

Funding Available for Conservation Practices on Privately Owned Forestland

Well-managed, productive forests offer numerous conservation benefits, but the long growth cycle of trees can present a financial challenge for landowners seeking to retain working forestlands. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is now making \$470,000 available to help increase adoption of forestry practices statewide through a new Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) project.

Offered in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOT), the RCPP Forestry Program offers landowners an opportunity to help establish and maintain the forestlands that are fundamental to clean air and water, wildlife habitat and recreation/tourism. Interested individuals have two opportunities to sign up for this special funding. The first application deadline is July 8 and the second is July 22. All applications must be submitted by July 22 to be considered for FY15 funding.

To apply or to receive additional information on Virginia RCPP projects, visit www.va.nrcs.usda.gov. To learn about technical and financial assistance available through conservation programs, visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted or your local USDA Service Center.