

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service is currently accepting applications for several Farm Bill conservation programs.

Farmers and ranchers interested in soil, water and wildlife conservation or wetland restoration funds are encouraged to sign up now for conservation programs available from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The application deadline is Nov. 18.

Nebraska State Conservationist Craig Derickson said, “The Natural Resources Conservation Service will accept applications at anytime, but we encourage landowners and operators to get in and sign up for these program dollars right away since funds are limited.”

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is an Agency under the U.S. Department of Agriculture. NRCS has several programs available to landowners and operators interested in conserving natural resources on their land. These voluntary programs provide technical and financial assistance to install conservation practices that protect natural resources on privately owned land.

“The mission of the Natural Resources Conservation Service is ‘Helping People Help the Land,’ and our conservationists located in offices in nearly every county across the state work one-on-one with landowners to develop a conservation plan that meets individual landowner’s needs,” Derickson said. “The Farm Bill programs then provide financial assistance to help install conservation practices—such as irrigation water management, wetland restoration, wildlife habitat creation, forestry management, rangeland management or transitioning to organic agriculture—which help keep Nebraska’s privately owned land healthy and productive.”

For more information about the programs and services available from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, visit your local USDA Service Center, or visit www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov.