

CRP signup now open

(KLZA)-- Agricultural producers and private landowners interested in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) can sign up for the popular program beginning until Feb. 12, 2021.

The competitive program, administered by USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides annual rental payments for land devoted to conservation purposes.

This signup for the Conservation Reserve Program gives producers and landowners an opportunity to enroll for the first time or continue their participation for another term. This program encourages conservation on sensitive lands or low-yielding acres, which provides tremendous benefits for stewardship of our natural resources and wildlife.

Through CRP, farmers and ranchers establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland.

New cropland offered in the program must have been planted for four out of six crop years from 2012 to 2017. Additionally, producers with land already enrolled but expiring on Sept. 30, 2021, can re-enroll this year. The acreage offered by producers and landowners is evaluated competitively; accepted offers will begin Oct. 1, 2021.

Three question and answer forums are scheduled for Jan. 19 at noon MST; Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. CST; and Jan. 21 at noon CST. These virtual meetings are being hosted by several Nebraska natural resource and wildlife partners.

All USDA Service Centers are open for business, including those that restrict in-person visits or require appointments. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency should call ahead and schedule an appointment.

More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.