

Natural Resources Conservation Service

# NRCS Technical and Financial Assistance in Pennsylvania

Wendy Karrasch, Soil Conservationist NRCS Pennsylvania State Office

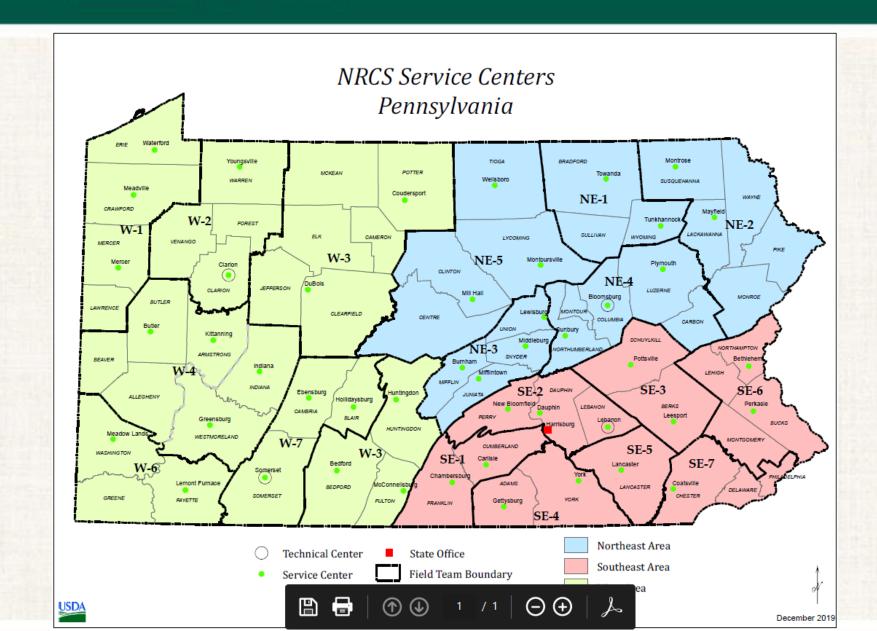
Dennis DiOrio, District Conservationist Kittanning Field Office







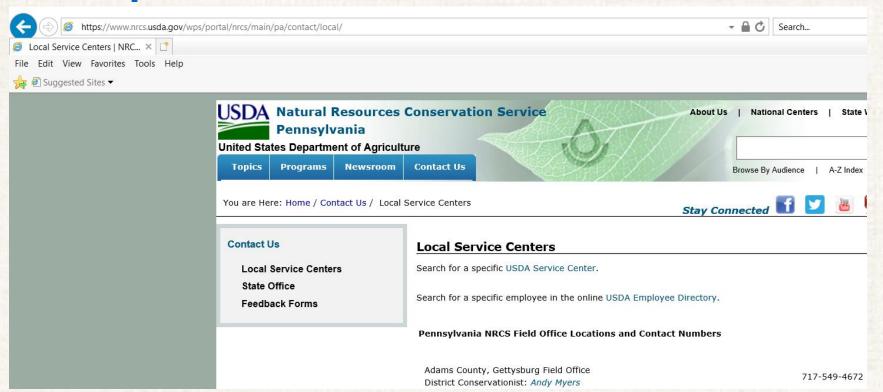
# Thank you for your service, sacrifice and securing our way of life!





## PA NRCS website - Contact Us tab

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/pa/contact/local/





## **NRCS Programs and Tools**

- Conservation Technical Assistance
  - conservation planning
- Financial Assistance
  - -implementation of plans with funding through contracts, designs and various programs.

# Conservation Programs Agricultural Management Assistance AMA Conservation Stewardship Program CSP Environmental Quality Incentives Program EQIP

## Easement Programs Agricultural Conservation Easement Program ACEP

Agricultural Lands
Wetland Restoration
Healthy Forest Reserve Program

#### **Regional Conservation Partnership Program RCPP**

**Conservation Easements** 

**Conservation Practices** 

**Conservation Practice Enhancements** 



## Financial Assistance through: Environmental Quality Incentives Program - EQIP





### PA EQIP options could include:

Livestock & Grazing Improvements
Cropland Management, including erosion control

Pasture Management & Prescribed Grazing

**Forestry Practices/Forest Management Plan** 

**Organic Farming & Organic Transition** 

**Seasonal High Tunnels** 

**Historically Underserved** 

**On-Farm Energy Conservation** 

**Conservation Innovation Grants** 



#### How to sign up for USDA programs

- Establish farm and producer records with the Farm Service Agency (FSA).
- Eligibility conservation compliance, Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)...
- Submit a Conservation Program application with NRCS.



#### **CONSERVATION PROGRAM APPLICATION**

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE	NRCS-CPA-1200 03/2019
CONSERVATION P	ROGRAM APPLICATION
Name:	Application Number:
Address:	Application Date:
	County and State:
Email:	
Telephone:	Watershed:
	Subaccount:
Location (Legal Description or Farm and Tract Number	er):
1. Yes No Do you have farm reco	ords established with the appropriate USDA
• •	opriate USDA Service Center Agency prior to
2. This is an application to participate in the	
□ Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) □ Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	✓ Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)  Agriculture Conservation Easement Program
□ CSP Renewal □ Regional Conservation Partnership Program	(ACEP) - Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE)  ☐ Regional Conservation Partnership Program
(RCPP)	(RCPP)   ACEP- (WRE)
o CSP	Healthy Forest Reserve Program (HFRP)
<ol><li>Are you applying to participate in a cons following):</li></ol>	ervation program as an (check one of the
□ Individual	
a) Please enter your legal name and tax     Name:	Tax Number:
☐ Entity (Corporation, Limited Partnership,	
Please enter entity legal name and tax	
Name: b) □ Yes □ No Do you have appr	Tax Number: ropriate documents including proof to sign for the
entity?	opriate documents including proof to sign for the
☐ Joint Operation (General Partnership, Jo	
a) Please enter joint operation legal nam	
Name:	Tax Number: ropriate documents including proof to sign for the joint
	opriate documents including proof to sign for the joint
b) Yes No Do you have appr operation?	



#### **Military Veteran Farmers**

**Veteran Farmer or Rancher** – The term "Veteran Farmer or Rancher" means a producer who served in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard, including the reserve component thereof; was released from service under conditions other than dishonorable; and:

- has not operated a farm or ranch, or has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years;
- who first obtained status as a veteran during the most recent 10-year period.

A legal entity or joint operation can be a Veteran Farmer or Rancher only if all individual members independently qualify.

USDA's updated definition of Veteran Farmer



### Helpful links and additional information

### For Help go to www.farmers.gov



#### Conserve

USDA recognizes that conservation by farmers, ranchers, and forest owners today means thriving and sustainable agriculture for our future.

Seventy percent of the nation's land is privately owned. Conservation of our nation's private lands not only results in healthy soil, water, air, plants, animals, and ecosystems but also provides productive and sustainable working lands.

Whether you are small-scale vegetable grower, a cattle rancher on 10,000 acres of range, a multi-tract timber manager, or someone who owns agricultural land, USDA has tools and resources to help you learn about conservation and what you can do, voluntarily, to improve the natural resource conditions on your land.

Visit our Soil Health page to learn about best practices to improve the health of your land.

Manage Your Natural Resources Get Technical Assistance

Explore Financial Assistance Options



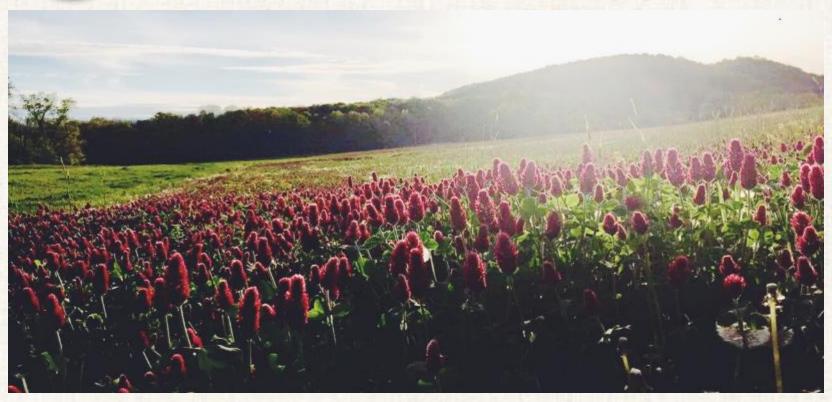








## Questions?





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