



**CT COUNCIL ON SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION  
NRCS TSP R<sup>2</sup> PROGRAM  
Training Participant Agreement**

This Agreement is made between the Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation ("CSWC") and the undersigned Connecticut forest practitioner ("Participant") regarding participation in year one, commencing in November 2025, of the NRCS TSP R<sup>2</sup> Program ("Program").

**Eligibility:**

Participant affirms that they are a licensed forest practitioner in the State of Connecticut.

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Employer/Professional Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

CT Certified Forest Practitioner Number: \_\_\_\_\_

TSP ID and expiration date (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Participant Commitment:**

To become a Technical Service Provider ("TSP"), participants shall complete all three training sessions, submit a reviewed and approved forest management plan (FMP), and complete TSP registration. Less is required for current TSPs to complete this Program. Please see the table below that details requirements based on TSP status.

Participants may begin the Program and opt out of completing the Program. Payment will only be issued following the completion of each required training session or step.

To receive payment, the participant shall attend the individual training session in its entirety. Partial attendance in any individual training will not qualify for payment. Time commitments are detailed on the table below.

**Participant Compensation:**

CSWC will pay each participant \$115 per hour for complete training attendance. Payment will be issued following each completed training session or step. A participant therefore may receive three rounds of



payment. Compensation for each training or step is detailed in the table below. Lunch will be provided at the in-person training sessions.

The maximum payment per participant in the training sessions is one thousand eight hundred forty dollars (\$1,840), which represents payment for sixteen (16) hours of in-person training. The sixteen (16) hours is comprised of TSP TRAINING, PART 1 (six (6) hrs.), TSP Training PART 2 (two (2) hrs.), and the TSP ORIENTATION & CONSERVATION PLANNING TRAINING (eight (8) hrs.). TSP Recruits who complete, submit, and receive NRCS approval for a forest management plan (FMP) **and** who register as a TSP will receive an additional two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) flat payment, provided that such FMP is submitted ideally within six months (by July 31, 2026) but no later than December 31, 2026.

Total maximum payment per TSP recruit in year one is four thousand three hundred forty dollars (\$4,340), which is comprised of sixteen (16) hours of training and one approved FMP and registration as TSP.

#### **Payment Schedule:**

Hourly payments for training sessions shall be issued by check from CSWC to the participant within sixty (60) days after completion of each training and mailed to the participant, at the address provided by the participant below:

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Address:

\_\_\_\_\_ (Street/Ave./Road)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Apartment/Suite)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Town, State, Zip Code)

Payment for an approved FMP and completed TSP registration will be issued by CSWC to the participant within sixty (60) days of NRCS' verification of such participant's TSP registration.

#### **Participation & Registration:**

Participation is limited to twenty (20) spots per session. An additional five (5) spots will be held on a waitlist. Waitlisted participants will be notified via email regarding their status and will be contacted by CSWC if a spot becomes available. If a spot does not become available for a waitlisted participant, they will need to register again for year two of the Program. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.

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**Registration Deadlines:**

**TSP TRAINING, PART 1-PROGAM INTRODUCTION:** Required registration by November 1, 2025.

**TSP TRAINING, PART 2-NRCS REGISTRY SIGNUP:** Required registration by November 1, 2025.

**TSP ORIENTATION & CONSERVATION PLANNING TRAINING:** Required registration by January 2, 2026.

Please check the trainings you are registering for:

REGISTRATION - CHECK ALL THAT APPLY	TRAINING EVENT	DESCRIPTION	DETAILS	REQUIREMENTS	COMPENSATION
( )	1. TSP TRAINING, PART 1- PROGAM INTRODUCTION	Introduction to TSP R <sup>2</sup> Program and NRCS cost share programs and practices	6-hour In-Person Training on November 19, 2025.	Required for current TSPs and TSP recruits	\$115 per training hour
( )	2. TSP TRAINING, PART 2- NRCS REGISTRY SIGNUP	Provides one-on-one assistance in creating online accounts required for NRCS TSP program	2-Hour In Person Training on November 19, 2025.	Required only for TSP recruits	\$115 per training hour
( )	3. TSP ORIENTATION & CONSERVATION PLANNING TRAINING	A training session specific to conservation planning	8-Hour In Person Training on January 21, 2026.	Required for TSP recruits	\$115 per training hour
( )	4. FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN SUBMISSIONS	Participants must independently develop and submit a representative forest management plan for review and approval by NRCS	On your own time, ideally <b>within 6 months</b> of completing TSP trainings.	Required only for TSP recruits. The final step to becoming a TSP.	\$2,500 upon NRCS approval of a plan and registration as a TSP.

Participant shall attend trainings in full and complete required deliverables to receive payment.

Participant acknowledges that this program is funded through June 1, 2029, and offers 3 full rounds of trainings. Participants may choose to spread their attendance across multiple years or retake trainings in subsequent years if funding allows and should plan accordingly.

Participants shall bring their own computer or tablet to the training sessions. If a participant requires assistance or does not have access to a device, **the participant shall inform the CSWC within fourteen (14) days of the scheduled training** so that CSWC can provide support to ensure participation.



### **Records & Reporting:**

Participant agrees that CSWC shall maintain records of attendance, payments, and plan approvals and may share such records with DEEP or NRCS for reporting purposes.

### **Governing Terms:**

This Agreement is subject to the availability of funding and any requirements imposed by CSWC, DEEP, or NRCS. Participant agrees to comply with all applicable rules and procedures of the Trainings.

CSWC reserves the right to reschedule any training sessions to alternate dates. Participants will be notified in writing (via email) at least two (2) weeks in advance of any change. Participants are expected to attend the rescheduled session to remain eligible for compensation.

By signing below, Participant acknowledges that they have read, understand, and agree to the terms of this Agreement.

Participant Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CSWC Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CSWC is committed to providing an inclusive environment for all participants. Any participant with a disability who requires accommodations to fully participate in the training must notify CSWC at least two (2) weeks prior to the session. Reasonable accommodations will be provided in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).**

**Funding for this Program is provided by the USDA Forest Service through the Forest Stewardship Program, and under the Inflation Reduction Act CT State Allocation as administered by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Division of Forestry.**

*The Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation is set up by State Statute to assist the Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) with the coordination of soil and water conservation, protection, and management across the state. The Council brings together local, state, and federal agencies involved in such matters with its membership including the 5 Conservation Districts, DEEP, Dept of Agriculture, UConn Extension, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, USDA Farm Service Agency, CT Agricultural Experiment Station, and the CT Resource Conservation and Development Council. There is a similar coordinating body in every state, creating a national network of state soil and water conservation agencies providing for technical transfer of scientific knowledge and best practices across the nation.*