
Will I be required to give the public access to land in the EQIP program?

No. Landowners can prevent trespass and control access by the general public. The landowner must allow NRCS access to the area to monitor the effectiveness of the practices during the agreement period.

How do I apply?

Applications may be submitted, on a continual basis, to any NRCS field office located at local USDA Service Centers. A Projects will be ranked according to a variety benefits such as ecological and social benefits. The highest ranked applications will be funded first. Contact your local NRCS office concerning application deadlines.



Pole size stands may be thinned for improved forest health and habitat

VT NRCS Web - <http://www.vt.nrcs.usda.gov/>

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Contact an NRCS field office

Addison County

68 Catamount Park, Suite B, Middlebury VT 05753
802 388-6748

Bennington County

310 Main St. P.O. Box 505, Bennington VT 05201
802 442-2275

Caledonia & Essex Counties

481 Summer St., Suite 202, St. Johnsbury VT 05819
802 748-2641

Chittenden County

1193 South Brownell Rd., Suite 35, Williston VT 05495
802 865-7895

Orange & Washington Counties

617 Comstock Rd., Suite 1, Berlin VT 05602
802 828-4493

Franklin & Grand Isle Counties

27 Fisher Pond Rd., Suite 1, St. Albans VT 05478
802 527-1296

Lamoille County

109 Professional Drive, Suite 2, Morrisville VT 05661
802 888-4935

Orleans County

59 Waterfront Plaza, Suite 12, Newport VT 05855
802 334-6090

Rutland County

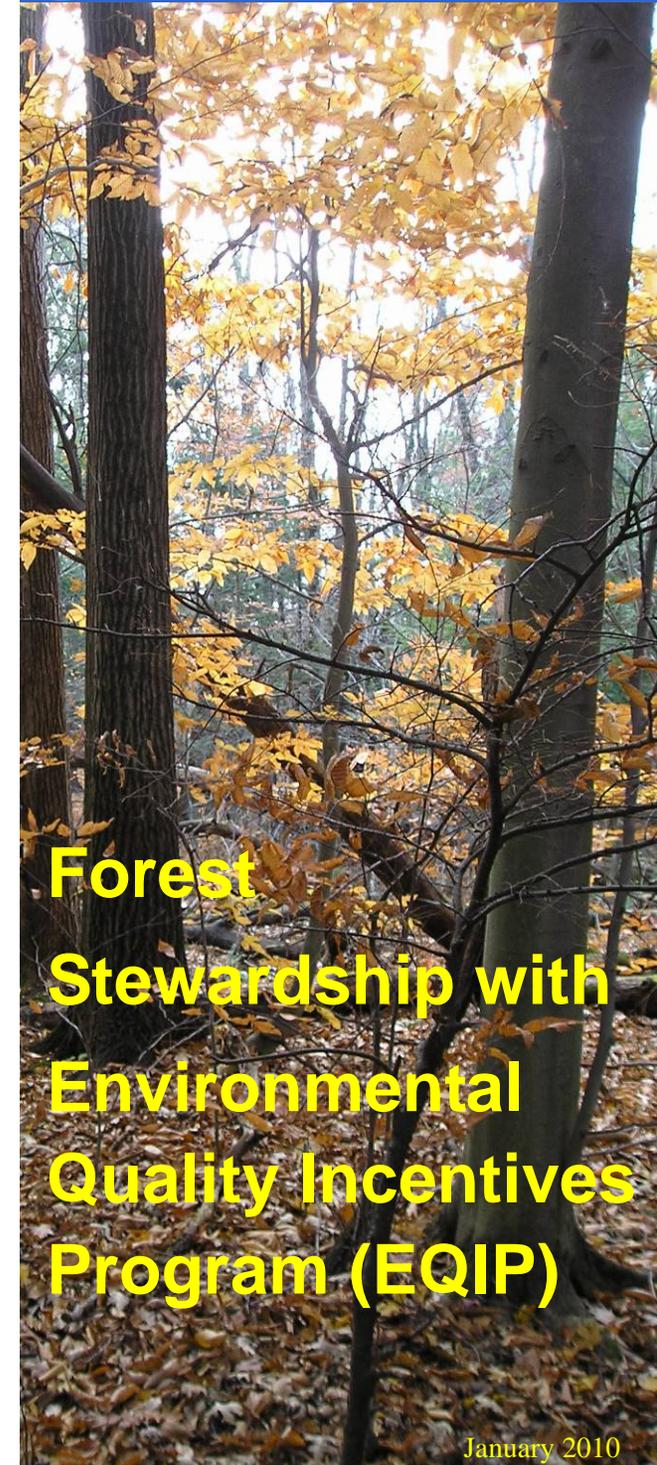
170 South Main St., Suite 6, Rutland VT 05701
802 775-8034

Windham County

28 Vernon St., Suite 330, Brattleboro VT 05302
802 254-9766

Windsor County

28 Farmvu Drive, White River Jct. VT 05001
802 295-7942



What is the Environmental Quality Incentives Program?

EQIP is a voluntary conservation program to treat identified soil, air, water and related natural resource concerns on eligible land. It provides financial and technical assistance to install or implement structural and management practices.

Who is eligible to participate?

Lands eligible for EQIP include private agricultural land and non-industrial private forest land where resource concerns may be addressed.

Eligible participants will be agricultural producers engaged in agricultural production, including forestry, or be an owner of agricultural lands, or forest lands where agricultural products are produced.

If you enroll in the program, you will need to be in compliance with conservation and wetland requirements and adjusted gross income limits.



Well Shaped & Vegetated Forest Skid Road

What Does 'Non-Industrial Private Forestland' Mean?

This term means rural land that has existing tree cover or is suitable for growing trees; and is owned by any nonindustrial private individual, group, association, corporation, Indian Tribe, or other private legal entity that has definitive decision making authority over the land



Invasive Exotic Japanese barberry in Forest

Forest Land Priorities

- ◆ Assisting landowners with the development of a Forest Management Plan to encourage wise use and management
- ◆ Addressing soil erosion and water quality impairments associated with forest trails and roads
- ◆ Addressing exotic invasive plant concerns and to provide assistance with management
- ◆ Conserving other important resources such as rare natural communities, species of concern and other important habitats such as wetlands

Examples of conservation practices that may be eligible for cost share

- Forest Management Plans
- Forest Trails and Landings (erosion control)
- Pest Management—Invasive Plant Control
- Various wildlife habitat improvement practices
- Forest Stand Improvement

How does cost-share assistance work?

NRCS and the participant enter into a conservation plan and contract agreement that lasts up to 10 years in length. Under the agreement:

- ◆ The participant agrees to maintain the practice and allow NRCS or its agent access to monitor practice implementation
- ◆ NRCS agrees to provide technical assistance and practice payments to assist with implementing the conservation practices



Conservation of Important Natural Features is often an Objective of the Landowner