

Vermont Land Trust has partnered with Bio-Logical Capital and the University of Vermont to carry out a \$2,640,000 Natural Resources Conservation Service Conservation Innovation Grant to advance the adoption of soil health management practices across Vermont farms.



The University of Vermont

# Managing Pasture for Healthy Farms and Soils Across Vermont

## SEEKING VERMONT FARMERS TO PARTICIPATE IN NRCS ON-FARM TRIALS SOIL HEALTH CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANT

This five-year project seeks to understand and evaluate the ecological, economic and social outcomes of incorporating soil health practices onto farms of varying sizes, production systems, soil types, geographic locations, and other factors. We're seeking 16-20 farms to participate in the project.

Participating farmers will receive direct payments totaling \$1,000,000, substantial technical support and mentorship, and access to comprehensive field data collected throughout the project.

In partnership with the University of Vermont (UVM), Bio-Logical Capital will correlate the multi-year data set of field samples with satellite and remote sensed imagery to build a model that predicts the outcomes of adopting the 4-part soil health farming practices across the diverse Vermont farm landscape.

Participating farmers will receive payment for each practice on a per-acre basis. Practices include: (1) no-till cover crops to increase soil and plant diversity in pastures and hayfields; (2) spreading finished compost for soil amendment; (3) subsoil keyline plowing to reduce compaction and increase water infiltration where needed; and (4) Management Intensive Rotational Grazing (MIRG) for improved livestock production. All four practices must be incorporated. In addition, farmers will receive stipends for participation and for providing information gathering support.

Farmers must be able to commit to participating for the full 5 years and be willing to cooperate with data collection requirements. For more information, please reference our FAQs and see our project announcement [here](#).

If you are interested in applying, please complete our application form.

If you have any questions, please contact Project Director Maggie Donin at [maggie@vlt.org](mailto:maggie@vlt.org) or (802) 461-6102.

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