

## USDA/NRCS News Release

### 2010 CSP Sign-Up Deadline Nears

Norwalk, Ohio, May 10, 2010 –Huron County landowners still have time to sign up for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) at their local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office, but the deadline for getting signed up for the second CSP ranking period is quickly approaching. USDA has announced the national cutoff date for CSP is June 11, which gives producers a brief window of opportunity to get signed up for the CSP signup in 2010.

NRCS State Conservationist Terry Cosby confirms NRCS teams across the state are ready to work with producers and start the process. “If you’re already an NRCS cooperator and are in the system, just meet with local field office staff. Let them know you’re ready for CSP.” Ag producers or landowners who are new to NRCS or USDA will need to schedule an appointment and complete the application process and get the ball rolling.

CSP is a voluntary program that encourages producers to maintain existing conservation activities and adopt additional resource protection practices on their operations. The program is for producers who go the extra mile with conservation and sustainable operations-whether they’ve accomplished goals on their own, with other conservation partners, or through USDA and NRCS programs.

While CSP applications are accepted on a continuous basis, only applications received by the national cutoff date of June 11 will be considered for funding in fiscal year 2010. For more information about CSP, including eligibility requirements, visit your county USDA Service Center in Norwalk, or call NRCS at 419-668-4113, ext. 120.