

# USDA CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

## What's New?

	UPDATE	BENEFIT
OVERALL	Increase collaboration with partners and other USDA agencies on projects to monitor, measure, and verify the climate benefits, and environmental performance of CRP.	Improves environmental benefit estimates of CRP Increases program effectiveness by informing science-based program policy changes.
	Increase technical assistance capacity through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).	Enables producers to plan and implement conservation practices that are appropriate for their needs.
CRP GENERAL	New Climate-Smart Practice Incentive to incentivize practices that sequester carbon, reduce emissions.	More land enrolled, using practices that maximize benefits for climate mitigation.
	Additional one-time, 10 percent "inflationary" adjustment for the life of the contract.	Increases program payments to encourage more land enrollment.
	Adjustment of county rental rates, upward or downward, using a soil productivity index range of 50-150 percent of the county rental rate.	Increases program payments to encourage more land enrollment
CRP CONTINUOUS	New Climate-Smart Practice Incentive to incentivize practices that sequester carbon, reduce emissions.	More land enrolled, using practices that maximize benefits for climate mitigation.
	Add a one-time, 10 percent "inflationary" adjustment for the life of the contract.	Increases program payments to encourage more land enrollment.
	Allow for the adjustment of county rental rates, upward or downward, using a soil productivity index range of 50-150 percent of the county rental rate.	Increases program payments to encourage more land enrollment
	Increase Water Quality Incentive from 10 to 20 percent for water quality benefiting practices	More land enrolled, using practices that maximize benefits for water quality.
	Move State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) Practices from the CRP general signup to the CRP continuous signup.	Improves attractiveness of wildlife practices, including extending the signup to year-round, thus more habitat.
	Make Highly Erodible Land Initiative (HELI) Practices available in both the CRP continuous and general signups.	Improves attractiveness of program by extending the signup to year-round, thus more land enrolled for natural resource benefits.
	Increase Practice Incentive Payment from 20% to 50%.	Increases program payments to encourage more land enrollment.
CRP GRASSLANDS	Establish a CRP Grassland minimum rental rate of \$15.	Returning to this minimum rate would benefit 1,347 counties that are currently under the \$15 minimum.
	Establish National Grassland Priority Zones.	Increase enrollment of grasslands in migratory corridors and environmentally sensitive areas.
PILOTS	Hold a second signup for the Soil Health and Income Protection Program (SHIPP), incentivizing producers to plant vegetative cover on less productive croplands for 3 to 5 years.	More land with short-term cover leads to healthier soil and better carbon sequestration.
	Expand the Clean Lakes, Estuaries and Rivers 30-year contracts (CLEAR30) to be nationwide. Previous pilots were in the Chesapeake Bay and Great Lakes regions.	Pilot expansion enables producers across the nation to enter into these long-term contracts and implement practices important to water quality.