








These icons indicate the land use focus and primary forms of assistance for the most commonly used programs, but many programs address multiple objectives, and can be combined.







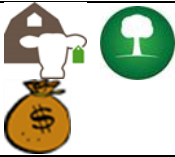




## State and Local Programs


<p><b>Present-Use Value Tax Program (PUV)</b>- A qualifying property can be assessed for property tax purposes based on its use as agricultural, horticultural, wildlife, or forest land. The present-use value of the land is based solely on its ability to produce income, rather than its market value. Administered by the county assessors. To qualify there is a minimum acreage requirement of ten acres for agriculture, five acres for horticulture and twenty acres for forest use and wildlife. Other requirements apply. <a href="http://www.dorn.com/publications/property.html">http://www.dorn.com/publications/property.html</a></p>	
<p><b>Wildlife Conservation Land Program (WCLP)</b>- A program that allows landowners who have owned their property for at least 5 years and want to manage for protected wildlife species or priority wildlife habitats to apply for reduced property tax assessment. <a href="http://www.ncwildlife.org/Conserving/Programs/LandConservationProgram.aspx">http://www.ncwildlife.org/Conserving/Programs/LandConservationProgram.aspx</a></p>	
<p><b>Voluntary Agricultural Districts (VAD)</b>- A program designed to encourage and protect commercial agriculture. Administered at the county level. Basic requirement is that the land be enrolled in a PUV program or meet other qualifications. <a href="http://www.ncadfp.org/">http://www.ncadfp.org/</a></p>	
<p><b>Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural Districts (EVAD)</b>- is a VAD formed of one or more farms that are subject to an irrevocable ten-year agreement to limit development. In addition to VAD benefits landowners may be eligible to receive a higher percentage of cost-share under the Agricultural Cost Share Program-as high as 90 percent assistance. <a href="http://www.ncadfp.org/">http://www.ncadfp.org/</a></p>	
<p><b>Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)</b>- This program is administered by NRCS. It assists landowners in addressing high-priority conservation issues, identified by local, state, or tribal governments or nonprofit organizations. In exchange for introducing conservation practices, farmers, ranchers and agricultural landowners are paid an annual rental rate. <a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&amp;subject=copr&amp;topic=cep">http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&amp;subject=copr&amp;topic=cep</a></p>	
<p><b>North Carolina Forest Development Program (FDP)</b>- This program is administered by the North Carolina Forest Service. It is designed to encourage private landowners to reforest after harvest and to place their idle and under-productive forestland into full timber production. <a href="http://www.ncforestservice.gov/Managing_your_forest/fdp.htm">http://www.ncforestservice.gov/Managing_your_forest/fdp.htm</a></p>	
<p><b>Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP)</b>- Administered through North Carolina's Department of Environment and Natural Resources, this program works with willing landowners to improve and protect North Carolina's natural resources. Land benefits include permanent protection of the property through conservation agreements or through sale or donation of their land. <a href="http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/EEP">http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/EEP</a></p>	
<p><b>Clean Water Management Trust Fund</b>- The Clean Water Management Trust Fund provides grant assistance to conservation non-profits, local governments and state agencies for the protection of surface waters in North Carolina. CWMTF funds projects that (1) enhance or restore degraded waters, (2) protect unpolluted waters, and/or (3)</p>	

<p>contribute toward a network of riparian buffers and greenways for environmental, educational, and recreational benefits, (4) provide buffers around military bases to protect the military mission, (5) acquire land that represents the ecological diversity of North Carolina, and (6) acquire land that contributes to the development of a balanced State program of historic properties. <a href="http://www.cwmtf.net/">http://www.cwmtf.net/</a></p>	
<p><b>Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund (ADFP)-</b> Administered by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture &amp; Consumer Services, this program provides information and assistance to landowners regarding applications for VADs, EVADs and Farmland Protection Plans. <a href="http://www.ncadfp.org/">http://www.ncadfp.org/</a></p>	
<p><b>NC Cooperative Extension Service-</b> All universities engage in research and teaching, but the nation's more than 100 land-grant colleges and universities, have a third critical mission—extension. "Extension" means "reaching out," and—along with teaching and research—land-grant institutions "extend" their resources, solving public needs with college or university resources through non-formal, non-credit programs. These programs are largely administered through thousands of county and regional extension offices, which bring land-grant expertise to the most local of levels. <a href="http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/">http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/</a></p>	
<p><b>Conservation Trust for North Carolina (CTNC)-</b> Works with landowners to conserve land through conservation agreements. Also supports and represents 23 local land trusts in NC so they can conserve land in the communities they serve. <a href="http://www.ctnc.org/land-trusts/find-your-local-land-trust/">http://www.ctnc.org/land-trusts/find-your-local-land-trust/</a></p>	
<p><b>North Carolina Forest Association (NCFA) Working Lands Trust-</b> Serves as a trust fund for organizations and agencies interested in funding the maintenance of working lands, and to facilitate conservation tools for landowner and protection needs for working lands. <a href="https://www.ncforestry.org">https://www.ncforestry.org</a></p>	
<p><b>Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)-</b> A sub-unit of state government that can assist with implementing ADFP and provide technical assistance with EEP implementation, among other conservation activities.</p>	
<p><b>NC Sentinel Landscapes Partnership (SWCD)-</b> The North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Partnership formed to create innovative strategies for the sustainable landscape needed to promote a healthy economy, environment, military and community in eastern North Carolina and beyond. The Partnership is currently implementing several important initiatives for eastern North Carolina. The initiatives conserve and protect the interests the Partnership values — working lands, conservation and national defense <a href="http://sentinellandscapes.wordpress.ncsu.edu/">http://sentinellandscapes.wordpress.ncsu.edu/</a></p>	

## Federal Programs

<p><b>Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)-</b> Administered by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), this program provides financial and technical assistance to help conserve agricultural lands and wetlands and their related benefits. <a href="http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/acep">http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/acep</a></p>	
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<p><b>Agricultural Management Assistance Program (AMA)</b>- This program helps agricultural producers use conservation to manage risk and address natural resource issues through natural resources conservation. NRCS administers the AMA conservation provisions, while the Agricultural Marketing Service and the Risk Management Agency implement other provisions under AMA. Producers receive conservation technical and financial assistance to construct or improve water management or irrigation structures, plant trees for windbreaks or, in order to improve water quality and mitigate risk, diversify their operation and conservation practices including soil erosion control, integrated pest management or transition to organic farming.  <a href="http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/ama/">http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/ama/</a></p>	
<p><b>Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)</b>- Administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) this is a land conservation program which provides financial support for landowners who agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and plant species that will improve environmental health and quality.  <a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&amp;subject=copr&amp;topic=crp">http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&amp;subject=copr&amp;topic=crp</a></p>	
<p><b>Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)</b>- Administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) this program assists landowners in addressing high-priority conservation issues, identified by local, state, or tribal governments or nonprofit organizations. In exchange for introducing conservation practices, farmers, ranchers and agricultural landowners are paid an annual rental rate.  <a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&amp;subject=copr&amp;topic=cep">http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&amp;subject=copr&amp;topic=cep</a></p>	
<p><b>Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)</b>- This program is administered through the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). It helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems and adopt additional conservation activities to address priority resources concerns.  <a href="http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/csp">http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/csp</a></p>	
<p><b>Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)</b>- Administered by the Farm Service Agency, this program helps private landowners by authorizing payments to restore health of forests damaged by natural disasters.  <a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&amp;subject=efrp#P45_1675">http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&amp;subject=efrp#P45_1675</a></p>	
<p><b>Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)</b>- Administered by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) this program provides agricultural producers financial and technical assistance related to the planning and implementation of conservation practices which address natural resource concerns and for opportunities to improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and related resources on agricultural lands and non-industrial private forestland.  <a href="http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip">http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip</a></p>	
<p><b>Forest Legacy Program (FLP)</b>- A US Forest Service program in partnership with North Carolina complements private, Federal and State programs focused on the protection of privately owned forest lands through conservation agreements. Participants may be eligible for up to 75% of costs associated with projects as well as potential tax reductions. The property must be in a designated Forest Legacy Area to qualify.  <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/cooperativeforestry/programs/loa/flp.shtml">http://www.fs.fed.us/cooperativeforestry/programs/loa/flp.shtml</a></p>	
<p><b>Forest Stewardship Program (FSP)</b>- A US Forest Service program provides technical assistance to non-industrial private forest (NIPF) owners to encourage and enable active long-term forest management. Primary focus is given to the development of comprehensive, multi-resource management plans that provide landowners information needed to manage their forests for a variety of products and services.  <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/cooperativeforestry/programs/loa/fsp.shtml">http://www.fs.fed.us/cooperativeforestry/programs/loa/fsp.shtml</a></p>	

<p><b>Healthy Forest Reserve Program (HFRP)</b>- Administered by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), this program provides landowners with 10-year restoration agreements and 30-year or permanent easements for specific conservation actions. Land enrolled in HFRP easements must be privately owned or owned by Indian tribes and restore, enhance or measurably increase the recovery of threatened or endangered species, improve biological diversity or increase carbon storage.  <a href="http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/forests/">http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/forests/</a></p>	
<p><b>Southern Pine Beetle Prevention Program (SPBPP)</b>- This cost-share program, administered by USDA Forest Service, aims to prevent outbreaks of the Southern pine beetle. The U.S Forest Service will reimburse private forest landowners 50 percent of actual or prevailing cost on practices that manage young pine stand for prevention of Southern pine beetle infestations.  <a href="http://ncforester-vice.gov/forest_health/fh_spbpp.htm">http://ncforester-vice.gov/forest_health/fh_spbpp.htm</a></p>	