



# Organic Farming

The 2008 Farm Bill places additional emphasis on providing technical and financial assistance to producers who want to transition to organic farming as well as current certified organic producers. Financial and technical assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will help producers plan and implement conservation practices to sustain their organic operations.

**The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is available to help farmers:**

- **Address soil, water, air, plant, animal and energy conservation concerns;**
- **Obtain financial and technical assistance to plan and implement basic conservation practices ;**
- **Meet the requirements needed for National Organic Program certification;**
- **Maintain an existing organic certification; and**
- **Conserve and improve natural resources for a sustainable farming operation.**

## **High priority conservation practices to address soil, water, air, plant, animal and energy conservation concerns may include:**

- Conservation crop rotations;
- Cover crops;
- Nutrient management;
- Integrated pest management;
- Irrigation systems;
- Irrigation water management;
- High efficiency irrigation engines;
- Agrichemical mixing areas;
- Windbreaks;
- Field borders;
- Deer control fence;
- Pollinator habitat areas;
- Erosion control systems;
- Livestock watering systems;
- Land application of leaves;
- Prescribed grazing; and
- Forest management.

---

**Farmers interested in EQIP may sign-up at any NRCS Service Center until March 12, 2010 for potential funding. Practices may be scheduled for implementation over the next three years, with at least one practice implemented in 2010.**

**Applicants must meet Farm Bill eligibility requirements and are limited to a maximum \$80,000 payment limitation per contract.**

---

### **For More Information or to Sign Up, Contact Your Local USDA Service Center:**

**Burlington, Camden and Ocean counties**  
Columbus Service Center (1971 Jacksonville-Jobstown Rd)  
Telephone: (609) 267-1639

**Hunterdon, Somerset and Union counties**  
Frenchtown Service Center (687 Pittstown Rd Suite 2)  
Telephone: (908) 782-4614

**Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties**  
Vineland Service Center (1317 South Main Rd. Bldg 3)  
Telephone: (856) 205-1225

**Mercer, Middlesex and Monmouth counties**  
Freehold Service Center (4000 Kozloski Road)  
Telephone: (732) 462-0075

**Bergen, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Warren counties**  
Hackettstown Service Center (Bldg #1, 101 Bilby Road)  
Telephone: (908) 852-2576

**Gloucester and Salem counties**  
Woodstown Service Center (51 Cheney Road, Suite 2)  
Telephone: (856) 769-1126