

# **RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

## **National Overview Matrix of USDA Programs**

### Background:

RC&D Areas are designated by the Secretary of Agriculture to receive assistance from USDA. The USDA RC&D Policy Advisory Board has reviewed specific programs that may be helpful to RC&D Councils in accomplishing their objectives. RC&D Councils are encouraged to use a full array of USDA programs and services in implementing local actions prioritized through their Area Plan. The following matrix of programs is offered to the RC&D Councils as having a high potential for addressing local actions.

### Purpose:

The matrix of programs provides RC&D Coordinators, RC&D Council members and USDA agencies an overview of selected USDA programs. The programs identified have a high potential to help RC&D Councils and also help USDA deliver a combination of program resources in a regional context.

### Content:

The matrix is a quick index of USDA programs to be used as an introduction and starting point in accessing existing USDA programs. RC&D Coordinators are encouraged to supplement this information and develop a regional USDA reference resource that reflects individual RC&D Council needs defined by their Area Plan. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) was used to develop the matrix. The CFDA is updated twice a year by all federal agencies. The matrix of USDA programs lists the CFDA number. This number allows an individual to find and gather more program specific information. The CFDA does not reflect all initiatives that a USDA agency may be undertaking in any given year. Information about any special initiatives should be requested directly from the individual agencies.

This matrix will be part of the NRCS RC&D program manual and available in an electronic version. It will be posted on the National Association of RC&D Councils web-site. The matrix can be downloaded for local use and further development. Local contacts and the level of local grant funding will be important information that varies from state to state and should be added by the coordinator. The CFDA can be found at [www.cfda.gov](http://www.cfda.gov) where additional details are clearly stated.

### Policies:

USDA agencies may have official policy statements regarding work with RC&D Councils relative to the programs shown in the matrix. Policies for agency employees may be found at the national, regional, and/or state levels. RC&D Coordinators are expected to become knowledgeable of policies of USDA agencies concerning the RC&D program to assist their RC&D Councils and further USDA agency goals.