

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

Indiana Air Quality Initiative 2009 State Guidelines

These are Indiana's Guidelines developed from the Conservation Programs Manual (CPM) 440 part 515 and are intended to provide Indiana specific information for implementation of the 2009 EQIP Air Quality Initiative program. These Guidelines are not all inclusive for EQIP program management. Additional details on producer eligibility, land eligibility, appeals, evidence of control, and payment limitations can be found in CPM-440 part 515. Contracting specific information can be found in CPM-440 part 512.

EQIP is a voluntary conservation program that promotes agricultural production, forest management, and environmental quality as compatible national goals. EQIP offers financial and technical help to assist eligible participants to install or implement conservation practices on eligible agricultural and forest land.

General EQIP Provisions

- **ELIGIBLE COUNTIES:** only the following counties in Indiana are eligible for this Air Quality initiative:
 - Clark, Dearborn, Dubois, Floyd, Gibson, Hamilton, Hendricks, Jefferson, Johnson, Lake, Marion, Morgan, Pike, Porter, Spencer, Vanderburgh, Warrick
 - **ELIGIBLE PRACTICES:** only the practices contained in this guidance document are eligible for this initiative. If the EQIP application contains practices other than these, they are not eligible for funding under this initiative, but may be eligible through other Indiana EQIP opportunities.
- **CONSERVATION PLAN:** All EQIP applicants will have an on-site visit completed and a conservation plan will be developed in Toolkit on the acres being offered for application *before* the application is ranked. Required documentation will include a resource checklist (CPA-52) and list of conservation practices that the client has agreed to install if funded.
- **APPLICATIONS:** All applications will be entered in ProTracts and ranked using the [Application Evaluation and Ranking Tool](#) in ProTracts. Ranking will be done in the county in which the producer signs up for the program and that county will manage the EQIP contract. Payment limitations, adjusted gross income (AGI), and producer eligibility **must be** verified before the application status is changed to eligible.
- **APPLICANTS:** Applicants **must** prove control of the land for the contract period to meet basic eligibility requirements. The proof can be a Deed or other evidence of ownership, a lease, or documented historical use of the land. Applicants that are entities must provide Articles of Incorporation, Corporate Charter or By-laws, court orders, or articles of partnership clearly designating who has signatory authority for the entity at the time of application. Where an applicant is importing or exporting manure, they **must** provide a contract/agreement that

shows the terms of receiving or exporting for the life of the EQIP contract. When an applicant is not the owner of the land the landowner **must** sign the contract **or** provide **written permission** to install any structural or vegetative practices on their land.

- **CONTRACTS:** EQIP contracts are written with a minimum term that **ends one year after** the implementation of the last scheduled practice, and a maximum term of ten years. Contracts record the details of payments for implementing conservation practices and are legally binding documents. Only practices being implemented with EQIP financial assistance are listed in the contract. Practices must be implemented according to NRCS technical standards.
- **PAYMENT LIMITATIONS:** An individual or entity may not receive, directly or indirectly payments that, in the aggregate, exceed \$300,000 for **all** EQIP contracts entered into after October 1, 2008. The \$300,000 payment limitation will automatically be confirmed during the ProTracts eligibility update. Producers cannot receive a contract for more than the remaining balance of the payment limitation. The payment limitation can be reviewed in Fund Manager. Additional information on combined payment limitations with 2002 and 2008 Farm Bill contracts can be found in CPM-440-515.92 C
- **HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED PRODUCERS:** Limited Resource Farmers, Beginning Farmers, and Socially Disadvantaged producers as defined in the EQIP rule at 7 CFR 1466.3, are eligible for higher practice payment rates. Payment rates for these producers are 25% greater than the payment rate for other producers. Producers in these groups are held to the same per practice payment caps as other producers.
- **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:** Participants may elect to use a certified Technical Service Provider for EQIP technical assistance. In order to be reimbursed the **Technical Service Provider must be in TechReg**, and the technical assistance practice code must be in the contract prior to service being provided. Technical assistance can be paid on all 2009 EQIP funded practices.

Ranking Highlights:

- The Application Evaluation and Ranking Tool (AERT) in ProTracts will be used to rank all applications. AERT includes National, State and local priorities.
- The state's specific resource concerns are: soil erosion, soil condition, water quality, air quality, plant condition, domestic animals and fish and wildlife concerns specific to Indiana.
- The Local Work Group will identify the local top ten (10) resource priorities from the State list, and then place them in order of importance. The local points will be calculated as follows: The most important local resource priority will receive the highest points; the second most important local resource priority will receive the second highest points, until available points are disbursed to the top ten local resource priorities.
- A portion of the EQIP ranking is based on the applications efficiency score. This score takes into account the degree of cost effectiveness, the treatment of multiple resource concerns, the use of practices that provide environmental enhancements for a longer period of time, and the magnitude of the environmental benefits

resulting from treatment of National, State, and local resource concerns

Ranking points are only available for practices that will address existing resource concerns (as defined in the Quality Criteria in Section III, Indiana Electronic Field Office Technical Guide). Practices that a producer wishes to implement on lands that currently meet the Quality Criteria, but will result in greater environmental benefit are eligible for funding but will be ranked accordingly.

- **EQIP livestock practices** such as, but not limited to 313, 359, and 561 will have to meet the following requirements:
- **Animal Units:**
 - Animal units are calculated as the average weight times the number of animals divided by 1000.
 - Payment rates using Animal Units (AU) for the 'Unit Type' for payment purposes will be based on or up to the existing facility capacity at the time of application.
- **Confined Livestock Operations:**
 - **New facilities:** Are eligible for payments **only** where **existing** confined facilities will be closed, for environmental benefits, and moved to a new location. The new facility may include up to a 20% increase in animal units compared to the facility that is closing. Herd increases over 20% are not eligible for funding. The closure (Closure of Waste Impoundments – 360) and the new facility must both be included in the EQIP contract.
 - **Existing and or expansion:**
 - Eligible when implemented to solve an existing resource concern on an existing facility site with less than 20% expansion of the Animal Units within the same species.
 - Where expansion of the Animal Units is 20% or more on an existing facility, payment will be based on the EXPANSION scenario up to the capped amount.
- **Grazing Livestock Operations:**
 - As of the date of the application, sites that do not have the species and animal units that the practices are planned for adjacent to an existing livestock operation under ownership of the applicant, do not have resource concerns addressed by those planned practices, and will be ranked accordingly unless the livestock will go from a confined or overstocked situation to a Prescribed Grazing system, with no more than a 20% increase in animal units.

Funding Highlights:

- Applications will compete for EQIP funds on a ranking basis within the Air Quality Initiative fund code.
- Applications not funded in a previous selection round will compete for funding in the next available round. This procedure will be used until all EQIP funds have been awarded.

TSP TA

- Technical assistance funding (TSP TA) will be available for immediate use on 2009 applications. \$250,000 in TA funds has been reserved for all of Indiana's EQIP. This allows the actual amount of TA to be included in a FY09

application and carry right into an approved contract without the need for contract modification. The TA must only be used for a FY09 scheduled and installed practice.

Payment Indexing

- Implementation of payment indexing to move on schedule practices to the current year payment schedule has been postponed to 2010.

FY 2009 EQIP Air Quality Schedule of Events

WHEN	WHAT	WHO
Ongoing	Participants request conservation plans, and submit applications for EQIP	NRCS/Partners
April 10, 2009	Upload toolkit and ProTracts payment schedules for testing	Programs/Technology
May 12, 2009	Release final AERT, payment schedule, and 09 Guidelines to field	Programs
June 15, 2009	Applications received by this date will be considered for first round funding	Field
June 23, 2009	12:00 noon First round funding selection date	Area
June 23, 2009	Applications received by this date will be considered for second round funding	Field
July 1, 2009	12: noon Second round funding selection date	Area
July 15, 2009	Confer with ACs, Sweep unallocated funds and re-disburse if needed	Programs/Area
August 15, 2009	Final date to "accept obligation" in Fund manager and "sign contract" in ProTracts. Funds must be obligated into contracts (National requirement)	Area

Indiana 2009 EQIP Air Quality Initiative Practice List
Payment Schedule, Special Provisions, Restrictions, and Requirements

Practices Eligible for Payments

Payment schedule rates for conservation practices were developed to promote positive conservation outcomes tailored to the environmental needs of Indiana. Cost sharing by a percentage and incentive payments are no longer available. Practice schedule payments are payments for the installation of a specific practice. Payments are based on the statewide documented cost of installation and offered as a payment per unit of the practice installed. Example: 500 feet of Access Road is installed, 500 ft (Unit) X \$7.25 (Unit Payment Rate) = \$3625.00 (EQIP payment). Payment schedule amounts will not exceed dollar caps placed on specific practices. 2009 EQIP practices, payment rates, caps and special provisions are in the table below.

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
472	Access Control	Access Control - From Stream or Wetland or Woodland	AC	75	PR	100	720	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Payment is to be used for livestock exclusion only, livestock must currently be present in the area intended to be protected to qualify for this Payment. ❑ Area protected must have a minimum of 30 ft distance to water in the case of streams, measured from barrier to waters edge. ❑ In the case of wetlands, the area protected is the portion of wetland present on the contract acres that is protected by the exclusion. ❑ Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							
365 or 366	Anaerobic Digester, Ambient Temperature or Controlled Temperature	Anaerobic Digester	AU	225.00	PR	100	200,000	✓
		Anaerobic Digester - EXPANSION	AU	135.00	PR	100	80,000	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Payment is eligible for the digester vessel, cover, internal equipment, controls, gas piping and flare portions of the digester only. ❑ Digesters must address an existing resource concern. ❑ Producers are required to acquire their own Technical Assistance (no NRCS or TSP design available). 							

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
370	Atmospheric Resource Quality Management	Energy Conservation and Soil Quality Improvement Systems	AC	27.00	PR	100	21,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Available for implementing the following practices on the same acreage: No-till + Nutrient Management/Waste Utilization + Cover crops + Buffers as a system. <input type="checkbox"/> All 4 practices must meet applicable standards. <input type="checkbox"/> Available if at least 1 of the 4 practices is currently not installed on the offered acres. <input type="checkbox"/> This Payment is limited to 1000 acres per applicant per year and is in addition to any other Payment or Payments for the individual practices for the system. <input type="checkbox"/> No fall commercial nitrogen application for spring seeded crops (corn/soybean) unless a nitrification inhibitor is used. Fall applications of DAP and MAP are permitted. <input type="checkbox"/> Acres under a Corn/Wheat/Double-crop Soybean rotation is already energy efficient, offers limited opportunity or benefit from the addition of a cover crop and are therefore not eligible for this payment. <input type="checkbox"/> Acres under a Corn/Soybean/Wheat rotation will only be eligible for up to 2 years of payment (when a cover crop is seeded into or following wheat and/or when a cover crop is seeded into or after corn). <input type="checkbox"/> No-Till must be <u>continuous</u> throughout the rotation. <input type="checkbox"/> Buffers must be adjacent to all water bodies and must be at least 2% of the enrolled acres. <input type="checkbox"/> Sink holes shall only be considered water bodies when they hold water long enough to prevent cropping. <input type="checkbox"/> Prioritize buffer areas as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water bodies (Required). 2. Sensitive areas. 3. Treating resource concerns where they exist in each field. 4. Between land use changes. 5. Establish buffer in low yielding areas <input type="checkbox"/> Buffers may not be used to buffer other buffers. <input type="checkbox"/> CRP, GRP and WRP acres are eligible to meet the buffer requirement, but can not be included in the acres for the payment. <input type="checkbox"/> Cover crops must be installed on all enrolled acres each year to receive the full payment. <input type="checkbox"/> Acres on which cover crops are harvested (for grain or forage) are not eligible for this Payment. <input type="checkbox"/> Fertilizer applications specifically for the cover crop are not permitted. <input type="checkbox"/> Acres under CSP contracts are not eligible for this Payment. <input type="checkbox"/> Participants are required to analyze their operations using the NRCS Energy Calculators (Tillage and Nitrogen) annually and COMET-VR for the planned rotation, and provide output reports to NRCS. <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							
360	Closure of Waste Impoundments	Closure of Waste Impoundments	CU FT	0.23	PR	100	7,500	√
317	Composting Facility	Composting Facility	SQ FT	0.74	PR	100		√
327	Conservation Cover	Muck Soils	AC	476.00	PR	100		
		Introduced Cool Season Grasses	AC	268.00	PR	100		
		Native Grasses	AC	321.00	PR	100		

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
340	Cover Crop	Cover Crop	AC	46.00	PR	100	15,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ The cover crop can not be mechanically harvested for grain, seed or forage. This includes dry hay, straw, baleage, silage, haylage, green chop or etc. (unless waived via Indiana bulletin 300-9-1). ❑ Grazing of cover crops is allowed if used to address an existing resource concern caused by existing livestock, and the cover crops will be grazed according to a grazing plan. ❑ Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							
342	Critical Area Planting	Critical Area Planting	AC	862.00	PR	100		
554	Drainage Water Management	Drainage Water Management	AC	60.00	PR	100	2,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Payment for this practice is for the acres being managed under this practice. ❑ Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							
592	Feed Management	Feed Management	AU	1.50	PR	100	1,000	√
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ This payment applies only to confined livestock facilities. ❑ Producers must have a Feed Management plan, developed by a qualified individual, which meets the 592 standard to reduce Nitrogen and/or Phosphorus loads, reduce feed and water wastage and use, reduce overall manure production and/or improve air quality. ❑ Animal units for the payment will be determined by the Animal Units (AU) present at any one time at the location or facility. ❑ NRCS will not provide Technical Assistance (neither directly nor through TSPs). ❑ Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							
386	Field Border	Field Border	AC	297.00	PR	100		
393	Filter Strip	Muck Soils	AC	506.00	PR	100		
	Filter Strip	Filter Strip	AC	312.00	PR	100		
412	Grassed Waterway	Grassed Waterway	AC	3273.00	PR	100		
561	Heavy Use Area Protection	Heavy Use Area Protection	SQ FT	0.74	PR	100	10,000	√
422	Hedgerow Planting	Hedgerow Planting	FT	0.27	PR	100		
449	Irrigation Water Management	Irrigation Water Management - Implementation	AC	12.00	PR	100		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Management must decrease non-point source pollution of surface or ground water resources or result in increased efficiency of water use or increased energy efficiency. ❑ A Uniformity Test and flow monitoring is required the first year payment is received. ❑ Payment is for detailed record keeping and data collection, and irrigating according to an approved irrigation scheduling program (such as Purdue's Michiana Irrigation Scheduler or equivalent). ❑ Payment provided only for existing irrigation systems. Participant must have irrigated 2 of the past 5 years per EQIP policy. The participants' statement or the DCs knowledge of this is acceptable proof. ❑ Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
441 &/or 442	Irrigation System, Microirrigation	Irrigation Systems –Microirrigation system upgrade	NO	2250	PR	100	7500	
	Irrigation System, Sprinkler	Irrigation Systems – Sprinkler system upgrade	NO	2250	PR	100	7500	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Payment is for upgrading <u>existing</u> systems to make them more energy and/or water efficient. ❑ Upgrade may include a backflow prevention device, if needed to address water quality resource concerns. ❑ The need for upgrading the existing system to be more energy and/or water efficient must be identified in an Irrigation Water Management Plan meeting the 118 standard prior to receiving payment. ❑ The EQIP application must also include Irrigation Water Management (449). 							
484	Mulching	Mulching - Without Erosion Control Blanket	AC	464.00	PR	100		
	Mulching	Mulching - Erosion Control Blanket	AC	5074.00	PR	100		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ 484 is only eligible as a component of another practice for the purpose of establishment of permanent vegetative cover. 							
590	Nutrient Management	Nutrient Management - Basic Management	AC	6.00	PR	100	2,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Eligible on cropland or pastureland only if at least one of the following 3 scenarios is currently occurring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Soil testing has not occurred within the last 4 years, but regular soil testing will occur. ❑ Nitrogen is currently being applied in the fall / early winter without a nitrification inhibitor. Nitrogen will now be injected with a nitrification inhibitor or not applied in the fall / early winter. Surface applications of DAP and MAP are permitted but not on frozen or snow-covered ground. ❑ Nitrogen is currently applied as a single pre-plant application, but will be split applied/side-dressed. ❑ Payments for Nutrient Management (590) and Waste Utilization (633) can not be received on the same acres in the same contract year. Acreage previously covered by 590 in an EQIP contract are not eligible again for the 590 Basic. ❑ The Nutrient Management Plan must be developed prior to the practice application. ❑ Acres under an existing CSP contract are not eligible for this payment. ❑ Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
590	Nutrient Management	Nutrient Management – High Management	AC	22.00	PR	100	7,500	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible on cropland only. Must meet requirements of Nutrient Management-Basic Management. <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible only if at least one of the following 3 scenarios is not currently occurring, but all 3 will be completed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Intensive soil sampling (Grid or Soil Management Zone); <input type="checkbox"/> Intensively managed nutrient application placement (variable rate for P, K, and lime) for all years on all applications. Variable rate does not apply to starter fertilizer (corn/wheat), N sidedress applications and/or small grain topdress (N or P); <input type="checkbox"/> No fall nitrogen application for spring seeded crops (corn/soybean). Fall N application for wheat is permitted. Fall applications of DAP and MAP are permitted but not on frozen or snow-covered ground. <input type="checkbox"/> Payments for Nutrient Management (590) and Waste Utilization (633) can not be received on the same acres in the same year. <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient Management-High Management can follow Nutrient Management-Basic Management; however Nutrient Management-Basic Management can not follow Nutrient Management-High Management. <input type="checkbox"/> Acres under an existing CSP contract are not eligible for this payment. <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							
595	Pest Management	Pest Management- Basic Management	AC	3.00	PR	100	1,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible on all cropland and pastureland where pesticides are applied not currently under a pest management plan. Acreage previously covered by 595 in an EQIP contract is not eligible again for the 595 Basic. <input type="checkbox"/> Follow IPM principles (i.e. scouting, pest identification, field history, treatment threshold) for all pesticide applications. <input type="checkbox"/> 3 pest scouting trips/crop per year are required (emergence, mid-season, late season). <input type="checkbox"/> Follow all pesticide label setbacks (as applicable for water bodies, properties and other environmentally sensitive areas) for herbicides, insecticides and fungicides. <input type="checkbox"/> Foliar pesticide applications are only allowed when field scouting discovers pests (e.g. diseases, insects, weeds) at economic threshold levels, as referenced in a Purdue extension/scientific publication, or a predicted threat by Purdue University Specialists. <input type="checkbox"/> The Pest Management Plan must be developed prior to the practice application. <input type="checkbox"/> Acres under an existing CSP contract are not eligible for this payment. <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption 							

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
595	Pest Management	Pest Management-Precision Application	AC	15.00	PR	100	5,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Eligible on all <u>cropland</u> where pesticides are applied. ❑ Must meet requirements of Pest Management-Basic Management, plus the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use of precision equipment with automated section or boom shut-off capabilities to minimize overlap and to <u>avoid</u> environmentally sensitive areas (NOTE: environmentally sensitive areas will be geo-referenced for all pesticide applications per the 595 standard – includes applicable setbacks, perennial water bodies, surface inlets, buffers, sinkholes – surficial opening and/or lowest point, etc.). ❑ Pest Management-Precision Management can follow Pest Management-Basic Management; however Pest Management-Basic Management can not follow Pest Management-Precision Management. ❑ Acres under an existing CSP contract are not eligible for this payment. ❑ Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							
	Pest Management	Pest Management-Precision Application on Orchards and Vegetable/Truck Crops	AC	303.00	PR	100	2,020	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Eligible on all Orchards and Vegetable/Truck Crop lands where pesticides are applied. ❑ Use of precision equipment with the capability of directed spray (tree crops) or Use of precision equipment with automated section or boom shut-off capabilities to minimize overlap and to <u>avoid</u> environmentally sensitive areas (NOTE: environmentally sensitive areas will be geo-referenced and referenced for all pesticide applications per the 595 standard – includes applicable setbacks, perennial water bodies, surface inlets, buffers, sinkholes – surficial opening and/or lowest point, etc.). ❑ All pesticide applications will be based on scouting records and recommended application scenarios using approved Land Grant University pesticide application recommendations (Purdue’s MelCast, etc.) ❑ Acres under an existing CSP contract are not eligible for this payment. ❑ Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
595	Pest Management	Pest Management - IPM Orchards	AC	90.00	PR	100	3,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Eligible on all orchards where pesticides are applied. Growers will use the Ohio State University (OSU) IPM self-assessment tools online (at: http://ipm.osu.edu/pageview.asp?id=10) to obtain a benchmark score for pest management adoption at the start of the EQIP contract. Payments will be based on an annual increase in score of at least 10%, and a minimum score of 60% must be obtained by the end of the third year. ❑ Follow all pesticide label setbacks (as applicable for water bodies, properties and other environmentally sensitive areas) for herbicides, insecticides and fungicides. ❑ Foliar pesticide applications are only allowed when field scouting discovers pests (e.g. diseases, insects, weeds) at economic threshold levels, as referenced in a Purdue extension/scientific publication, or a predicted threat by Purdue University Specialists. Follow IPM principles (e.g. scouting, pest identification, field history, treatment threshold) for all pesticide applications. ❑ Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques will include monitoring and forecasting, reduced-risk pesticides, reduced risk technology, cultural control and biologically based control, as applicable, for the crop to be grown. ❑ The Pest Management Plan must be developed prior to the practice application. ❑ Acres under an existing CSP contract are not eligible for this payment. ❑ Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							
	Pest Management	Pest Management – IPM Vegetable/Truck Crops	AC	45.00	PR	100	1,500	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Eligible on all vegetable and truck crops where pesticides are applied. Growers will use the Ohio State University (OSU) IPM self-assessment tools online (at: http://ipm.osu.edu/pageview.asp?id=10) to obtain a benchmark score for pest management adoption at the start of the EQIP contract. Payments will be based on an annual increase in score of at least 10%, and a minimum score of 60% must be obtained by the end of the third year. ❑ Follow all pesticide label setbacks (as applicable for water bodies, properties and other environmentally sensitive areas) for herbicides, insecticides and fungicides. ❑ Foliar pesticide applications are only allowed when field scouting discovers pests (e.g. diseases, insects, weeds) at economic threshold levels, as referenced in a Purdue extension/scientific publication, or a predicted threat by Purdue University Specialists. Follow IPM principles (e.g. scouting, pest identification, field history, treatment threshold) for all pesticide applications. ❑ Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques will include monitoring and forecasting, reduced-risk pesticides, reduced risk technology, cultural control and biologically based control, as applicable, for the crop to be grown. ❑ The Pest Management Plan must be developed prior to the practice application. ❑ Acres under an existing CSP contract are not eligible for this payment. ❑ Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 								

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
595	Pest Management	Invasive Species Control	AC	116	PR	100	3100	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible only if identified as necessary in an approved Forest Management Plan or Prescribed Grazing Plan. <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible on Forestland or Pastureland to control: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Honeysuckle (Bush or Japanese) <input type="checkbox"/> Ailanthus (Tree of Heaven) <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Flora Rose <input type="checkbox"/> Autumn Olive <input type="checkbox"/> Buckthorn <input type="checkbox"/> Periwinkle <input type="checkbox"/> Area of treatment will be a best estimate of the total area of infestation, or by estimating the percent of the total area that is affected. <input type="checkbox"/> Acres under an existing CSP contract are not eligible for this payment. <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							
	Pest Management	Tree and Shrub Establishment – Post Planting Herbicide Treatment	AC	51.00	PR	100		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Post planting herbicide treatment is eligible for 2 additional years after the tree planting year. 								
528	Prescribed Grazing	Prescribed Grazing	AC	25.00	PR	100	1,700	√
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Payments will also be available for other practices required as part of the plan. <input type="checkbox"/> Must have physically started implementing the practices planned for the rotational grazing system to receive the first payment. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment includes the typical scenario cost of temporary, moveable fencing. <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment for 528 is not eligible in the same year and acreage receiving Nutrient Management (590)-Basic or Pest Management (595)-Basic payments. 							

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
329	Residue and Tillage Management, No Till	Residue Management, No Till	AC	26.00	PR	100	11,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A STIR rating of less than 20 must be documented to receive this Payment. <input type="checkbox"/> This practice must be applied to the same acres all 3 years in which the payments are made. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant must have no-tilled for less than 5 consecutive years in order to be eligible (based on the Indiana 329 Practice Standard). <input type="checkbox"/> The crop rotation for the contract period must include at least two years of no-till corn. <input type="checkbox"/> Must develop nutrient management (590) and pest management (595) plans that are specific for a no-till system, and have any component critical to the success of the system implemented the fall prior to the implementation of no-till. This is to address issues that may limit the success of no-till implementation. Payments will be provided for nutrient management and pest management practices as well if requirements are met. <input type="checkbox"/> It is intended that 345 precede 329 in a contract where 345 is used as a transition from conventional tillage to the 329. <input type="checkbox"/> In contracts where 345 is used as a transition, the combined total of both practices will not exceed 2 years of 345 and 3 years of 329. <input type="checkbox"/> This is the only case in which both 345 and 329 can be used on one contract. It is not allowable to pay for 500 acres of mulch till on one farm or field and 500 acres of no-till on another. <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. <input type="checkbox"/> Agronomy Tech Notes 1- 4 are references for this practice at: http://www.in.nrcs.usda.gov/intranet/TechnicalNotes/technicalnotes.html 							
345	Residue and Tillage Management, Mulch Till	Residue Management, Mulch Till – Modified No-Till	AC	11.00	PR	100	4,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Practice must meet the Indiana 345 practice standard for modified no-till / high end mulch till system. <input type="checkbox"/> A STIR rating of less than 20 must be documented to receive this Payment. <input type="checkbox"/> This practice must be applied to the same acres all 3 years in which the payments are made. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant must have mulch tilled (modified no till) and/or no tilled (329) for less than 5 consecutive years in order to be eligible. <input type="checkbox"/> The rotation for the contract period must include at least two years of corn. <input type="checkbox"/> Must develop nutrient management (590) and pest management (595) plans that are specific for a mulch-till system, and have any component critical to the success of the system implemented the fall prior to the implementation of mulch-till. This is to address issues that may limit the success of mulch-till implementation. Payments will be provided for nutrient management and pest management practices as well if requirements are met. <input type="checkbox"/> It is intended that 345 precede 329 in a contract where 345 is used as a transition from conventional tillage to the 329. <input type="checkbox"/> In contracts where 345 is used as a transition, the combined total of both practices will not exceed 2 years of 345 and 3 years of 329. <input type="checkbox"/> This is the only case in which both 345 and 329 can be used on one contract. It is not allowable to pay for 500 acres of mulch till on one farm or field and 500 acres of no-till on another. <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							
391	Riparian Forest Buffer	Riparian Forest Buffer	AC	540.00	PR	100		

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
390	Riparian Herbaceous Cover	Native Grasses	AC	321.00	PR	100		
612	Tree and Shrub Establishment	Tree and Shrub Establishment – cropland	AC	523.00	PR	100		
		Tree and Shrub Establishment - pastureland	AC	449.00	PR	100		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ A Forestry Plan meeting Forest Management Plan – Written (106) standard must be developed prior to receiving payment. NOTE: a plan developed outside of EQIP Financial Assistance for 106 meets this requirement as long as the plan meets the 106 standard, Forest stewardship plans qualify. ❑ The offered upland forestland acreage under control of the applicant must be at least 10 contiguous acres <u>after</u> the plan is implemented. ❑ The minimum amount of upland tree planting to be completed must be at least 1.0 acre adjacent to existing forestland that results in at least 10 acres of contiguous forest land. ❑ The offered bottomland or wetland forests acreage under control of the applicant must be at least 5 contiguous acres <u>after</u> the plan is implemented. ❑ The minimum amount of bottomland or wetland tree planting to be completed must be at least 1.0 acre adjacent to existing forestland that results in at least 5 contiguous acres of forest land. 							
	645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	Native Grasses	AC	334.00	PR	100	
Tree and Shrubs			AC	523.00	PR	100		
Introduced Cool Season Grasses			AC	250.00	PR	100		

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
313	Waste Storage Facility	Concrete Pit or pre-fabricated	CU FT	1.07	PR	100	50,000	√
	Waste Storage Facility	Concrete Pit or pre-fabricated EXPANSION	CU FT	0.64	PR	100	20,000	√
	Waste Storage Facility	Earthen Pit	CU FT	0.20	PR	100	50,000	√
	Waste Storage Facility	Earthen Pit EXPANSION	CU FT	0.12	PR	100	20,000	√
	Waste Storage Facility	Dry Stack-with roof	SQ FT	14.87	PR	100	50,000	√
	Waste Storage Facility	Dry Stack-with roof EXPANSION	SQ FT	8.92	PR	100	20,000	√
	Waste Storage Facility	Dry Stack- no roof	SQ FT	8.62	PR	100	50,000	√
	Waste Storage Facility	Dry Stack- no roof EXPANSION	SQ FT	5.17	PR	100	20,000	√
	Waste Storage Facility	Litter Stack	SQ FT	11.58	PR	100	50,000	√
	Waste Storage Facility	Litter Stack EXPANSION	SQ FT	6.95	PR	100	20,000	√
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ New production facilities are not eligible for payments. ❑ To be eligible for payments a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) must be written, approved, delivered, and paid for prior to the start of the waste storage facility, and must be used as the basis for the design of this practice. ❑ Payment will be limited to a facility sized for up to an additional 180 days storage. The Indiana Animal Waste Systems Calculator will be used to determine the contracted size of the storage facility and the subsequent amount eligible for payment. ❑ This practice requires an on site engineering review and cost estimate by a NRCS Engineer. ❑ If a site has no animals but will be collecting and storing manure from another farm, then the applicant must have a contract to receive manure at the site for the length of the EQIP contract, and provide NRCS with a copy to be eligible for payments. ❑ Eligible when implemented to solve an existing resource concern on an existing facility site with less than 20% expansion of the Animal Units within the same species. ❑ Where expansion of the Animal Units is 20% or more, payment will be based on the EXPANSION scenario up to the capped amount. 							
629	Waste Treatment	Biofilter – ‘bed’ type	No.	563			6,000	√
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Producers are required to acquire their own Technical Assistance (no NRCS or TSP design available). ❑ For existing air quality concerns associated with mechanically ventilated livestock buildings. ❑ Eligible for bed type filters on <u>pit</u> fans only. ❑ Payment is per fan. ❑ Eligible components include biofilter, plenums, exhaust fan upgrades, and moisture management systems. 							

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
359	Waste Treatment Lagoon	Waste Treatment Lagoon	CU FT	0.20	PR	100	50,000	✓
	Waste Treatment Lagoon	Waste Treatment Lagoon EXPANSION	CU FT	0.12	PR	100	20,000	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ New production facilities are not eligible for payments. ❑ To be eligible for payments a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) must be written, approved, delivered, and paid for prior to the start of the waste treatment lagoon, and must be used as the basis for the design of this practice. ❑ This practice requires an on site engineering review and cost estimate by a NRCS Engineer. ❑ If a site has no animals but will be collecting and storing manure from another farm, then the applicant must have a contract to receive manure at the site for the length of the EQIP contract, and provide NRCS with a copy to be eligible for payments. ❑ When implemented to solve an existing resource concern on an existing facility site with less than 20% expansion of the Animal Units within the same species, payments may be up to the capped amount. ❑ Where expansion of the Animal Units is 20% or more, payments will be based on the EXPANSION scenario up to the capped amount. 							
633	Waste Utilization	Waste Utilization- Basic Management	AC	35.00	PR	100	5750	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Available for crop and pasture/hay fields where animal wastes are being utilized. ❑ Land where waste utilization or nutrient management is currently being implemented to NRCS standards is not eligible for 633. ❑ Land under a newly written CNMP plan is eligible for waste utilization as long as 633 has not been previously implemented to NRCS standards and is not prohibited by other provisions in this section. ❑ Acreage previously covered by 633 in an EQIP contract is not eligible again for the 633 Basic. ❑ Only fields with a soil test phosphorus level of <50 ppm (100 lbs) per acre will be eligible. ❑ The applicant can be the generator or receiver of the waste and must have control of the fields that receive the waste during the life of the contract. ❑ Criteria for the payment are tied to the fields that will receive the manure. ❑ Pre-sidedress soil nitrate test (PSNT) and/or chlorophyll meter (SPAD) must be completed on cropland receiving manure. Follow Purdue University CES publication (AY-314-W or AY-317-W) guidelines. ❑ Soil test must have been completed within the last 4 years to be valid. The number of acres necessary for manure application shall be based on the IDEM "Manure Application Land Requirements." ❑ Municipal sewage sludge applications are not eligible. ❑ Payments for Nutrient Management (590) and Waste Utilization (633) can not be received on the same acres in the same contract year. ❑ A Waste Utilization Plan, Nutrient Management Plan, or a CNMP must be developed prior to the practice application. ❑ Acres under an existing CSP contract are not eligible for this payment. ❑ Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							

Practice Code	Practice Name	Scenario	Unit Type	Unit Payment Rate	Payment type	Rate	Payment Cap	Livestock Practice
633	Waste Utilization	Waste Utilization-High Management	AC	42.00	PR	100	7,000	√
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Available for the additional management/costs associated with cover crops and/or nitrification inhibitors. ❑ Must meet the requirements of Waste Utilization-Basic Management, plus either of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Manure applications on summer (after wheat), fall, winter or after corn silage allowed only with a cover crop, established prior to or within 2 weeks after manure application, and/or the use of a nitrification inhibitor. ○ Eligible for spring manure applications, only if switching manure application from summer (after wheat), fall or winter. ❑ Payments for Nutrient Management (590) and Waste Utilization (633) can not be received on the same acres in the same year. ❑ This Payment is in addition to any other Payment for the cover crop (340). ❑ Acres under an existing CSP contract are not eligible for this payment. ❑ Eligible for up to three payments to encourage adoption. 							
657	Wetland Restoration	Wetland Restoration	AC	2231.00	PR	100		
380	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	FT	0.80	PR	100		

NOTE: The cap column is the maximum payment that will be paid for a practice regardless of the units installed or the unit cost of the item.

Historically Underserved Instructions:

Limited Resource Farmers:

- Limited Resource Farmers have the responsibility to prove that they are eligible for that Special Group. Potential Limited Resource Farmers must meet the definition of ag producer and meet both of the following:
 1. Direct or indirect gross farm sales not more than \$155,200 in each of the previous two years.*1
 - AND**
 2. A total household income at or below the national poverty level for a family of four or less than 50 percent of county median household income in each of the previous two years.*2
- Limited Resource Farmers should go to this link <http://www.lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov/tool.asp> and run the tool to see if they meet the requirements.
- Prior to signing the EQIP contract, producers will have to show District Conservationists the following two items from the IRS 1040 for the previous two tax years: 1. the Gross farm income, generally on line 11 of Schedule F, Profit or Loss from Farming to substantiate gross farm sales and; 2. the Adjusted Gross Income, generally on line 33 of the 1040 to substantiate household income less than 50 percent of the county median. The IRS 1040 form must be the signed document as filed with IRS, copies are acceptable.
- All members of an entity must meet the Limited Resource Farmer requirement.
- District conservationists will document in assistance notes that they have confirmed the Limited Resource

Farmer status. Copies of 1040's and schedule F's will NOT be maintained by NRCS.

*1 This value will be adjusted for inflation beginning in 2010 using the "Prices Paid by Farmer Index" compiled by **NASS**.

*2 Total household income will be determined annually and indexed for inflation using Commerce Department Data.

Beginning farmer:

- Beginning Farmers have the responsibility to prove that they are eligible for that Special Group. Potential Beginning Farmers must meet the definition of ag producer and meet both of the following:
 1. Be an individual or entity that has NOT operated a farm, or who has operated a farm for not more than 10 consecutive years. (This requirement applies to all members of an entity.)
- AND**
2. Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Prior to signing the EQIP contract producers must show District Conservationists at least one IRS 1040 from the previous ten years where Schedule F, Profit or Loss from Farming, has NOT been filed. Information from Schedule F is generally found on line 18 of the 1040. The IRS 1040 form must be the signed document as filed with IRS, copies are acceptable.
 - All members of an entity must meet the Beginning Farmer requirement.
 - District conservationists will document in assistance notes that they have confirmed the Beginning Farmer status. Copies of 1040's and schedule F's will NOT be maintained by NRCS.

Socially Disadvantaged farmer:

- Is a member of a group that has been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudices because of their identity as a member of a group, without regard to their individual qualities.
- Gender alone is not a covered group.
- There is no validation process for participants who self certify as belonging to a socially disadvantaged group.
- See CPM-440-512.5 for additional information

Producer Eligibility:

To be eligible to participate in EQIP, an applicant must be an agricultural producer. To be considered an agricultural producer, there must be a minimum of \$1,000 in agricultural products sold, or that normally would have been sold, in a normal year.

Producers with **only** forest land must have one of the following to be considered eligible:

- A forest management plan or forest stewardship plan.
- A prior record of timber harvest or revenue from timber sales.
- Proof of capital investment in forest practices.

See CPM 440-515.51 for additional information on producer eligibility.

Land Eligibility:

Eligible land is land on which agricultural commodities or livestock are produced and includes cropland, grassland, pastureland, and private non-industrial private forest. ***Reclaimed mine land is eligible only if it has been used as agricultural land and has been released from bond. NRCS must have written proof that the bond has been released.***
See CPM-440-515.52 for additional information on land eligibility.

Technical Assistance from TSPs:

EQIP participants may choose to hire a TechReg certified Technical Service Provider (TSP) to assist them with the technical assistance activities to design and implement their contracted practices. TSP technical assistance (TA) funds will be provided, subject to fund availability, for any practice scheduled to be implemented in calendar year 2009 (FY09 applications and prior-year EQIP contracts) – (**NOTE:** FY09 applications should have the TSP TA scheduled in the application; Prior Year contracts will need to be modified to add the TSP TA practices), subject to the following exceptions:

- Technical Assistance is only available for practices that have a total estimated installation cost less than \$100,000. Engineering on individual projects over \$100,000 will not be completed by NRCS; therefore, TSP TA is only available where the estimated installation cost is less than \$100,000. See the NRCS Indiana Supplement to Part 502 – Responsibilities, of the National Engineering Manual for related NRCS Indiana policy at http://www.in.nrcs.usda.gov/intranet/manual_supplements.html.
- CNMPs scheduled in Prior Year contracts – these individuals should apply for an FY09 CNMP-only application, and modify their current contract to delete the 100 or 102 Practice Code.

The following TA activities are eligible for payments to producers, **except** NRCS will not provide direct technical assistance, or TSP TA funding, for assistance on Feed Management (592), Anaerobic Digesters (365/366), Biofilters (629), or Activity Plans (102, 106, 118, 138):

1. 911 Design (all other practices)
2. 912 Installation (all other practices)
3. 913 Checkout (all other practices)

Payments to the producer for 911, 912 or 913 can be made upon delivery of the required documents to NRCS as stated in the Statements of Work for the practice located in Section IV of the Electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG). The Nutrient Management Plan and Pest Management Plan checklists meet these requirements. Payments for practices **912 and 913 shall be submitted together**, and should also be processed with the payment for the associated practice since the 912 and 913 activities will certify that the practice was installed according to NRCS standards and specifications. Payments will be made for the billed amount up to the TSP Technical Service Payment Rate for the specific practice and service. For all practice codes, the maximum payment available to the EQIP participant will be based on the TSP Technical Service Payment rates published on TechReg, available at <http://techreg.sc.egov.usda.gov/NTE/TSPNTE2/index.asp>. Copies of the final TSP Technical Service Payment rates obtained from TechReg will be filed in the participant's file. The producer may or may not be reimbursed for the actual amount charged by the TSP provider. Service provider charges are NOT determined nor controlled by the Technical Service Payment rates posted on TechReg. The Technical Service Payment rates reflect the market analysis completed by NRCS for providing the service and establish the NRCS payment cap for the service. Service provider rates are negotiable between the provider and the producer.

TSP TA For All Engineering Practices: all three TA activities (911, 912, and 913) must be scheduled and completed by the TSP. TA practice code 911 will not be scheduled without 912 and 913.

TSP TA Guidance for Practices with Multiple Years of Application: 911, 912, and 913 are only available 1 time per contract on a practice. 912 and 913 are only eligible the first year of practice implementation. Practices implemented

previously are not eligible for 912 and 913. Practices scheduled this year but not previously implemented are eligible for 912 and 913.

TSP TA Step-By-Step Instructions for NRCS and for EQIP Applicants are available at <http://www.in.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/eqiphomepage.html>

Waivers to Begin Practices:

Starting a practice before the contract is approved by NRCS causes the applicant to be ineligible for EQIP financial assistance for that practice, unless a waiver has been granted. The State Conservationist has issued a statewide waiver for Cover Crops, Waste Utilization Basic and High. **There will be no waivers approved for other practices.** The waiver will expire at the end of the fiscal year in which it is granted. Refer to INDIANA BULLETIN NO. 300-9-1 for complete information on the waiver process for 2009.

Using ProTracts Application Fund Codes:

Specific fund codes will be used for Air Quality applications.

Potential Duplicative Payments:

NRCS must ensure that 2009 EQIP contracts do not include practices that may cause duplicate payments with Conservation Security Program payments. See Indiana Bulletin 300-8-7 for the list of Conservation practices that may create potential duplicative payments between multiple USDA program payments.

Products to the Participant:

NRCS shall provide one signed copy of the NRCS-CPA-1202, NRCS-CPA-1202 appendix, Application Evaluation and Ranking Tool (AERT), and NRCS-CPA-1155 to the participant when the "Approved" EQIP contract is signed by the participant. Every signatory to the contract that receives any payment share greater than 0% shall receive a copy of the listed documents.