

*Application deadline Aug. 11, through the Natural Resources Conservation Service.*

Agriculture producers are now eligible to receive assistance to renovate shelterbelts, restore forested riparian buffers, increase irrigation efficiency and improve habitat for grassland species through the Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI). Four CCPI proposals were approved for Nebraska.

Sign-up began July 26, and the deadline to be considered for this year's funding is Aug. 11. Producers need to contact their local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office to sign up.

According to NRCS State Conservationist Steve Chick, these CCPI project areas will provide conservation assistance on targeted areas in Nebraska.

"CCPI gives us the opportunity to partner with agencies and organizations to focus on areas in Nebraska that have unique natural resources conservation needs," Chick said.

The Central Great Plains Shelterbelt Renovation and the Central Great Plains Forested Riparian Buffer CCPI proposals, which are multi-state project areas, will help renovate and restore trees planted along cropland, rangeland and streams in Nebraska, Kansas and North and South Dakota.

These two CCPI projects are available statewide in each of the four states mentioned above.

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