

Why Should We Care About Air Quality?

Overview

As the first "A" in SWAPA+H, air is an important natural resource that is vital to life. Although our agency has addressed issues related to air quality and atmospheric change since its formation, these issues have not been a traditional focus area for the NRCS in most locations. As our partners and the public have begun placing a larger emphasis on air quality and atmospheric change issues, NRCS has needed to develop the technical expertise for integrating conservation of the air resource into our assistance portfolio. This course will provide a broad overview of air quality and atmospheric change and begin to equip NRCS conservationists and our partners with the knowledge and confidence to address air-related resource concerns.

Objectives

Upon completion of the training, participants will be able to:

- State why air is an important natural resource
- Explain why it is important to take a holistic approach to conservation planning
- List the major reasons why NRCS addresses air quality and atmospheric change
- Identify several agricultural activities that can release air emissions
- Describe various reasons for land managers to address air quality and atmospheric change
- Identify the role of NRCS employees in addressing air quality and atmospheric change

Prerequisites

1. Air Quality, Climate Change and Energy

Delivery Method

This program is Web-based.

Duration

Approximately 30 minutes.

Target Audience

The course is designed for all NRCS employees, but particularly for State Air Quality and Energy Contacts, conservation planners, partnership employees, and conservation technical assistance providers to assist them in understanding why air quality and atmospheric change issues are important for our agency and partners.

NEDC Contact

[NEDC Webmaster](#).

Technical Contact

Greg Zwicke

Enrollment for Why Should We Care About Air Quality?

Enrollment instructions are provided below. Be sure to select the appropriate link to ensure successful enrollment.

USDA Employees

Proceed to the [Aglearn](#) to login using your USDA eAuthentication ID and password. This is the same as your WebTCAS ID and password.

Select **Catalog**, Select **Natural Resources Conservation Service** under **Subject Area Menu**, Choose the course name by selecting either the button **Launch content** or **Add to Learning Plan** to register and complete the course.

District Employees with Aglearn account

Proceed to the [Aglearn](#) to login using your USDA eAuthentication ID and password. This is the same login ID and password used for the TechReg TSP application or profile.

Select **Catalog**, Select **Natural Resources Conservation Service** under **Subject Area Menu**, Choose the course name by select the button **Launch content** or **Add to Learning Plan** to register and complete the course.

If you do not have an account. Specific instructions on securing a USDA user account and password are located at [getting started](#). For further assistance contact the USDA state office in your state for assistance in obtaining an eAuthentication ID and password and AgLearn account.

Technical Service Providers

Proceed to the [Aglearn](#) to login using your USDA eAuthentication ID and password. This is the same logon ID and password used for the TechReg TSP application or profile.

Select **Catalog**, Select **Natural Resources Conservation Service** under **Subject Area Menu**, Choose the course name by select the button **Launch content** or **Add to Learning Plan** to register and complete the course.

If you are anticipating becoming a Technical Service Provider please review the entire process at [TechReg](#). Please familiarize yourself with this process if you have not already done so. Specific instructions on securing a USDA user account and password are located at [getting started](#).

Other USDA Customers

For those not in the above categories contact the USDA state office in your state for assistance in obtaining an eAuthentication ID and password and AgLearn account.

To obtain this contact information for your state you can go to the [Aglearn](#) website click on **contact us**. Scroll down to **NRCS** and click on the link that says **state contacts**.