

State Specific Training Module for Connecticut

Purpose of this Module

This module will provide some general information that TSPs need to conduct conservation planning in Connecticut. This information is general in nature so the TSP may need to follow up with additional reading or training to make sure they have the knowledge, skill, licenses and certifications to conduct conservation planning in this state.

Review of State Laws

Connecticut requires that all Animal Waste nutrient management plans have the signature of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. A field review process is needed before the DEEP will sign the plan. Contact the State Resource Conservationist for further information and to schedule the field review before the final draft of the Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan.

Review of State Laws

- According to the Connecticut Forest Practices Act, anyone who advertises, solicits, contracts or engages in commercial forest practices within Connecticut at any time must have the appropriate certificate issued in accordance with the law.
- All Forest Management Plans be developed by a state Certified Forester.
- Harvesting operations must be conducted by a Supervising Forest Products Harvester or a Forest Products Harvester. Information can be found on the Department Of Energy and Environmental Protection Web site.

Review of State Laws

- All engineering practice designs must be stamped by a licensed Connecticut Professional Engineer.

Review of State FOTG Requirements

Vegetative Practices

- Planting dates should be followed for any type of seeding.
- Mowing of vegetation should consider the needs of ground nesting birds. Birds in Connecticut nest from April 15 to August 1.
- Watch the Field Office Technical Guide for guidance on forestry practices and the Northern Long Eared Bat

Review of Important Resource Issues

Two current species of concern for Connecticut NRCS are the Bog Turtle and the New England Cottontail. Contact the NRCS State Resource Conservationist or the State Wildlife Department for additional information on planning consideration for these species.

Review of Major Land Uses or Agronomic Practices

Connecticut is roughly 58% forested and 12% cropland. About 20% of the cropland acres are managed for hay/pasture. The crops grown in Connecticut are varied. The majority of the agricultural land in the eastern and western portions of the state are in dairy support, beef pasture and orchards. The central portions contain fruit, vegetable and tobacco operations.

Small farms are thriving and Connecticut is one of the few states that is showing an increase in agricultural producers.

Review of Major Land Uses or Agronomic Practices

- Connecticut has an aquaculture industry in Long Island Sound that is very concerned with water quality. The Long Island Sound Study, a multiagency group dedicated to the protection of Long Island Sound had a detailed website.

Review of Major Land Ownership

Approximately 90% of Connecticut is privately owned. The State and Municipalities own the bulk of the non-private lands. The federal ownership is 0.3%

Expected TSP Workflow

- The State Resource Conservationist (SRC) will be responsible for reviewing TSP conservation planning for the National Planner Certification.
- Subsequent conservation plans will be reviewed by the District Conservationist (DC) at the local USDA Service Center.
- The SRC will conduct plan reviews for TSP planner certification renewals. The SRC will also Spot Check a percentage of the plans every year.
- TSPs will work with the local District Conservationist to make sure the proper environmental evaluations (NRCS.CPA.52) are completed.

Additional References or Training

- Connecticut Field Office Technical Guide at www.ct.nrcs.usda.gov
- University of Connecticut Nutrient Management and Soil Testing guidance - <http://www.soiltest.uconn.edu/>
- Fact Sheet on CNMP's - http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprd_b1166381.pdf

Certificate of Completion

After viewing the State Specific Training module, please print and sign the completion certificate on the following slide.

The certificate is your acknowledgement that based on the information provided in this module, you have the proper knowledge, skills and ability to conduct planning in this state.

Send the signed certificate to the State TSP Coordinator. Copy the below link to your browser for a list of State TSP Coordinators.

<https://techreg.sc.egov.usda.gov/RptStateContact4Admin.aspx>

STATE SPECIFIC TRAINING MODULE COMPLETION CERTIFICATE

I, _____, hereby verify I have viewed and understand the
TSP Name
content of the Connecticut State Specific Training Module and affirm I have the
knowledge, skills and ability to conduct conservation planning services in that
state.

TSP signature

Date

Non-Discrimination Statement

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To File a Program Complaint

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9419, by fax at (202) 690-7442, or email at program.intake@usda.gov

Persons with Disabilities

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities and you wish to file either an EEO or program complaint please contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (in Spanish).

Persons with disabilities, who wish to file a program complaint, please see information above on how to contact us by mail or by email. If you require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.), please contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

For any other information dealing with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) issues, persons should either contact the USDA SNAP Hotline Number at (800) 221-5689, which is also in Spanish, or call the State Information/Hotline Numbers.

All Other Inquiries

For any other information not pertaining to civil rights, please refer to the listing of the USDA Agencies and Offices.