

Policy – Concepts and Programs:

The CRP (Conservation Reserve Project), CSP (Conservation Security Program), and other USDA Conservation Programs

Upon completion of this course, the student should be familiar with the following terms, concepts, and programs.

Concepts:

Conservation Districts
Easements
Annual set asides
Entitlement
Land idling
Highly erodible lands
Land retirement
Restricted use pesticides

Programs:

Land Retirement and Farmland Protection Programs:

- Water Bank Program (WBP)
- Acreage Reduction Program (ARP)
- Paid Land Diversion (PLD)

Cost-Sharing and Technical Assistance Programs:

- Agricultural Conservation Programs (ACP)
- Water Quality Incentive Projects (WQIP)
- Great Plains Conservation Program (GPCP)
- Colorado River Salinity Program (CRSCP)

Conservation Compliance Programs:

- Highly Erodible Land Conservation (Compliance and Sodbuster)
- Wetlands Conservation (Swampbuster)

Land Retirement and Farmland Protection Programs:

- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)
- Farmland Protection Program (FPP)

Subsidies for Conservation Investment and Public Works:

- Resource Conservation and Development Program (RC&D)
- Small Watershed Program
- Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP)

Cost-Sharing and Technical Assistance Programs:

- Environmental Quality and Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)
- Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)
- Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)
- Forestry Incentives Program (FIP)
- Conservation of Private Grazing Land Initiative (CPGL)
- Forest Stewardship Program (FSP)

Other Federal Conservation and Environmental Programs that affect agriculture:

EPA Administered Programs:

- Clean Water Act
- The Clean Lakes Program
- The Nonpoint Source Program
- The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Program
- Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs

Regional Programs for addressing water quality problems (cooperative efforts among State Agencies, EPA and USDA):

- The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)
- Pesticide Programs, established under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)
- Comprehensive State Ground Water Protection Program (CSGWPP)

US Army Corps of Engineers Administered Programs:

- The Dredge and Fill Permit Program
- Flood control activities

US Department of the Interior Administered Programs:

- The Endangered Species Act (ESA)

Links:

Programs and Agencies working on soil conservation – United States:

Conservation programs of Farm Service Agency -

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/default.htm>

National Association of Conservation Districts -

<http://www.nacdnet.org/resources/links.htm>

Economic Research Services (ERS) link for Natural Resources and Environment -

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Browse/NaturalResourcesEnvironment/>

ERS link for Conservation Practices -

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Browse/FarmPracticesManagement/ConservationPractices.htm>

Conservation Reserve Program Assessment -

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/expectmore/detail.10003008.2005.html>

Commodity Credit Corporation -

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/cc/>

Soil and Water Conservation Society -

<http://www.swcs.org/>