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### **(Neb.)-Farmers And Ranchers Can Participate In Environmental Program**



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 01/14/2013 08:19 AM

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - Nebraska farmers and ranchers are being encouraged to sign up for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

The U.S. Agriculture Department's Natural Resources Conservation Service says sign-ups are encouraged before Feb. 15.

The program provides financial and technical help with conservation practices on agricultural land. The goal is to help landowners protect their natural resources, resulting in cleaner air, water and more wildlife habitat.

Individuals may sign up at any time, but the ranking of applications for funding will begin Feb. 15. Producers are encouraged to apply soon because all of the program money in Nebraska potentially could be obligated by April 1.

Applications are available at conservation service field offices.