



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: Currently closed.

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: 2027 applications to open in November 2026.

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: Expected to re-open October-December 2026.

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

Dairy Processor Modernization Grant

Program will fund purchases of specialized equipment and other approaches to modernize existing dairy processing facilities.

Amount: \$15,000-\$250,000 with a 25% cash or in-kind match required.

Deadline: Expected to open June-August 2026.

Apply: <https://nedairyinnovation.com/grants/dairy-processor-modernization-grant/>



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 \$5,000 per farm, or up to \$20,000 for a team of farms.

Deadline: Currently closed. Expected to reopen December 2026.

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 in April for July-October 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.

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, 2026 - November 1, 2026.

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>

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: Up to \$15,000-\$20,000 per farm if including exclusion fence and as approved by the PSWF Program.

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: Expected to re-open Fall 2026.

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 currently closed.

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. To learn more about our program and the resources we offer, visit our program's website at <https://www.uvm.edu/extension/nwcrops>.

Follow us on social media for funding updates, events, research results, and more!

