

NRCS Support for Almond Growers

Examples of Commonly Used Practices

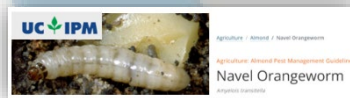
Irrigation System Improvements

Examples: Convert or improve irrigation systems, add monitoring equipment to guide scheduling, weather stations to inform management, system performance evaluation



Adoption of IPM in Pest Management

Example: Mating disruption for Navel Orangeworm. precision sprayers, Many possibilities, ask your NRCS Conservation Planner!



Whole Orchard Recycling and Compost Application

Chip and incorporate trees when you remove an orchard, apply compost. Benefits for soil moisture management for following crop, nutrient holding potential and carbon sequestration.



Cover Crops and Other Vegetative Cover

Examples: Cover crops, conservation cover and hedgerows to build soil organic matter, suppress weeds, support pollinators and beneficials and improve infiltration/reduce runoff



Low Dust Harvesters & Tractor Replacement

Examples: Low Dust Harvesters to reduce dust and address air quality concerns, tractor replacement

Groundwater Recharge

Examples: Managed Aquifer Recharge Basins & Waterspreading



Many other practices available, ask your Conservation Planner!

Farm Bill Funded Programs to Support Your Conservation Projects

- ❖ [Conservation Stewardship Program](#) (CSP) helps agricultural producers maintain & improve their existing conservation systems & adopt additional conservation activities to address priority resources concerns. Participants earn CSP payments for conservation performance—the higher the performance, the higher the payment.
- ❖ [Environmental Quality Incentives Program](#) (EQIP) provides financial & technical assistance to agricultural producers to address natural resource concerns & deliver environmental benefits such as improved water & air quality, conserve ground & surface water, increased soil health & reduced soil erosion & sedimentation, improved or created wildlife habitat, & mitigation against increasing weather volatility.
- ❖ Other programs working with USDA funds managed by partners in Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) or Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) recipients may also be available. Ask your Conservation Planner!



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Conservation Technical & Financial Support Natural Resources Conservation Service

Getting Started:

1. Let your NRCS office know you are interested in conservation support, review eligibility and ensure that you and your farm and tract are “in the system”.
2. Ask what funding opportunities are available to support your conservation projects (see reverse).
3. Submit an application
 - Be sure to ask your local NRCS contact about the deadlines for applications and ranking periods to ensure that you turn in your application in time.
 - As part of the application process, we’ll make sure you are eligible. You’ll need to bring:
 - An official tax ID (Social Security number or an employer ID)
 - A property deed or lease agreement to show you have control of the property
4. If you are not funded in an initial application your Conservation Planner will submit your application for the next funding round for which your project is eligible.
5. If you hear an announcement about a new funding round, or a new program, call your Conservation Planner or the District Conservationist for your local NRCS office and ask – is this a good opportunity for me?

How do I know if I am eligible for financial assistance?

- **WHO: To be eligible for NRCS Financial Assistance Programs, applicants must:**
 - Be an individual, entity or joint operation with an official tax ID
 - Have a farm and tract number. If you don’t, we can direct you to USDA Farm Service Agency colleagues to help.
 - Produce or sell agricultural products. *People applying for EQIP forest land assistance are exempt from this requirement.*
 - Have control of the land for the term of the proposed contract, you’ll need property deed or lease.
 - Be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985. (An NRCS Planner can help you determine this.)
 - Meet Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) requirements (AGI less than \$900,000 averaged over last 3 tax filings for applicant (individual or entity)).
 - Have an interest in the farming operation associated with the land being enrolled.
 - Be in good standing with the terms of all other active USDA contracts.
- **WHAT: Land enrolled in NRCS Financial Assistance Programs needs to:**
 - Be used in agricultural, livestock or forest production, or be capable of growing trees.
 - Be privately owned. Publicly owned lands are eligible only if the land is leased or rented to an eligible agricultural producer. Some exceptions apply, discuss with your NRCS planner.
 - Not receive other USDA program payments for the same conservation practice.

Find your NRCS Local Office by searching “Contact us NRCS CA”

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ca/contact>

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Natural Resources Conservation Service

Service Areas and Office Locations

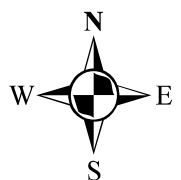
NRCS Areas

- Area 1
- Area 2
- Area 3
- Area 4
- NRCS Service Areas



NRCS Office Types

- Field Office / Service Center
- ▲ Local Partnership Office
- * Area Office
- ★ State Office
- ⌘ Soil Survey Office
- 🌱 Plant Materials Center



Source of Data:
 USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service

Map prepared using ArcGIS
 GIS Services Team, NRCS, Davis, CA
 Map ID: nrCS_ca_areas 1/7/2020



California Natural Resources Conservation Service

Index of Offices – March 2022

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