

# AG. WATER QUALITY ACT



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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FUNDING ASSISTANCE

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

## MULCHING

### CROPS BMP #8



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#### Description:

The application of plant residues or other suitable materials produced off site, to the land surface.

#### AWQA Minimum Requirements:

Apply plant residue (other than that produced on the site), wood fiber or by-products, or other suitable material to the soil surface to conserve moisture, prevent surface compaction or crusting, reduce runoff and erosion, control weeds, and help establish plant cover.

#### Recommendations:

Most mulches provide temporary protection from 2 or 3 months up to one year. Therefore, establish permanent vegetation or other erosion control practices as rapidly as practical.

Consider hydroseeding mulch with seed and fertilizer on steep and difficult sites.

#### Technical References

- USDA/NRCS Publications
- [Practice Code 484 Mulching](#)

#### Funding Assistance Options

##### State Cost Share

- At this time, no cost share assistance is available for this as a stand-alone practice.

##### 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 (☹-☹☹☹☹): ☹☹☹☹☹  
(KEY: ☹=good, ☹☹☹☹☹=best: see [STEPL Model](#))

##### Wildlife Benefits:

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