



**Natural Resources  
Conservation Service**

355 East Hancock Ave., Ste. 212  
Athens, GA, 30601  
Voice: 706-546-2069  
Email: [chris.groskreutz@ga.usda.gov](mailto:chris.groskreutz@ga.usda.gov)  
Web: <http://www.ga.nrcs.usda.gov>

# News Release

Release No.: 00004.17

Contact:  
Tansel Hudson  
(706) 546-2272  
[Tansel.hudson@ga.usda.gov](mailto:Tansel.hudson@ga.usda.gov)

## **NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE IN GEORGIA CALLS FOR STATEWIDE CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANT PROPOSALS**

**ATHENS, GA**, December 20, 2016 --- State Conservationist, Terrance O. Rudolph, for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Georgia released today an announcement for program funding (APF) in that the NRCS is requesting proposals for the FY2017 Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) program. CIG is designed to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies. Proposals are due by 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST) February 28, 2017.

For fiscal year 2017, up to \$500,000 is available for the Georgia State CIG competition. Individual grants will not exceed \$75,000 from NRCS. Funds will be awarded through a statewide competitive grants process. Proposals are requested from eligible groups such as government or non-government organizations, individuals, or others, for competitive consideration of grant awards for projects between one and three years in duration. See APF for a complete list of eligible entities.

The preferred method of submitting applications is electronically through [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov). Applications must also be submitted via e-mail to: [tansel.hudson@ga.usda.gov](mailto:tansel.hudson@ga.usda.gov). Applications submitted through U.S. Postal Service, express mail or overnight courier service should be addressed to: Tansel Hudson, State CIG Program Manager, USDA-NRCS, 355 East Hancock Avenue, Mail Stop 200, Athens, GA 30601.

All applications regardless of how they are submitted must be received by 5:00 p.m., EST **February 28, 2017**.

Funding categories include the following: 1) Historically underserved producer or veteran farmers or ranchers; 2) Data analytics for natural resource conservation; 3) Pay-for-success models to stimulate conservation adoption; 4) Precision conservation approaches; 5) Projects that demonstrate the cost effectiveness of leveraged public and private impact investments in working lands conservation; 6) Water management technologies and approaches to maximize agricultural production efficiency and minimize off-site impacts; and 7) Energy.

A full APF of the *NRCS Georgia Conservation Innovation Grant* (Funding Opportunity Number: USDA-NRCS-GA-CIG-17-01) is available on-line at [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov).

For more information on the CIG program in Georgia, please visit [www.ga.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ga.nrcs.usda.gov) and navigate to the *Programs* tab under *Financial Assistance*, and then *Conservation Innovation Grants* or [click here](#).

For further questions, please contact Tansel Hudson at 706-546-2272.

#

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).