

FUNDS FOR FARMERS

- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program**
- **Regional Conservation Partnership Program**
- **Conservation Stewardship Program**
- **Agricultural Conservation Easement Program**

For more information go to: AlbanyCounty.com/Legislature/IRAGreenBenefits.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- Technical and financial assistance provided to producers to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits, including:
 - Improved water and air quality
 - Increased soil health
 - Reduced soil erosion and sedimentation
- The National Resource Conservation Services provides agricultural producers with one-on-one help and financial assistance to plan and implement improvements
- EQIP assistance can be used on all types of agricultural operations
- To apply contact your local NRCS office



Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

- RCPP is a partner-driven approach to conservation that funds solutions to natural resource challenges on agricultural land
 - RCPP projects include: land management/improvement/restoration, land rentals, and, entity-held easements
- Funding is divided into two pools, Critical Conservation Areas and State/Multistate projects



Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

- CSP benefits include: enhanced resiliency to weather and market volatility, decreased need for agricultural inputs, and improved wildlife habitat conditions
- CSP contracts are for five years, and funding is offered in two pools
 - Payments to maintain the existing level of conservation
 - Payments to implement additional conservation activities
- If you are interested in the Conservation Stewardship Program contact your local NRCS field office and let them know you are interested



Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)

- ACEP protects the agricultural viability and related conservation values of eligible land
- ACEP has two parts: Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) and Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE)
 - ALE helps landowners, land trusts, and other entities protect croplands and grasslands on working farms and ranches by limiting non-agricultural uses of the land through conservation easements
 - WRE helps landowners protect, restore, and enhance wetlands which have been previously degraded due to agricultural uses

