

**EQIP**  
*Environmental Quality Incentives Program*

**WHAT IS EQIP?**

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary conservation program that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as goals for producers. Farmers, producers, and landowners may receive financial and technical assistance to help install structural practices and management conservation practices on their land. Below is a list of common problems that may be addressed utilizing the EQIP Program.

- Manure Storage
- Heavily Mudded Areas
- Lack of Water for Animals
- Irrigation Needs
- Woodland Grapevines
- Soil Erosion/Bare Soils
- Degraded Wildlife Habitat

**WHAT ARE THE INCENTIVES?**

EQIP offers landowners the opportunity to receive significant cost reimbursements for many conservation improvements on their farms, fields, or forests. Limited resource, veteran, and beginning farmers may be eligible for a higher percentages of certain conservation practices.

**Conservation Practices**

**Livestock**

- Access Road
- Fence
- Pipeline
- Heavy Use Area
- Stream Crossing
- Prescribed Grazing
- Spring Development



- Waste Storage Facilities
- Pasture/Hay Plantings

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## Conservation Practices

### Specialty Crop

Micro-irrigation  
Irrigation Water Mgmt.  
Cover Crops  
Seasonal High Tunnels



### Cropland

Cover Crops  
Diversions  
Grassed Waterways  
Nutrient Management  
Wildlife  
Pollinator Habitat  
Plantings and Restoration

### Forestry

Timber Stand Improvement  
Grapevine Control  
Invasive Species Control  
Riparian Forest Buffers  
Tree/Shrub Establishment

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## Application Process

**Applications are accepted throughout the year.**

Contact NRCS to discuss the following:

- 1) The application process
- 2) Your conservation needs on the farm
- 3) Planned practices and incentives
- 4) The ranking and selection timeline

If your project meets eligibility requirements, applications will be ranked and selected for contract funding accordingly. After contracting, NRCS provides all of the necessary design assistance and construction oversight. An incentive payment will be made via direct deposit at completion.

*Producer is responsible for the long-term operation and maintenance of the cost shared practice.*

### **HELPING PEOPLE HELP THE LAND**

If interested in learning more about the program contact the local USDA-NRCS office located in Ashtabula County serving Lake, Geauga and Ashtabula Counties at 440-437-5888 or toll-free 1-888-217-3947 or email at Jonathan.Mauk@oh.usda.gov

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