

## Virginia Agricultural Cost-Share Program (Program Year 2010-2011)

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (<http://www.dcr.state.va.us/>) provides funding to local Soil & Water Conservation Districts to administer the Virginia Agricultural Cost-Share Program (VACS). **VACS offers more than 50 conservation practices that cover the full spectrum of agricultural operations.** Whether you grow crops, raise livestock or produce poultry, there are best management practices that can benefit you.

That's because while all the practices are known to improve or protect water quality many also can increase farm productivity by conserving soil and making wise use of other agricultural resources.

**The Virginia Agricultural Cost Share Program is funded for program year 2011 (July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011) and the Robert E. Lee SWCD is now taking applications to be considered for cost-share approval.** If you are a producer you may qualify for up to 75% cost-share and up to 25% tax credit to install conservation practices on your farm. Cost share for most practices is 75% of eligible costs but some practices have cost-share and incentive payment while a few have incentive payment only.

Practices include cover crop, grazing land protection, cropland conversion, tree planting, nutrient management planning and many more.

**To learn more about the program or specific practices please call the district office at 434-352-2819 and ask for Mark Davis or stop by the district office at: 7631-A Richmond Highway, Appomattox, Va. 24522 – next to Food Lion and behind Super 8 Motel.**