AG. WATER QUALITY ACT

Photo courtesy of USDA ARS

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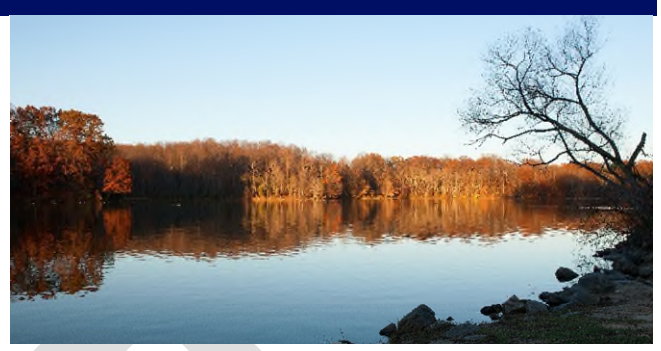

Photo courtesy of USDA ARS

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	FUNDING ASSISTANCE	IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

CONTOUR FARMING

CROPS BMP #4

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Description:
Farming in such a way that all operations, such as plowing, land preparation, planting, cultivating, and harvesting are across the slope, rather than up and down the slope.

AWQA Minimum Requirements:
Perform all cropping operations across the most critical slope.

Recommendations:
Consider the size and operation of farm implements when planning the contour layout.

Consider the installation of a diversion or terrace system to intercept excess surface runoff and deliver the excess runoff to a stable outlet.

Consider terracing in extreme cropping situations.

Technical References

University Publications
- University of Kentucky College of Agriculture Extension publications

USDA/NRCS Publications
- Practice Code 330 Contour Farming
- USDA/NRCS Field Office Technical Guide

Funding Assistance Options

State Cost Share
- See your local Conservation District to apply.

Kentucky Ag. Development Fund (KADB/KAFC)
- Select from available program options here.

NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Select from available program options here.

Important Considerations

Water Quality Benefit (💧-💧💧💧💧): 💧💧

Wildlife Benefits
- Contact the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife's Habitat Improvement Program how to improve wildlife habitat with select BMPs (1-800-858-1549).

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