pay if the project meets NRCS standards.



How to Locate Your Local Office



1. Do an internet search for "NRCS Service Center Locator" https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/find-a-service-center

← → C 🖙 nrcs.usda.gov/co	C 😋 nrcs.usda.gov/contact/find-a-service-center?state=49&county=049										Ď ⊥ ±	0
	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE							Search 7				
	CONSERVA	TION BASICS	GETTING ASS	SISTANCE	PROGRAMS & I	NITIATIVES	RESOURCES	NEWS & EVENTS	CONTACT			
	USDA Service C	Centers are locations					atural Resources Conservation Service, or Rural Development employees fo ices. If this locator does not work in your browser, please visit <u>offices.usda.g</u>			ess		
		Provo Service Center Natural Resources Conservation Service (801) 377-5580 Provo Service Center Farm Service Agency (801) 377-5296 Ext. 2		Physical Address 302 East Lakeview Parkway Provo, UT 84606-6154 <u>Get Directions</u> #		Mailing Address 302 East Lakeview Parkway Provo, UT 84606 Mailing Address 302 E Lakeview Parkway Provo, UT 84606-7317		Contact Jenny Cox jenny.cox@usda.gov				
				Physical Address 302 East Lakeview Parkway Provo, UT 84606-6154				Contact Sterling Rees <u>sterling,rees@usda.go</u>	¥			



Department of Agriculture

Questions?

Trudy Stain

Urban Conservationist Weber River Team Weber, Davis, Morgan & Summit Counties Trudy.Stain@usda.gov

Arisha Franco

Urban Conservationist South Bonneville Team Salt Lake, Utah, Wasatch & Tooele Counties Arisha.Franco@usda.gov Cell: 385-277-6044