

TO LEARN MORE

Contact your local soil and water conservation district.

A complete list of districts is available online through the N.C. Division of Soil and Water Conservation:
www.soilandwater.nc.gov
or by calling (919) 733-2302.



Funding for the printing of this publication was provided by the U.S. EPA through a Section 319 Grant.

30,000 copies of this document were printed at a cost of \$2,722.18 or \$0.09 per copy.



North Carolina

Agriculture Cost Share Program



A Program of the
N.C. Division of Soil
and Water Conservation

*Working Together
To Improve
Water Quality ...*

*For Future
Generations.*

HOW DOES ACSP WORK?

The North Carolina Agriculture Cost Share Program is successful in improving and protecting the state's resources through the grassroots efforts of your local soil and water conservation district. Local districts work with agricultural landowners and renters to:

- Identify best management practices, or BMPs, suited to your operation.
- Develop and approve individual conservation plans.
- Design and oversee installation of best management practices.
- Provide technical assistance to ensure proper operation and maintenance.

The North Carolina Division of Soil and Water Conservation provides technical and administrative assistance to districts, gives final approval to cost share contracts and processes payment requests to farmers participating in the program.





More than 60 approved best management practices fall into these categories. A complete list of practices is available online at www.soilandwater.nc.gov in the Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP) section.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Landowners and renters of existing agricultural operations producing for more than three years are eligible to participate.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Submit an application to your local district where it gets ranked based on resource concerns identified in the county.

Applicants can be reimbursed up to 75 percent of a predetermined average cost for each installed best management practice. Applicants are responsible for 25 percent of the costs, which may include labor.

Some restrictions may apply depending on the type of operation or best management practice, or a relevant Soil and Water Conservation Commission policy.

WHY THE ACSP?

The major cause of water quality problems in North Carolina and much of the United States is nonpoint source pollution.

In many places, damage to our water resources comes from soil erosion, excess nutrients, animal waste contamination and accidental spills of agricultural chemicals.

The North Carolina Agriculture Cost Share Program provides technical and financial assistance to landowners to install practices on their land to address nonpoint source pollution.

For more information, contact your local soil and water conservation district.

SEDIMENT/NUTRIENT LOSSES

Field borders and other practices filter run-off and keep sediment and nutrients out of state waterways.



ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

Composters are one way to biologically treat, stabilize and provide environmentally safe storage of organic waste material such as animal carcasses and manure from poultry and livestock.

AGRICHEMICAL POLLUTION PREVENTION

Agrichemical handling facilities are one best management practice in this category that provide an environmentally safe means for mixing and storing agrichemicals.



STREAM PROTECTION

Fencing cattle out of streams is one practice that decreases the amount of erosion and nutrients entering state waterways.

EROSION/NUTRIENT REDUCTION

Conservation tillage is one practice that minimizes farm field erosion and helps reduce nutrient application to the field.

