



NDSU/FSA Spring 2020 Webinar Series

Webinar #1: Conservation

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Webinar Agenda

- **Welcome**
- **Soil Health and Income Protection Program (SHIPP)**
- **CRP Grasslands**
- **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)**
- **Continuous CRP (CCRP)**
- **Offer Processing Through Social Distancing**
- **Communication Update**



Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

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Conservation Programs

Available Programs and Signups:

- **Soil Health and Income Protection Program (SHIPP)**
- **CRP Grasslands**
- **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)**
- **Continuous CRP (CCRP)**



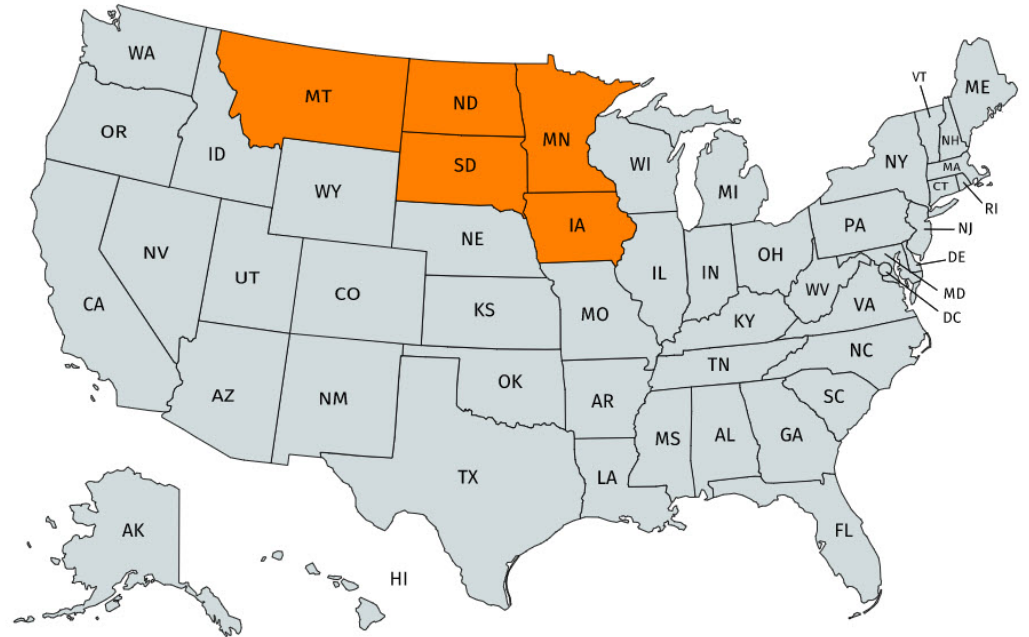
SHIPP

SHIPP

- **What:** CRP pilot program
- **Where:** 5 states in Prairie Pothole Region
- **Why:** Provide improved Soil Health and Water Quality
- **How:** Plant perennial cover that will improve soil health.

Pilot Program Coverage Area

Who: Agricultural producers in Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota.



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SHIPP Requirements

- Land must have been planted in 2017, 2018, and 2019.
- Land enrolled in the program cannot be more than 15% of SHIPP eligible land on the farm.
- Eligible land will be less productive than other cropland on the farm.
- Producer required to plant perennial cover that will improve soil health and water quality.

Benefits of SHIPP

- Improves the productivity of soils and soil health on a farm.
- Producers have the option to harvest seed, hay, and/or graze during certain times of the year.
- Producers can receive an annual rental payment of **50%** of the weighted average soil rental rate for the SHIPP offer, using the county average rental rate for the applicable county.

Additional Benefits for Beginning, Limited Resource, Socially Disadvantaged, or Veteran Farmers and Ranchers

- Instead of the 50% annual rental payment, underserved producers, excluding gender, can receive an annual rental payment of **75%** of the weighted average soil rental rate for the SHIPP offer, using the county average rental rate for the applicable county.
- 50% cost-share is available to producers in these categories for cover establishment.

Important Sign Up Information

- Program availability: First come first served up to 50,000 acres.
- Sign-up is March 30 through August 21, 2020
- Effective date of approved contracts will be October 1, 2020.
- Producers are encouraged to make a phone appointment with your local FSA Office as soon as possible.

Approved Uses

Seed Harvest:

- 25% reduction to the Annual Payment
- Not eligible to be insured or reinsured under the Federal Crop Insurance Act
- May be harvested for seed OUTSIDE the PNS

State PLOTS program:

- Acreage would be eligible for the State PLOTS program administered through ND Game and Fish

Approved Uses

Grazing:

- No reduction in Annual Payment OUTSIDE PNS
- Degree of use <50% of year's annual growth

Haying:

- No reduction in Annual Payment OUTSIDE PNS

Note: Primary Nesting Season (PNS) in ND is April 15-August 1.

NRCS Seeding Recommendations

ND SHIPP Seeding

1. Producers must establish the lowest practical cost perennial conserving use cover that promotes soil health under SHIPP
2. Fair to good soils mixes might look like
Intermediate/Pubescent Wheatgrass and Alfalfa: 50-50
for hay 70-30 for grazing
3. Saline soils might look like
Western Wheatgrass/Green Wheatgrass with Alsike
Clover: 70-30
4. Claypan soils might look like
Western Wheatgrass/Slender Wheatgrass and Alfalfa:
70-30

NRCS Seeding Recommendations

ND SHIPP Seeding, *continued*

5. Good soils for late summer/fall pasture might look like
Switchgrass monoculture
6. Alfalfa may not be ideal as harvest will not occur before Aug
2nd
7. Seed production - single species adapted to the soil
8. All sites require site specific mixes

Note: Cost-share for practice establishment is only available for beginning, limited resource, socially disadvantaged (not including gender), or veteran farmers and ranchers.



CRP Grasslands

CRP Grasslands

- Voluntary program that limits future development and conversion of environmental sensitive lands, such as grasslands, rangelands, and pasturelands and maintains the viability of grassland cover.
- Provides support for:
 - grazing systems, and
 - plant and animal biodiversity

Differences from the General CRP

- No Cropping History
- *Haying and/or Grazing or Harvesting for Seed Production is Allowed
- Is a production based program
- Will pay for fencing and Livestock water development

**Timing of some activities may be restricted by primary nesting season of birds.*

CRP Grasslands Practice

Allows for:

- Production practices
- Haying, mowing and harvest of seed subject to primary nesting season
- Maintaining existing cover
- Fire pre-suppression, rehabilitation and fire breaks
- Grazing related activities

CRP Grasslands Practice Cost Share Assistance

Authorized Cost Share Practices:

- Permanent fencing
- Ponds/Wells/Spring developments/pipelines and water facilities
- Fuel break
- Brush management
- Livestock trails and walkways
- Prescribed burning

Eligibility

Producer Eligibility:

Owned/operated land for at least 12 months prior to closing the CRP enrollment

Land Eligibility:

Must be located in an area historically dominated by grasslands and must currently be planted to a grass cover.

Ranking Factors:

Competitive process. Offers are determined by 7 ranking factors.

**Points available for beginning, socially disadvantaged or veteran farmers and a new factor for small livestock operations.*

Important Sign Up Information

- **New changes:**
 - Signup period only March 16-May 15th
 - Annual Signup following General Signup Periods
 - Contract period 10 or 15 years
- Offers may be modified or withdrawn anytime before the close of the signup period (May 15)
- Competitive program - ranking process

Resources – Grassland Fact Sheets

Explains program details, such as:

- The ranking process
- Land eligibility
- Payment rate
- National ranking and selection process
- Available practice and C/S rates
- COC determinations



CRP Grasslands and Grasslands Ranking Factor

Fact Sheets online: <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/news-room/fact-sheets/index>

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CREP

CRP CREP

- **What:** CREP is an agreement between Federal and State to utilize CRP to provide a flexible and cost-effective means to address agricultural resource problems.
- **Why:** To cost-effectively use combined resources to address specific conservation and environmental concerns within a State or Region.

North Dakota Riparian Project CREP II

- **The CREP II Project**
 - Implemented in 16 Counties in SW ND
 - Addresses the following resource concerns:
 - water quality issues by the reduction of sediment, nutrient and other pollutants entering rivers, and
 - The enhancement of habitat and forage for honey bees
 - Establish and maintain buffers between waterbody and adjacent agricultural cropland.
 - Provide benefits for pollinators.

CREP II Riparian Project Area



Important Sign Up Information

- **The CREP II Project**

- Signup period for ***New land only*** began December 9th and ends September 30, 2020.
- 20,000 acres available for CREP II
- Contract lengths - minimum of 10 with a maximum of 15 years.
- No easements required
- Establishment of filter strips, riparian buffers and pollinator habitat.
- Cost-share assistance available
- Annual rental payments
- Incentive payments available

Private Lands Initiative

- The mission of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department is to protect, conserve and enhance fish and wildlife populations and their habitats for sustained consumptive and non-consumptive use
- The Department's Private Lands Initiative (PLI) is the primary mechanism to deliver this mission onto the private landscape
- One of the objectives of the PLI is to provide the public with opportunities to access fish and wildlife resources on private lands. The primary goal is habitat development and hunting access - PLOTS

Incentives for CREP through PLOTS

- ND Riparian Project is a collaborative project with USDA-FSA and the Outdoor Heritage Fund (OHF) which is managed by the State of North Dakota.
- The Project targets important areas for water quality, wildlife and pollinator habitat, therefore, additional incentives have been developed to encourage participation in CREP
- Additional Incentives are derived from NDGF PLOTS and the Outdoor Heritage Fund

Incentives for CREP through PLOTS

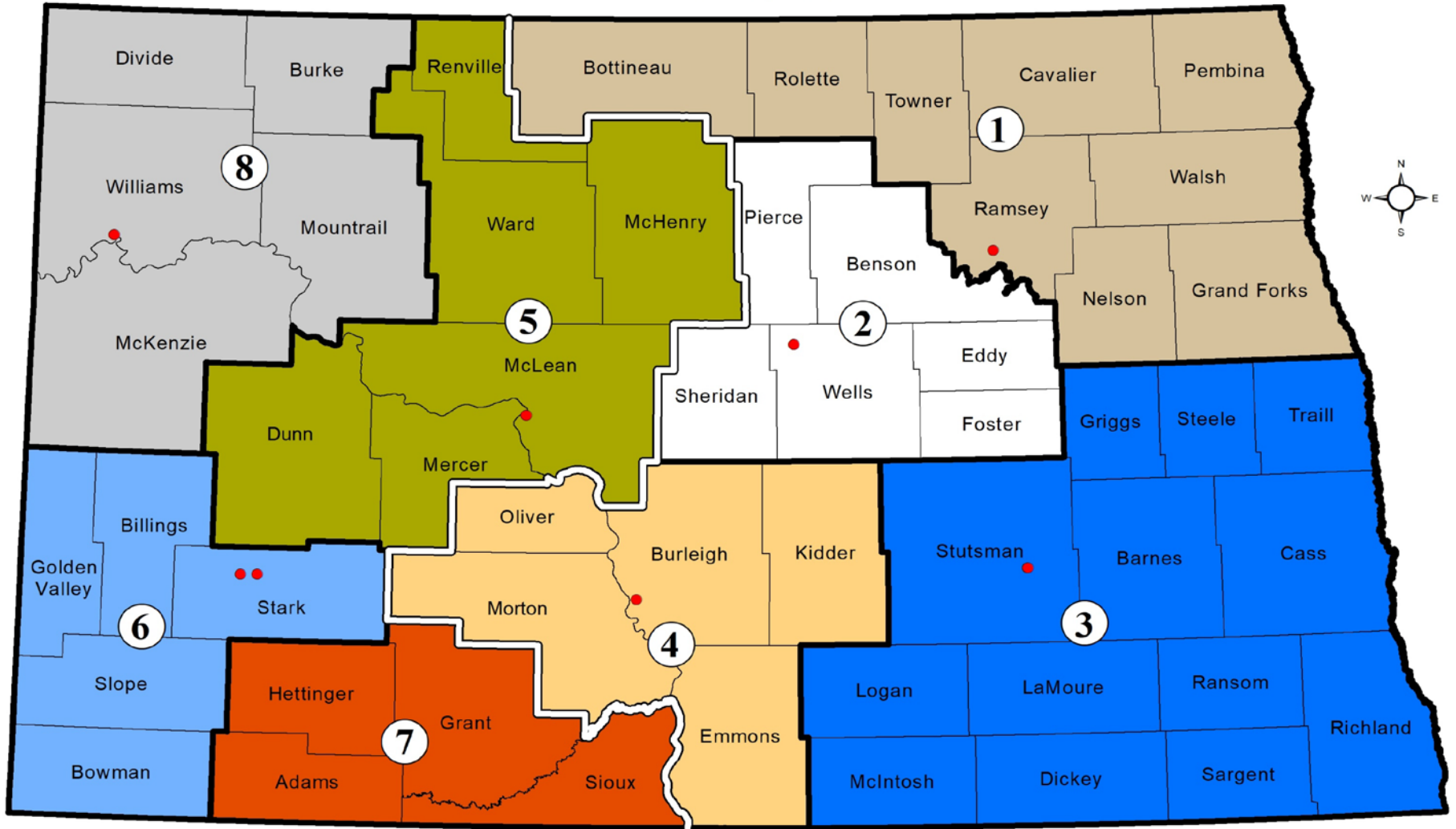
- **Department PLOTS payments may include:**
 - A one-time incentive payment of \$100 per CREP acre enrolled;
 - Cost-share of up to 50 percent of cost to install the approved conservation practice;
 - The total of all cost-share payments, Federal & State, shall not exceed 100 percent of the producers out-of-pocket expenses.
 - Cost-share for certain management activities;
 - An annual payment for land enrolled in the Private Land Open to Sportsman (PLOTS) program. Minimum enrollment in PLOTS is 40.0 acres through CREP II

Additional CRP Incentives through PLOTS

- **The Department may provide additional incentives for producers enrolling SHIPP or Grasslands CRP into PLOTS**
 - Grasslands - approx. \$2 per CRP acre, potential cost share for grazing infrastructure;
 - SHIPP - potential cost share for seed and incentive payments for allowing hunting access (approx. \$2-\$5 per acre)

PLOTS DISTRICTS

December 10, 2019



Nate Harling

West Regional Field Operations Coordinator

701-328-6395

- Jens Johnson, Williston
770-3815
 - Ryan Oberhelman, Dickinson
495-2736
- Ryan Huber, Riverdale
527-8963
 - Jaden Honeyman, Dickinson
260-3546

Curt Francis

East Regional Field Operations Coordinator

701-328-6663

- Andrew Ahrens, Devils Lake
204-5227
 - Levi Jacobson, Bismarck
527-3764
- T.J. Oswald, Harvey
399-9958
 - Renae Schultz, Jamestown
320-4695



Continuous CRP (CCRP)

Continuous CRP

- **What:** Voluntary program that contracts with Ag producers so that environmentally sensitive agricultural land is devoted to conservation benefits.
- **How:** Participants establish long-term, resource-conserving vegetative species, such as approved grass or shrubs/trees
- **Why:** To control soil erosion, improve the water quality and enhance wildlife habitat.

Differences from the General CRP

- Non-Competitive Enrollment Process
 - Environmental sensitive land can be enrolled in CCRP at any time starting December 9th through September 30th.
 - Exception: Expiring CRP may not be offered prior to six months before the expiration date or April 1st.
- Must have a Resource Concern in which the Conservation Practice is Needed and Feasible
- Contract effective date may be the first of the month following COC approval or deferred up to six months.
 - Exception: Acreage currently under a CRP-1 due to expire on September 30th, MUST have a October 1 effective date.

Eligibility

Producer Eligibility:

Owned/operated land for at least 12 months prior to closing the CRP enrollment

Land Eligibility:

Land must be cropland that is planted or consider planted to an ag commodity, four of the six crop years, 2012 to 2017 and is physically and legally capable of being planted in a normal manner to an ag commodity.

Eligible Practices:

Practice must be eligible and suitable to meet the specific objectives of the resource concern for the environmentally sensitive land.

CCRP - SAFE

- The State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) initiative restores vital habitat in order to meet high-priority state wildlife and water quality conservation goals.
- Through CCRP-SAFE, landowners can establish wetlands and buffers to protect soil and water health by working as a barrier to sediment and nutrient run-off before they reach waterways, streams and rivers.

CCRP – SAFE Eligibility

- **To be enrolled under SAFE, land must be located within one of the six State-designated SAFE project areas: (*contact your local County Office to see if you are eligible*)**
 - Coteau-Drift Prairie SAFE
 - Declining Grassland Birds SAFE
 - Habitat for Pheasants SAFE
 - Pollinator Habitat for Honey Bees SAFE
 - SW Sagebrush Restoration SAFE
 - Eastern ND Tallgrass Prairie Restoration SAFE
- **Cropland enrolled in SAFE must meet the normal land eligibility criteria for CRP**

Important Sign Up Information

- **CCRP and CCRP-SAFE**
 - Signup period for ***New land*** began December 9th and ends September 30, 2020.
 - Offers for expiring CRP may begin April 1st through September 30, 2020.
 - Enrollment acreage must meet the specific size and limitation according to the practice specifications.
 - Contract lengths of 10 to 15 years
 - Annual Soil Rental Payments
 - Cost-share assistance available
 - Required management without C/S
 - Emergency & Nonemergency Haying and Grazing Opportunities on eligible practices

Offer Processing Through Social Distancing

Call your local FSA County Office

Step 1

- Find your local USDA Service Center
 - <https://offices.usda.gov>

Step 2

- Contact your local County Office by phone, indicate your desire to receive more information concerning any of the Conservation Programs.
- Provide the location of the land you are interested in enrolling. An aerial map may be requested by producers to assist in identifying the area of interest.
- Provide the best method for communication: USPS, email, text, internet applications such as TEAMS, other.
- Schedule a phone appointment in order to review your offer scenarios for enrollment once the County Office has prepared information

Interactive Communication

Communication between program participations and County Office staff will be essential during this time of social distancing.

To ensure that offers for enrollment are completed based on your desired location and farming operational needs, please allow for several exchanges with local staff.

FSA Staff are available by phone to assist in answering questions, and/or preparing and processing enrollment options.

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**For more information on these programs and
more, please visit**

<https://www.fsa.usda.gov>

Program Fact Sheets can be found at

**[https://www.fsa.usda.gov/news-
room/fact-sheets/index](https://www.fsa.usda.gov/news-room/fact-sheets/index)**

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GovDelivery

Emails and Text Messages

No office? No problem! Receive text message alerts from FSA while on-the-go, in the field, on the tractor or even on horseback.

Subscribe to text message alerts to receive timely updates on:



Text **ndsteele** to FSANOW (372-669) to subscribe to text message alerts from **Steele** County.

Standard text messaging rates apply. Contact your wireless carrier for details. Expect to receive no more than two text messages from FSA each month, on average. Participants may unsubscribe at any time.

For more in-depth FSA program information, we offer our standard electronic news bulletin by email.

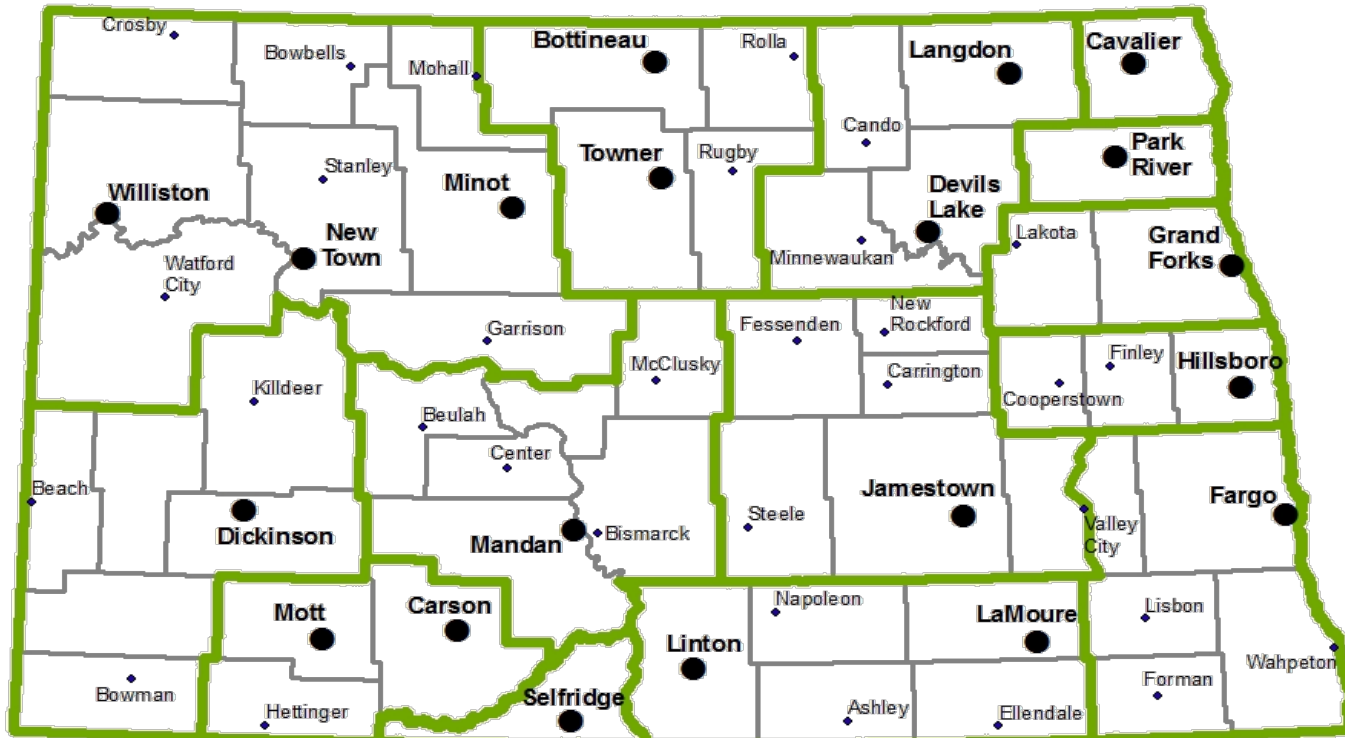
Visit www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe, or contact your **Steele** County FSA office.

Stay Connected with the Latest Information

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North Dakota USDA Service Centers:



FSA Office Locations

- ◆ USDA Service Center
- Farm Loan Offices

North Dakota USDA Service Center Contact Information (*Email & Phone*)

County Office	Email Address (all staff)	Phone Number
County Name	County Group Email Address	Phone Number
Adams	ndhettinge-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-567-2462
Barnes	ndvalleyci-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-845-3083
Benson	ndminnewau-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-473-5312
Bottineau	ndbottinea-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-228-3611
Bowman /Slope	ndbowman-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-523-5531
Burke	ndbowbells-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-377-2983
Burleigh	ndbismarck-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-250-4298
Cass	ndfargo-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-282-2157
Cavalier	ndlangdon-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-256-5521
Dickey	ndellendal-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-349-3653
Divide	ndcrosby-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-965-6001

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North Dakota USDA Service Center Contact Information *(Email & Phone) Continued....*

County Office	Email Address (all staff)	Phone Number
Dunn	ndkilldeer-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-764-5991
Eddy	ndnewrockf-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-947-2427
Emmons	ndlinton-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-254-4791
Foster	ndcarringt-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-652-2867
Golden Valley	ndbeach-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-872-4313
Grand Forks	ndgrandfor-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-775-5533
Grant	ndcarson-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-622-3240
Griggs	ndcooperst-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-797-2240
Hettinger	ndmott-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-824-2691
Kidder	ndsteele-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-475-2371
LaMoure	ndlamoure-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-883-5268
Logan	ndnapoleon-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-754-2251

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North Dakota USDA Service Center Contact Information *(Email & Phone) Continued....*

County Office	Email Address (all staff)	Phone Number
McHenry	ndtowner-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-537-5471
McIntosh	ndashley-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-288-3481
McKenzie	ndwatfordc-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-842-3628
McLean	ndgarrison-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-463-2267
Mercer	ndbeulah-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-873-5290
Morton	ndmandan-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-667-1163
Mountrail	ndstanley-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-628-2446
Nelson	ndlakota-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-247-2455
Oliver	ndcenter-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-794-8725
Pembina	ndcavalier-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-265-4333
Pierce	ndrugby-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-776-5821
Ramsey	nddevilsa-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-662-4987

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North Dakota USDA Service Center Contact Information *(Email & Phone) Continued....*

County Office	Email Address (all staff)	Phone Number
Ransom	ndlisbon-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-683-5832
Renville	ndmohall-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-756-6351
Richland	ndwahpeton-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-642-9231
Rolette	ndrolla-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-477-3167
Sargent	ndforman-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-724-6226
Sheridan	ndmccclusky-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-363-2237
Sioux	ndselfridg-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-422-3331
Stark-Billings	nddickinso-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-225-2931
Steele	ndfinley-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-524-2840
Stutsman	ndjamestow-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-252-1920
Towner	ndcando-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-968-3514
Traill	ndhillsbor-fsa@one.usda.gov	701- 436-5101

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North Dakota USDA Service Center Contact Information (*Email & Phone*) *Continued....*

County Office	Email Address (all staff)	Phone Number
Walsh	ndparkrive-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-284-7771
Ward	ndminot-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-852-5434
Wells	ndfessende-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-547-3591
Williams	ndwillisto-fsa@one.usda.gov	701-572-6729

Find Your Local Service Center
(including address information):

<https://www.farmers.gov/service-center-locator>

Communication Resources:

For more information visit:

www.farmers.gov

Coronavirus and USDA Service Centers

<https://www.farmers.gov/coronavirus>

ND Farm Service Agency Contacts *for information on this webinar:*

Communications/Outreach Lindsey Abentroth, lindsey.abentroth@usda.gov

Conservation Programs including: Soil Health Income Protection Program (SHIP), Grassland Reserve Program, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP) Wanda Braton, wanda.braton@usda.gov
Jay Hochhalter, james.hochhalter@usda.gov

Questions??