Organic Transition Initiative (OTI)
• 75 Million for FY23 nationally to incentivize organic certification

• Working to try to keep up with demand for organic in the marketplace with new certified acres
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Natural Resources Conservation Service
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD
ORGANIC MANAGEMENT
CODE 823
(ac)

DEFINITION
Managing and improving natural resources on land in and adjacent to organic production using methods which integrate cultural, biological, and mechanical practices that foster cycling of resources, promote ecological balance, and conserve biodiversity.

PURPOSE
This practice is used to accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- Improve soil health
- Reduce soil erosion
- Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG)
- Reduce transport of pesticides and nutrients transported to surface water, groundwater and air
- Improve moisture management
- Improve plant productivity and health
- Reduce plant pest pressure
- Enhance habitat for wildlife, pollinators, and other beneficial invertebrates
- Improve livestock feed and forage imbalance
- Improve or maintain quantity and/or quality of forage for grazing, browsing and productivity

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES
This practice applies to all lands where organic management methods are used.
Organic Management (823) on Your Farm

• Schedule a farm visit with your local field office
• Complete an inventory of your farm
• Determine additional practices or management techniques that are suitable for your operation

Example: Current cover crops do not provide ample weed control in spring

> Potential Practices: Organic Management, Cover Crops, Crop Rotation, Integrated Pest Management, Mulching
Organic Transition Initiative

OTI will be funded through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Deadline for Applications for OTI in NH is June 15, 2023.

Interested producers will need to “self-certify” their operation as “transitioning to become Certified Organic”
The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA, NRCS) offers Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA), and Financial Assistance (FA) Programs to help farm and non-industrial private forest landowners address conservation concerns on their operations.

CTA provides free, personalized advice and information, based on the latest science and research, to help producers make informed decisions on their operations. This program is offered at no cost to the producer who are free to implement the advice or not.

FA programs allow producers to apply for cost-sharing assistance to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns. Under this competitive process, applications are ranked against each other and funded by order of conservation impact.

Below is a visual guide outlining the steps you can expect when working with NRCS.
Find your local field office

**Concord Field Office**  
**Serving Merrimack County**  
10 Ferry Street, Suite 211  
Concord, NH 03301  
(603) 223-6023

**Conway Field Office**  
**Serving Belknap and Carroll Counties**  
73 Main Street, PO Box 533  
Conway, NH 03818  
(603) 447-2771

**Epping Field Office**  
**Serving Rockingham and Strafford Counties**  
629 Calef Highway, Suite 203  
Epping, NH 03042  
(603) 679-1587

**Lancaster Field Office**  
**Serving Coos County**  
4 Mayberry Lane  
Lancaster, NH 03584  
(603) 788-4651

**Milford Field Office**  
**Serving Hillsborough County**  
468 Route 13 South  
Milford, NH 03055  
(603) 673-2409

**Orford Field Office**  
**Serving Grafton County**  
19 Archertown Road, Suite A  
Orford, NH 03777  
(603) 353-4651

**Walpole Field Office**  
**Serving Cheshire and Sullivan Counties**  
11 Industrial Park Drive  
Walpole, NH 03608  
(603) 756-2988

**Dover State Office**  
273 Locust St, Suite 2D  
Dover, NH 03820  
(603) 868-7581

Find your local service center here:  
https://go.usa.gov/xdXkQ
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