

USDA GENERAL & CONTINUOUS CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM SIGNUP June 6 enrollment deadline

USDA announced May 12 that its Farm Service Agency is accepting offers for both the General and Continuous Conservation Reserve Program through June 6. CRP, USDA's flagship conservation program, is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. CRP provides financial and technical support to farmers and landowners who place unproductive or marginal cropland under contract for 10-15 years and who agree to voluntarily convert the land to beneficial vegetative cover to improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and support wildlife habitat. Landowners with acres enrolled in CRP set to expire Sept. 30, 2025, can offer acres for re-enrollment. A producer can offer to enroll new acres into CRP and also offer to re-enroll any acres expiring Sept. 30, 2025. For more information on CRP participant and land eligibility, approved conservation practices and detailed program fact sheets, visit FSA's [CRP webpage](#). Interested producers should apply through the FSA at their local [USDA Service Center](#).

General CRP (Signup 64)

Agricultural producers and landowners submit offers for General CRP through a competitive bid process. Offers are ranked and scored, by FSA, using nationally established environmental benefits criteria. USDA will announce accepted offers once ranking and scoring for all offers is completed. In addition to annual rental payments, approved General CRP participants may also be eligible for cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource-conserving vegetative cover.

Continuous CRP (Signup 63)

Unlike General CRP, Continuous CRP offers are not subject to a competitive bid process. To ensure enrolled acres do not exceed the current statutory cap of 27 million acres, FSA is accepting Continuous CRP offers on a first-come, first-served basis through June 6. **However, should allotted CRP acreage remain available following the June 6 deadline, FSA will accept continuous CRP offers from interested landowners through July 31, 2025,** and may be subsequently considered for acceptance, in batches, if it's determined that the offered acres support USDA's conservation priorities. Continuous CRP participants voluntarily offer environmentally sensitive lands, typically smaller parcels than offered through General CRP including wetlands, riparian buffers, and varying wildlife habitats. In return, they receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource-conserving vegetative cover.

Continuous CRP enrollment options:

- ***State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement Initiative:*** Restores vital habitat in order to meet high-priority state wildlife conservation goals.
- ***Highly Erodible Land Initiative:*** Producers and landowners can enroll in CRP to establish long-term cover on highly erodible cropland that has a weighted erodibility index greater than or equal to 20.
- ***Clean Lakes, Estuaries and Rivers (CLEAR) Initiative:*** Prioritizes water quality practices on the land that, if enrolled, will help reduce sediment loadings, nutrient loadings, and harmful algal blooms. The vegetative covers also contribute to increased wildlife populations.
- ***CLEAR30 (a component of the CLEAR Initiative):*** Offers additional incentives for water quality practice adoption and can be accessed in 30-year contracts.
- ***Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program:*** Addresses high priority conservation objectives of states and Tribal governments on agricultural lands in specific geographic areas.

GEORGIA-FLORIDA TOBACCO TOUR

June 16-18

Various locations

This is a car caravan tour with individuals driving their own vehicle with tour stops at Georgia-Florida tobacco farms and on-farm demonstrations. Meals will be provided. The tour begins with a kick-off supper at the Brown Lantern in Live Oak, Florida, on June 16, at 7 p.m. Tour participants will spend the night in Live Oak. Tour resumes at 7:30 a.m. on June 17 and ends the day in Tifton. On June 18, the tour will leave Tifton at 7:30 a.m. and end with lunch at H&H Farms in Cobbtown, Georgia. Please register on the website <https://tobacco.caes.uga.edu/tours/2025-ga-fl-tobacco-tour.html>. More information on the tour schedule, including instructions for booking hotel reservations is available at the website. **Participants should make their own hotel reservations using the telephone numbers or links provided by May 23** with reference to the “Tobacco Tour” block of rooms. Additional details of the schedule and driving directions will be added the week before the tour. Contact J. Michael Moore at jmmoore@uga.edu or 229-392-6424 for more info.

GFB YF&R SUMMER CONFERENCE

June 1 registration deadline

July 16-19 Jekyll Island Convention Center

Jekyll Island

Registration is open for the GFB Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Summer Leadership Conference. Please share the following information with anyone who may be interested in attending. This conference is open to any GFB member ages 18-35. A children’s program will be provided for kids 4th grade and younger as a convenience for attendees competing or participating in sessions. Visit <https://gfb.ag/yfrslc> for complete conference details, including tentative agenda, information about the children’s program and lodging information, or to register. Registration Fee is \$150 per attendee. Attendees are responsible for their own hotel reservations. Room blocks have been secured at the Hampton Inn and Suite (912-635-3733, reservation deadline is June 16), Home2Suite (912-319-6019, reservation deadline is June 16), Villas by the Sea (912-635-2521, reservation deadline is June 16) and the Westin (912-635-4545, reservation deadline is June 13) on Jekyll Island. Note: These room blocks tend to fill up quickly.

GFB YF&R DISCUSSION MEET

June 1 deadline to enter Discussion Meet

Registration is open for the YF&R Discussion Meet. **The entry form should be completed and submitted online at <https://gfb.ag/yfrcompete> by June 1.** Please share this information with anyone who may be interested in competing. Any Georgia Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers member between the ages of 18 and 35 is eligible to compete. Discussion Meet Orientation (for all competitors) will be on July 16 and the competition will be in person at the GFB YF&R Summer Leadership Conference. The Discussion Meet consists of two (2) preliminary rounds, a Sweet Sixteen round, and a Final Four round, which will determine the state winner. A collegiate winner will also be recognized. Competitors can visit <https://www.gfb.org/education-and-outreach/discussion-meet.cms> for additional resources that may be helpful when preparing for the Discussion Meet. For questions regarding the Summer Leadership Conference or the competitive events, contact your county Farm Bureau office manager, GFB district federation manager or GFB YF&R Coordinator Levi Davis at ledavis@gfb.org.

AFBF AG INNOVATION CHALLENGE

June 9

deadline to enter

The American Farm Bureau Federation, in partnership with Farm Credit, is seeking entrepreneurs to apply online by June 9 for the 2026 Farm Bureau Ag Innovation Challenge. The overall winner of the competition will receive \$100,000 in startup funds, the runner-up will be awarded \$25,000 and two additional business owners who advance to the final four round will receive \$10,000. Farm Bureau is offering a total of \$145,000 in startup funds throughout the course of the competition. After the application period closes, 10 semi-finalist teams will be selected and announced on Aug. 4. Next, the 10 semi-finalist teams will pitch virtually to compete for a spot in the final four round of the contest. The final four teams will be awarded \$10,000 each and participate in a live pitch competition in front of Farm Bureau members, investors and industry representatives at the AFBF Convention in January 2026 in Anaheim, California. Top prize is a total of \$100,000. Runner-up prize is a total of \$25,000. Entrepreneurs must be members of a county or parish Farm Bureau within their state of residence to qualify as top 10 semi-finalists. Visit www.fb.org/challenge for more information & to apply. Applicants in Georgia who are not Farm Bureau members can visit <https://www.gfb.org/join/join-today> to learn about becoming a member. Residents of other states should visit <https://www.fb.org/about/get-involved>. **Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on June 9.** Visit www.fb.org/challenge for more information & to apply.

GFB WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP DISTRICT MEETINGS

June 10 GFB District 3 Meeting

Alo Farms

Peachtree City

Registration deadline is June 3. Contact your county Farm Bureau office manager to register.

June 11 GFB District 5 Meeting

Fitzgerald Fruit Farms

Woodbury

Registration deadline is June 3. Contact your county Farm Bureau office manager to register.

July 29 GFB District 6 Meeting

Rocking A Farm

Sandersville

Registration deadline is July 18. Contact your county Farm Bureau office manager to register.

Sept. 18 GFB District 2 Meeting

Strickland Mercantile

Danielsville

Registration deadline to be determined. Contact your county Farm Bureau office manager to register. Each Georgia Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee district chairwoman will host a district event from June into the fall. These meetings will feature a leadership development component while providing the opportunity to network with other women in agriculture from your GFB district in a special setting. If your GFB district meeting isn't listed above, and you are interested in attending it, reach out to your county Farm Bureau office manager to ask them to share program details when they receive them and look for announcements on the Friends of Georgia Farm Bureau Facebook group page. For more information contact GFB Women's Leadership Programs Coordinator Heather King at hcking@gfb.org or 478-474-0679, ext. 5232.

AFBF WHITE-REINHARDT AG LITERACY GRANTS

June 13

deadline to apply

The American Farm Bureau Foundation is accepting applications until June 13 for the [2025-2026 White-Reinhardt School Year Project Grants](https://www.agfoundation.org/grants-awards/white-reinhardt-grants). <https://www.agfoundation.org/grants-awards/white-reinhardt-grants> These grants fund projects that will increase agricultural literacy. County and state Farm Bureaus may apply for \$1,000 grants for education programs for grades K-12 to initiate new ag literacy programs or expand existing programs. Organizations and individual schools can work with their county Farm Bureaus to apply. Grants are available on a competitive basis. The White-Reinhardt Grant Program awards grants once a year. Please note that grant funds cannot be used for consumable items like food or paper, transportation, wages or safety programs. Grant payments can only be made to a state or county Farm Bureau. If you have any questions, please contact foundation@fb.org.

GEORGIA CENTENNIAL FARM APPLICATIONS

June 16

extended deadline to apply

Centennial Farm applications are open to all qualifying candidates. Farms play a pivotal role in shaping the legacy of our state, serving as the bedrock for economic, cultural, and familial traditions for generations of Georgians. Several farms boast a legacy spanning more than a century, and Georgia recognizes their historical significance through the Georgia Centennial Farm program. Nominees must be a working farm with a minimum of 10 acres of the original purchase, actively involved in agricultural production, and must generate at least \$1,000 in annual farm-generated income. In addition, farms must have been continuously farmed by members of the same family for at least 100 years or be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Qualifying Georgia Centennial Farms are honored each October at an awards ceremony at the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter in Perry. The Georgia Centennial Farm program is administered by the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs; Georgia Farm Bureau Federation; Georgia Department of Agriculture; Georgia EMC; Georgia National Fair and Agricenter; and University of Georgia Cooperative Extension. For more information, please contact Rose Mayo, Historic Preservation Division Outreach Coordinator, at 770-855-2586 or rose.mayo@dca.ga.gov. **The postmark deadline for applications is June 16, 2025.** Applications are available online at <https://gfb.ag/centennialfarmsapply>. (<https://www.dca.ga.gov/georgia-historic-preservation-division/historicresources/centennial-farms>)

SMALL SCALE FARMS CONSERVATION CONFERENCE

June 27 UGA Griffin Campus 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Griffin

Producers who may be operating on fewer acres than traditional farmers, or even on a square footage basis are invited to participate in this event covering a wide variety of topics to help make efficient use of the farm's natural resources and overall operation. Key topics include product innovation, food safety, pollinators, controlled environment agriculture, irrigation reservoirs and many more. One hour of pesticide credit is available for those need it. Click [here](#) to register. <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=5zZb7e4BvE6GfuA8-g1Glx4rxwT54R9Pk3lnVF1CA8FUM0dTQjlyWFE1REJGSVpLUExWWUxZWjFDUC4u&origin=lprLink&route=shorturl>

AGGEORGIA FARM CREDIT COMMUNITY MISSION FUND GRANTS

June 30

application deadline

AgGeorgia Farm Credit is accepting applications for \$50,000 in grants to support non-profits that are furthering the future of agriculture in Georgia. The funding is offered as part of the cooperative's Community Mission Fund, with awards of up to \$5,000 per organization per year. The Fund's mission is to build strong partnerships and alliances, leveraging resources to preserve and promote farmers, families, and Georgia's rural communities. The program has two main objectives: to invest in the future of agriculture and to enhance and impact the quality of life in rural Georgia. As part of the application, organizations should submit a detailed proposal for a project the grant will fund. Organizations' values and proposed project purpose must align with the Fund's mission to be considered for funding. To qualify for a grant, organizations must be located within the 79-county area where AgGeorgia Farm Credit conducts business. For more information and to apply, visit the AgGeorgia Farm Credit Community Mission Fund page at www.aggeorgia.com/community-mission-fund. Past grants have been awarded to veteran focused ag programs, to volunteer fire departments for off-road firefighting equipment, and been used to build instructional raised garden beds and chicken coops. The Fund has disbursed more than \$108,000 since it was created in 2023. For more information, please contact Jessica Bassett at Marketing@aggeorgia.com or by phone at 800-768-3276 x 630.

GFB CULTIVATE & EDUCATE AG IN THE CLASSROOM GRANTS

July 1

application deadline

Georgia Farm Bureau will award 12 grants of \$500 each to certified teachers employed by a school district or private school who teach at the pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade level to fund projects that will educate their students about the importance of agriculture and expand agricultural literacy. Teachers will provide a one-page narrative that explains the purpose of the project, need for the project, educational goals, project budget and a recommendation letter from the county Farm Bureau. Priority will be given to teachers who are Georgia Farm Bureau members. Projects are to be completed during the 2025-2026 school year. Grant money can be used for classroom materials and resources, including ag-accurate books. Grant money cannot be used for mileage, field trips nor one-time consumable products such as copying, paper or meals. GFB will issue grant funds to the recipient's county Farm Bureau, which will distribute the money to the grant recipient. Grant applications must be submitted online at <https://gfb.ag/AITCgrant>.

COLUMBIA COUNTY POND MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

July 7

registration deadline

July 14 Jerome Jones Far, 1456 Clary Cut Rd. 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Harlem

Georgia Association of Conservation Districts (GACD), the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (GSWCC), Columbia County Farm Bureau, and the Columbia County Soil and Water Conservation District are partnering to present a free informational workshop for local homeowners, property owners, and anyone who wants to learn more about managing pond health and care and the correct steps to care for them. Participate to learn more about pond management practices such as fish health, weed control, pond designs, and healthy fish management. In addition, information on farm programs will be presented. Partnering agencies for this event

include Georgia DNR and USDA- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Lunch will be served. This is a free event, but registration is required online at www.gacd.us/events.

SUNBELT AG EXPO INNOVATION AWARDS

July 15

application deadline

Do you have a new product or service that is innovative, timesaving, labor-saving or that will change the agricultural world? If so, enter it in Sunbelt Ag Expo's Top 10 New Products competition. Entries must be for products released between Oct. 17, 2024-Oct. 16, 2025. Products or services will be judged for originality, innovativeness, practicality, affordability and overall appeal. Entries will be evaluated by a panel of farmers, ranchers, agricultural business professionals and university representatives. Applications open June 1 at <https://sunbeltexpo.com/innovation-award/> . Winners will be contacted by August 5. The 10 winners must exhibit at the 2025 Sunbelt Ag Expo to be held Oct. 14-16 in Moultrie, Ga. If you have questions, email mandy@sunbeltexpo.com or call 229-985-1968.

GA COTTON COMMISSION MID-YEAR MEETING/PREHARVEST WORKSHOP

July 23

Nesmith-Lane Conference Center

Statesboro

The Georgia Cotton Commission is pleased to announce the guest speakers at the Commission's 2024 Mid-Year Meeting scheduled for **July 23** at the Nesmith-Lane Conference Center in Statesboro. The inaugural Mid-Year Meeting is held in conjunction with a UGA Cotton Pre-Harvest Workshop conducted by members of the UGA Research & Extension Cotton Team. The UGA Cotton Pre-Harvest Workshop will feature sessions where attendees will receive a 2025 crop update and defoliation considerations along with discussions regarding late season irrigation and pest management strategies. The program speakers are Akiko Inui, Board Chair of The Cotton Board, and Tas Smith, Vice President of Producer Affairs for the National Cotton Council. During the lunch program the Georgia Quality Cotton Awards for the 2025 crop will be presented. There is no charge to attend. Pre-registration is requested to help with meal plans. Register online at www.georgiacottoncommission.org.

SOUTHEAST CITRUS UPDATE

July 14

Vidalia Onion and Vegetable Research Center 9:30 a.m. Lyons

This free seminar will feature discussions on disease control, horticultural practices and citrus greening. Speakers include UGA Extension Citrus Specialist Dr. Mary Sutton, UGA Small Fruit Pathologist Dr. Jonathan Oliver, University of Florida Citrus and Subtropical Fruit Breeding Scientist Dr. Manjul Dutt and UGA Extension Citrus Agent Jake Price. Pesticide credits will be offered and lunch will be served. For more information or to RSVP, contact the Tattnall County Extension office at 912-557-6724 or the Evans County Extension office at 912-739-1292.

HEREFORDS IN THE COVE

Aug. 2

Walker County Civic Center

Rock Springs

Hereford producers are invited to attend this one-day event, which begins with registration at 1:30 p.m. Speakers will discuss the pending farm bill and its impact on where the cattle industry is in the cow cycle, the My Herd Record System, and using social media and webpages to promote your farm. The event will also include a junior program for young producers. Call Cody Cleveland at 229-402-0399 to register. The cost is \$25/person and \$10 for those under 10 years of age. For more information contact Wes Smith at 706-601-9527 or Charles Woodward at 678-725-2292. Contact Shelly McQuaig at 229-402-7232 for information about the junior program. The Walker County Civic Center is located at 10052 N Hwy. 27, Rock Springs, Ga. 30707. A room block has been arranged at the Hampton Inn Ringgold Fort Oglethorpe 6875 Battlefield Parkway, Ringgold, Ga. 30736. Call 706-935-4800 to make reservations by July 15 for the rate of \$119/night plus tax.

KEL-MAC SADDLE CLUB HORSE SHOWS

Sept. 20 & Oct. 25

Morgan Co. Ag Center

Madison

These shows are open to equestrians of all ages and experience levels. Classes include hunter/jumper, western, gaited, trail obstacles, ranch riding, ranch reining, dressage on the rail, halter/showmanship, “small fry” and more. All shows begin at 9 a.m. - rain or shine. Trail classes are from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Western Classes not to start before lunch. Riders must be members of Kel-Mac to accrue points towards year-end awards. Age divisions for competition are as follows: Small Fry: 10 and under; Junior: under 14 years of age; Senior: 14 years and over. Novice: Rider is in 1st or 2nd year of showing. Green Horse: Horse is in 1st or 2nd year of showing. Entry fee per class is \$12. Stall fees are \$15 for club members & \$20 nonmembers. All overnight stalls are \$25. For more information about the shows, visit the KelMac Saddle Club Facebook page, or www.kel-mac.com or call Arlene Williams at 706-431-8600. Signup for shows on the website. General admission is free and concession food and drinks will be available. The Morgan County Ag Center is located at 2380 Athens Hwy. (441), north of Madison. These volunteer-run shows generate funds to benefit Kel-Mac’s equestrian related charities. The Kel-Mac Saddle Club has donated more than \$170,250 back to Georgia’s Piedmont region during its 49 years including: the Georgia Equine Rescue League, ReDux Equine Rescue, Sweet Olive Rescue, and the Morgan County Sheriff’s Empty Stocking Fund, and the equestrian facilities of state & county parks such as A. H. Stephens, Hard Labor Creek, and Heritage Park.

LALLEMAND ANIMAL NUTRITION SCHOLARSHIPS

Oct. 3

deadline to apply

Applications for the 2025 Lallemand Scholarship are open through Oct. 3. Interested students must be full-time students enrolled in agriculture-related programs at accredited institutions in the United States, Canada, or Mexico. Applications will be evaluated based on academic achievement, leadership qualities, commitment to the agricultural industry and an essay submission that highlights creativity, originality, and forward-thinking perspectives. There are five scholarship categories: Two \$2,500 scholarships for undergraduate students; one \$3,000 scholarship for a master’s student; one \$3,000 scholarship for a doctoral candidate; and one \$3,000 scholarship for

a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) student. Learn more about eligibility and to apply by visiting the [Lallemand Animal Nutrition website](#).

UGA WARNELL SCHOOL OF FORESTRY BOBWHITE QUAIL SURVEY

The Martin GAME Lab at the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources at UGA is looking for private landowners in Georgia to take part in a brief survey about their opinions on bobwhite quail management for a study titled “Bobwhite Restoration, Incentives, and Research.” The purpose of the study is to better understand landowners’ opinions on bobwhite quail management and cost-share programs landowners would enroll in to manage their properties for bobwhite quail. Visit https://ugeorgia.ca1.qualtrics.com/.../SV_3aRgLcUioS8uy0u to take the study. Thank you in advance for helping with in this study.

GEORGIA PIVOT SURVEY

A research team from the University of Georgia, University of Nebraska, University of Florida, Fort Valley State University, and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, sponsored by the National Science Foundation, is conducting a survey to understand the recovery of farms following windstorms. Farmers are asked to participate. This survey asks about your farm, damage inflicted by recent hurricanes, and recovery since the hurricane. The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete, depending on the types of structures on your farm and the damage the farm experienced. Questions 11-15 are voluntary, answer if you would like. Your participation is completely voluntary, and all responses will be kept confidential. To participate, visit <https://forms.office.com/r/JZGAxfKfRG>. For more information, contact Wes Porter at wporter@uga.edu, or Joshua Dawson at dawsonj01@fvsu.edu, or call 229-386-7328.

UGA CITRUS ORCHARD NUTRITIONAL SURVEY

For the past three growing seasons, the UGA Agricultural and Environmental Services Labs (AESL) has been conducting a foliar nutrient survey of Georgia's citrus industry with funding from the USDA and Georgia Department of Agriculture's Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. One of the conditions of the project's grant funding is that researchers seek stakeholder feedback on the effectiveness of the program, and how this work may influence future grower decisions. The project researchers ask that you please complete this short (7 questions, 3-5 minutes) Citrus Nutrition Questionnaire [here](#). These results will help UGA researchers demonstrate the importance of this work to their sponsors, which increases the likelihood of future funding in this area. If you would like to learn more about this project and the results of the study, visit the [project website](#).

CONSERVATION DISTRICTS OFFER FERAL HOG CONTROL SERVICES

For a list of feral hog control services available in each GACD Conservation District, visit <https://gfb.ag/feralhoggacdresources>.

GFB HAY DIRECTORY

GFB is accepting listings for its online hay directory. Farm Bureau members with hay for sale or who offer custom harvesting or custom sprigging services are invited to list their hay and/or services in the GFB Quality Hay Directory published on the GFB website. Hay for sale or services can be listed or removed from the directory throughout the year. To be included in GFB's online hay directory, complete a submission form by visiting your county Farm Bureau office or online at www.gfb.ag/hay. Please include a \$10 check made payable to Georgia Farm Bureau for each listing of hay, custom harvesting or custom sprigging. Multiple listings are allowed. Listings can be updated in the directory throughout the year as hay inventories change. Hay producers who entered the 2024 GFB Quality Hay Contest receive a free listing in the online GFB Hay Directory.

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE OFFERS SUPPORT

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline can be reached by calling or texting 988 or chatting on 988lifeline.org. 988 serves as a universal entry point so that no matter where you live in the U.S., you can easily access 24/7 emotional support. You don't have to be suicidal to reach out. 988 trained crisis counselors can help you through whatever mental health challenges you are experiencing.