



Below is a list of organizations that offer funding that may apply to systems and improvements you are interested in pursuing. Click the link to access the full details for each specific grant opportunity. Reach out to the Northwest Crops & Soils Team with questions or for assistance.

## American Farmland Trust

AFT takes a holistic approach to farmland and ranchland, protecting it from development, promoting environmentally sound farming practices, and keeping farmers on it.

Learn more at <https://farmland.org/>.

### **Brighter Future Fund's New England Regenerative Livestock Farming Grants**

Funding for livestock farmers in select counties in Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut for the adoption of regenerative agricultural practices. Project impacts should include improving soil health, water quality and pollinator habitat.

**Amount:** Up to \$10,000

**Deadline:** Applications for 2026 awards are open until October 24, 2025.

**Apply:** <https://farmland.org/new-england-regenerative-livestock-farming-grants>

## Champlain Housing Trust

The Champlain Housing Trust is a Community Land Trust that supports the people of Northwest Vermont and strengthens their communities through the development and stewardship of permanently affordable homes and community assets. Learn more at <https://www.getahome.org/>.

### **Vermont Farmworker Housing Repair Loan Program**

Forgivable loans for necessary improvements to farmworker housing.

**Amount:** Up to \$30,000

**Deadline:** Rolling

**Apply:** <https://www.getahome.org/vermont-farmworker-housing-repair-loan-program/>

### **Vermont Farmworker Replacement Housing Loan Program**

Forgivable loans for building new housing for farmworkers when replacement of existing housing is needed.

**Amount:** Up to \$120,000

**Deadline:** Rolling

**Apply:** <https://www.getahome.org/vermont-farmworker-housing-repair-loan-program/>



## Food Animal Concerns Trust

The FACT vision is that all food-producing animals are raised in a humane and healthy manner. FACT supports humane farmers, promoting policies that make food from animals safe and healthy to eat, and helps consumers make informed food choices. Learn more at <https://www.foodanimalconcernstrust.org/>

### Fund-a-farmer Welfare Improvement Grant

Funding to support welfare, humane, pasture based livestock farms. Funded projects include those that improve the wellbeing of food animals.

**Amount:** Up to \$3,000

**Deadline:** 2026 Applications to open in November 2025.

**Apply:** <https://www.foodanimalconcernstrust.org/factprogramsforfarmers>

## Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center

NE-DBIC was established as part of the 2018 Farm Bill and was created to support dairy businesses in the development, production, marketing and distribution of dairy products. Learn more at <https://nedairyinnovation.com/>

### Dairy Farm Improvement & Modernization Grant

Funding for projects that prioritize long-term farm viability and climate or economic resilience. Funded projects may include upgrades to outdated farm production practices, purchase of specialized equipment, technology improvements, transition to group calf housing, creating new models for collaborative/cooperative milk production, increase new/young farmer engagement projects, alternative business/ownership/management model development.

**Amount:** \$15,000-\$100,000, 25% match required.

**Deadline:** Accepting applications October 14, 2025 – December 4, 2025.

**Apply:** <https://nedairyinnovation.com/grants/farm-improvement-modernization/>

## Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont

NOFA-VT aims to nourish people, land, and justice through organic agriculture. Learn more at <https://www.nofavt.org/>

### Farmer Resilience Grants

Funded projects to improve resilience on farms and in communities with a focus on the social, environmental, and economic impact.

**Amount:** Up to \$2,500 for individual farms, or up to \$10,000 for a team of farms.

**Deadline:** Currently closed. Expected to reopen.

**Apply:** <https://www.nofavt.org/services-resources/farmers/grant-opportunities/farmer->



[resilience-grants](#)

**Vermont Family Farmer of the Month Award**

Financial award to a Vermont family farmer for a project that will improve the farm's viability.

**Amount:** \$10,000-\$12,000

**Deadline:** Applications open until September 22, 2025 for November 2025 – September 2026 awards.

**Apply:** <https://www.nofavt.org/vermont-family-farmer-month>

**Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education**

The SARE program is a decentralized competitive grants and education program operating in every state that supports farmers, ranchers, researchers and educators who are improving the sustainability of agriculture. Learn more at <https://northeast.sare.org/>

**Farmer Grant Program**

Funding for farmers to explore new concepts in sustainable agriculture conducted through experiments, surveys, prototypes, on-farm demonstrations or other research and education techniques. Funded projects address issues that affect farming with long-term sustainability in mind. All projects must enlist a technical advisor. Projects run 1-3 years

**Amount:** \$5,000-\$30,000, reimbursement basis.

**Deadline:** Applications currently closed. Expected to re-open fall 2025

**Apply:** <https://northeast.sare.org/grants/get-a-grant/farmer-grant-program/>

**USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service**

The mission of NRCS is to deliver conservation solutions so agricultural producers can protect natural resources and feed a growing world. Learn more at <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>

**Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)**

Five year contracts of payments to maintain existing levels of conservation based on NRCS assessment and implement additional conservation activities. Free technical assistance.

**Amount:** Minimum \$4,000 payment during any year.

**Deadline:** Applications accepted on a continuous basis.

**Apply:** <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/csp-conservation-stewardship-program>



**Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**

Provides technical and financial assistance to agricultural producers to address natural resource concerns including water and air quality, ground and surface water, soil health, soil erosion, wildlife habitat, and mitigation against drought and weather volatility.

**Deadline:** Applications are accepted on a continuous basis

**Apply:** <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/eqip-environmental-quality-incentives>

**Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets**

VAAFM aims to support and grow Vermont's agriculture, food, and working landscape while working to protect the health of people, animals, plants, and the environment. Learn more at <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/grants/calendar>

**Capital Equipment Assistance Program (CEAP)**

Financial assistance for purchase of new or used equipment that will aid in the reduction of surface runoff of agricultural wastes, improve water quality, reduce odors from manure application, separate phosphorus from manure, mitigate greenhouse gases & reduce costs associated with manure application. Funded projects may include purchase of equipment used for precision agriculture, conservation tillage, cover cropping, waste management or feed management.

**Amount:** 90% cost share on up to \$60,000 depending on equipment.

**Deadline:** Accepting applications September 1, 2025 - November 1, 2025

**Apply:** <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/ceap>

**Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)**

Funding to compensate agricultural landowners for taking land out of production for 15 years to establish soil conservation strategies. Strategies may include forested buffer, filter strips or grassed waterway establishments, wetland restoration, livestock exclusion and alternate watering solutions.

**Amount:** \$315/acre signing incentive payment & \$140-\$210/acre annual payments

**Deadline:** Application is on a rolling basis.

**Apply:** <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/crep>

**Farm Agronomic Practices (FAP) Program**

Funding for implementation of soil-based agronomic practices that improve soil quality, increase crop production, and reduce erosion or agricultural waste discharges. Payment for practices including cover cropping, crop to hay or hay with nurse crop transitions, rotational grazing, conservation tillage, no-till cropping, no-till pasture & hay land renovation, manure injection, educational activities.



**Amount:** Up to \$10,000 per calendar year

**Deadline:** Apply by April 1st for spring and yearlong practices, Apply by August 1st for fall practices only.

**Apply:** <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/fap>

### **Farm Agronomic Practice (FAP) Training Grants**

Funding for farmers attending events that further their knowledge of agricultural water quality. Funding may cover registration fees, hotel/lodging, airfare, mileage and/or relief milking and farmwork.

**Amount:** Up to \$2,000 per person per year.

**Deadline:** Applications required at least 45 days prior to event

**Apply:** <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/fap/training>

### **Farmstead Best Management Practices (BMP) Program**

Funding for technical assistance & financial assistance for ready-to-implement water quality improvement projects. Funded projects may include engineering/water quality/state permitting consultations and cost share for conservation practices including barnyard runoff collection, bedded pack facility, composting stack pads, exclusion fencing and watering facilities, clean water diversion, laneway & stream crossings, manure storage systems, milkhouse or silage leachate collection & treatment.

**Amount:** \$100,000 per farm, up to 90% of expenses

**Deadline:** Applications accepted on a rolling basis

**Apply:** <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/bmp>

### **Grassed Waterway and Filter Strip (GWFS) Program**

Funding for technical assistance & projects that reduce soil erosion & improve soil and water quality on cropland that contributes disproportionately high levels of nutrient runoff. Funded projects may include grassed waterways and filter strips on critical source field areas.

**Amount:** \$500/acre, %90 cost share on costs for establishment projects

**Deadline:** Application is on a rolling basis

**Apply:** <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/gwfs>

### **Organic Certification Cost Share Program**

Cost share reimbursement for certified organic producers for application fees, inspection fees, USDA certification costs, and State Organic Program fees.

**Amount:** 75% of direct paid costs not to exceed \$750.

**Deadline:** Email [agr.organiccostshare@vermont.gov](mailto:agr.organiccostshare@vermont.gov) for the application timeline.

**Apply:** <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/grants/organiccostshare>



**Pasture & Surface Water Fencing (PSWF)**

Funding for technical & financial assistance to implement projects intended to improve water quality and livestock exclusion from surface waters. Funded projects may include purchase of fence & electric chargers, water source development, watering facility solutions or improved permanent water areas, and/or stream crossing, trails and walkway solutions.

**Amount:** \$10,000-\$15,000

**Deadline:** Application is on a rolling basis

**Apply:** <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/pswf>

**Working Lands Business Enhancement Grant**

Funding for market, research, infrastructure or workforce training and development.

**Amount:** \$10,000-\$50,000

**Deadline:** Applications open October 17, 2025 – December 11, 2025

**Apply:** <https://workinglands.vermont.gov/businessgrants>

**Vermont Housing & Conservation Board**

The mission of the Vermont Farm & Forest is to enhance the economic viability of Vermont farms and forestry enterprises. Water Quality Grant projects aim to advance Vermont's water quality goals and support long-term success of farms. Learn more at <https://vhcb.org/viability>

**Vermont Farm & Forest Viability Program**

Two year farm business advising support. Applicants who complete the program become eligible for Business Plan Implementation Grants when funds are available.

**Deadline:** Application is on a rolling basis

**Apply:** <https://vhcb.org/farm-forest-viability/business-advising/#enroll>

**Water Quality Grants**

Funding for investment in water quality related on-farm infrastructure. Funded projects may include construction, renovation, or upgrades to farm infrastructure or purchase of equipment.

**Amount:** Up to \$50,000

**Deadline:** Applications expected to reopen Fall 2025.

**Apply:** <https://vhcb.org/farm-forest-viability/viability-grants/#water-quality>

If you have questions or need more information, please contact the UVM Extension NWCS office at (802) 656-7611 or email Susan Brouillette at [susan.brouillette@uvm.edu](mailto:susan.brouillette@uvm.edu). To learn more about our program and the resources we offer, visit our program's website at <https://www.uvm.edu/extension/nwcrops>.



University  
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## 2025-2026 Funding Opportunities Dairy & Crop Operations

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Updated September 2025

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