



# 2025 NH Conservation Districts Climate Resilience Grant Application

**Project Title:**

**Amount Requested:**

**Total Budget:**

**Project Location:**

## Applicant Information

**Applicant Name (First and Last):**

**Applicant Farm:**

**Email:**

**Phone Number:**

Are you a limited resource farmer, beginning farmer, socially disadvantaged farm, and/or veteran farmer as defined by the USDA ([view definitions here](#)). If yes, please indicate below which USDA categories are applicable to you?

- Socially disadvantaged
- Low income
- Beginning farmer (started in last 10 years)

- Veteran farmer

**Farm Location (Street Address, Town, State, and County):**

**Year Your Business Started:**

**Briefly Describe Your Product(s) or Service(s):**

**Please select a project focus area:**

- Soil Health
- Energy
- Water Management
- Crop and Livestock Protection – Integrated pest management and/or solutions for livestock heat stress

**Please identify a metric that you will track during the grant period and report on in your final report. A minimum of one metric must be selected for a project to be eligible for funding. Please use one of the below metrics or provide a metric applicable to your project in the space below. If uncertain of the best metric for your project, please consult with your technical service provider for their recommendation.**

Soil Health

- Soil organic matter is anticipated to increase. Organic matter will be tested at the start of the project and at the conclusion of the project. Test results will be submitted in the final report
- Anticipated reduction in tillage. Tillage will be tracked and reported on based on a comparison of the prior year's tillage regime..
- Anticipated increase/reduction of inputs (compost, fertilizer, herbicides, etc.) Inputs will be tracked and reported based on a comparison of the prior year's inputs.

Energy

- Electricity usage is anticipated to decrease. Electricity usage (kilowatt-hour (kWh)) will be tracked and reported on through monthly electric bills in the final report.
- Renewable energy production will increase. Monthly generation (kilowatt-hour (kWh))will be tracked and reported on in the final report.

#### Water Management

- Water usage is anticipated to decrease or be managed more efficiently. Water usage numbers before and after the project implementation will be tracked and shared in the final report.

#### Crop Protection and Livestock Well Being

- Pest damage is anticipated to decrease. Crop scouting and crop production numbers before and after the project implementation will be tracked and shared in the final report.
- Livestock well being is anticipated to improve. For projects focused on heat stress, temperature readings (in barns and shade areas) will be tracked and shared in the final report.

Other:

#### **How Did You Hear About this Opportunity?:**

Farms are encouraged to work with an Agricultural Service Provider (e.g. UNH Cooperative Extension Educator, Crop Advisor, USDA NRCS Conservation Planner, NHACD Planner, etc,) as a Technical Advisor on project planning and implementation. If you are working with an Ag Service Provider for technical assistance on your project please have them complete a Partnership Form and submit it with your application.

If you are not working with an Ag Service Provider please share your plan on how you will effectively complete your proposed project. Please outline the expertise and experience needed and who you will be working with to provide it.

If you are not working with a service provider and would like to please contact your County Conservation District for a referral and have them connect you.

## **Project Description**

(Please answer the following questions (#1-10) in 1,000-2,500 words total in this question format. Please include as much detail as possible. Please do not use a separate narrative.)

1. Please describe your project?
2. What are the project's goals?
3. What are the tasks and timeline of the project?
4. How will this project improve your farm's ability to mitigate or adapt to climate change?
5. How will this project benefit your farm?
6. Please describe the capacity of your farm to complete the project? Who will be responsible? Please use names and relevant experience where applicable.
7. What technical assistance do you anticipate needing to ensure that this project is successful?

8. Will you be willing to work with your conservation district to make the public aware of the project (e.g. press, social media, community events, host a farm tour, etc.) ? Please explain your level of interest?
9. How will you educate other farmers on the benefit of the project?
10. What is your plan for covering ongoing costs after the grant is completed? What is your plan to ensure the sustainability of your project?
11. How/when will you know you're successful? What metrics and targets will you use?
12. Have you applied for funding from USDA NRCS for this project? Please explain why or why not?
13. If you did apply to NRCS was this project selected for funding? If yes, please explain why you need additional funding to move the project forward? If no, please indicate here.

### **Project Budget**

Amount Requested (\$100 - \$10,000):

How much money is needed in total to complete the proposed project?

If your farm receives funding, how do you plan to pay for remaining expenses? Please explain the source and status of the other funds (e.g. are they secured?)

**REMINDER** - Farms are responsible for a minimum of 25% of project costs. This can include in-kind time and equipment use of the farm and should be tracked. Please use the rates listed in

the In Kind Contribution Tracking Form. This form should be used to track time if awarded a grant.

Please summarize your project costs in the table below. Include any costs covered by the farm applicant, costs requested from the grant fund, and funds contributed from other sources. Indicate in the designated column which expenses the applicant will cover, which expenses will be covered by other sources (if any), and which expenses you request from the grant fund.

Please include vendor quotes when applicable to help demonstrate the accuracy of your budget.

**Allowable expenses:** Practice implementation costs, Materials costs, Architectural, land planning, and/or engineering services, Other direct expenses, Equipment (All equipment purchased through grant funds must be new and under product warranty), Technical assistance, Consultant and legal services

**Expenses not allowed:** Advertising, Research and feasibility studies, Efforts that will not lead to increased climate resiliency, and Experimental projects. Farm Staff time and/or equipment use time can be used as a match but is not an allowed expense for the grant funds.

In the table below please provide an itemized budget and references. In the budget justification section please provide a detailed overview of your budget (for example rather than writing “supplies” provide a detailed justification of anticipated supplies and estimated cost).

<i><b>Budget Item</b></i>	<i><b>Total Amount</b></i>	<i><b>Grant Request</b></i>	<i><b>Applicant Costs</b></i>	<i><b>Other (ex. NRCS funding)</b></i>
Supplies				
Contractors				
Other				

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>				

**Please provide a budget justification narrative:**

**Required Attachments**

All applicants must include the following attachments:

- A map (topographic or aerial) with the project location identified (maps can be retrieved through google maps)
- A preliminary design or plan (as applicable)
- A quote or estimate from a contractor or vendor (as applicable)
- Clear photos of the project site

Further questions and/or references may be requested upon committee review.

**Thank you!**

By submitting this application, if approved, you give permission to announce the grant award through area media sources and publicize your organization as a recipient of the New Hampshire Conservation Districts Climate Resilience Grant in promotional material.

Grants are expected to be used for their stated purpose by the end of the grant period; if necessary, grantees may request an extension of the grant period or return unused funds.

***Applicants in Cheshire County can mail their applications to:***

NH CD Climate Resilience Grant  
Cheshire County Conservation District

11 Industrial Park Dr  
Walpole NH 03608

***Or email to:***

[info@cheshireconservation.org](mailto:info@cheshireconservation.org)

**Please include:** “Climate Resilience Grant Application” in the email subject line.

**All application material file attachments must be named:** Applicant First Name\_Applicant Last Name\_ClimateGrant” (Example: Jane\_Smith\_ClimateGrant), if there are multiple attachments, please include a brief description in the file name such as: Jane\_Smith\_ClimateGrantApplication or Jane\_Smith\_ClimateGrantMap

**For further information, and to discuss project ideas contact:** Amanda Littleton at 401-578-1608 or [amanda@cheshireconservation.org](mailto:amanda@cheshireconservation.org) or Benée Hershon at 802-518-0993 or [benee@cheshireconservation.org](mailto:benee@cheshireconservation.org)

**Applicants outside of Cheshire County: Please submit your application and application related inquiries directly to your respective county. County contact information can be found [here!](#)**