



Natural Resources Conservation Service

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NEWS RELEASE

**Tennessee Landowners Interested in Improving
Natural Resources Encouraged to Apply for NRCS Assistance
Deadline to Apply is November 20, 2020**

NASHVILLE, October 19, 2020 – The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is now accepting applications from Tennessee producers and landowners who are interested in implementing conservation practices to improve natural resources on their farm or forest land. Funding is available through the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), and the deadline to apply for fiscal year 2021 funding is **November 20, 2020**.

“We accept applications for the EQIP program on a continuous basis, however only applications received by November 20 will be considered for funding this fiscal year,” said Tennessee NRCS State Conservationist Sheldon Hightower. *“EQIP places a priority on water quality, water conservation, and promotes soil health practices by offering financial and technical assistance to address these resource concerns on eligible agricultural land.”*

EQIP is an incentives program that provides financial assistance for conservation systems such as, but not limited to, animal waste management facilities, fencing, and water supply development for improved grazing management, riparian protection, and wildlife habitat enhancement.

Applications can be taken at all Tennessee NRCS offices and USDA Service Centers. To locate an office near you, please click on this link: [USDA Service Center](#). Applications **MUST** be received in your local Service Center by close of business on **Friday, November 20, 2020**.

NRCS continually strives to put conservation planning at the forefront of its programs and initiatives. Conservation plans provide landowners with a comprehensive inventory and assessment of their resources and an appropriate start to improving the quality of soil, water, air, plants, and wildlife on their land.

To find out more about EQIP, visit our website at www.tn.nrcs.usda.gov.

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