



# COST-SHARE PROGRAMS & FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR WEST VIRGINIA



Below are some programs that provide technical assistance and financial incentives for approved conservation practices. All programs are voluntary. When inquiring, ask how a conservation easement applies.

**Conservation Practice:** Land practice that enhances or protects water quality, soils, and wildlife habitat. May include installing pollinator habitat or managing land with a Conservation Plan.

**Best Management Practice (BMP):** One or a combination of practices that are effective and practicable in reducing or preventing the amount of pollution that runs off from land into nearby waterways.

Not only do BMPs protect water quality and promote wildlife habitat, but they often also increase land productivity by conserving soil, making wise use of fertilizers, lowering disease rates for livestock, and providing habitat for wildlife, fish, and game.

**Riparian Buffer:** Forested or vegetated area along a waterway that helps provide shade and is vital to protecting water quality by filtering toxins that run off from adjacent land.



## West Virginia Division of Forestry

### Forest stewardship operating plan

Offers technical and financial assistance to private landowners interested in planning and managing their forestland for multiple-use benefits including; wood products, wildlife, recreation and aesthetics.

**More Information:** <http://www.wvforestry.com/stewardship.cfm?menucall=steward>

### Managed timberland program

Provides tax incentives for forest landowners who practice sustainable forestry on their nonindustrial, privately owned forestland.

**More Information:** [http://www.wvforestry.com/managed\\_timberland\\_program.cfm?menucall=mtp](http://www.wvforestry.com/managed_timberland_program.cfm?menucall=mtp)



## USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

### Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to plan and implement conservation practices that improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and related natural resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland.

**More Information:** <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/wv/programs/financial/eqip/>



### Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Provides payments to qualifying participants that take additional steps to improve resource condition including soil quality, water quality, water quantity, air quality, habitat quality, or energy.

**More Information:** <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/wv/programs/financial/csp/>

### Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Each year, organizations collaborate with NRCS to focus cost-share opportunities to specific areas for a limited time. Check with your local NRCS Service Center to learn more.

**More Information:** <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/wv/programs/farmbill/rcpp/>

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### [Socially disadvantaged, limited resource, beginning farmers, veteran farmers](#)

Provides for voluntary participation, offers incentives, and focuses on equity in accessing USDA programs and services. Enhancements include streamlined delivery of technical and financial assistance; improved programs and services; and flexibility in decision-making.

More Information: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/people/outreach/slbfr/>

## [West Virginia Conservation Agency](#)

### [Agricultural Enhancement Program \(AgEP\)](#)

Offers technical and financial assistance as an incentive to implement suggested best management practices. Overall program primary objectives include the reduction of nutrients and sediment from entering the waters within the State and increasing farm profitability and sustainability. BMPs offered include (but are not limited to) cover crop, deer exclusion fencing, hay reseeding, pond clean-out, pasture reseeding, and others.

More Information: <http://www.wvca.us/AgEP.cfm>



*West Virginia*  
Conservation Agency

## [Other Cost-Share Resources](#)

Depending on the type of management you would like for your property, additional programs may provide technical assistance or cost-share opportunities. Some examples:

Forests for the Bay ([www.forestsforthebay.org](http://www.forestsforthebay.org))

Pheasants Forever ([www.pheasantsforever.org](http://www.pheasantsforever.org))

National Wild Turkey Federation ([www.nwtf.org](http://www.nwtf.org))

Trout Unlimited ([www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org))

Ducks Unlimited ([www.ducks.org](http://www.ducks.org))

The Nature Conservancy ([www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org))

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*If you have a project in mind and are unsure whom to reach out to, contact us, and we'll point you in the right direction.*

