



**CT GREENHOUSE**  
Structures & Supplies

DESIGN // BUILD // GROW

# NRCS High Tunnels

Everything you need to know about the NRCS High Tunnel Program, from its purpose to how you can take advantage of your NRCS grant.

## What is the NRCS High Tunnel Program?

Through this program, the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), provides funding for farmers to install high tunnels with the goal of extending the growing season and improving crop health. Rules vary from state to state, but some key considerations are included below:

- High tunnels must be installed on “current crop land,” meaning land that is already being used to grow crops.
- Maximum award amount may vary, but there will typically be two reimbursement categories: **Historically Underserved (HU)** and **Standard**. HU designation, which applies to groups of people who have historically been discriminated against or underserved, will result in a higher rate.

## How to Apply for Your NRCS High Tunnel Grant

### Gather the Necessary Information

Get your farm and tract number from your local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office. This information gives you access to all USDA and NRCS programs.

### Apply With Your Local NRCS Office

Contact your local NRCS office. They will send a representative out to your farm. This step may vary state to state, but generally you will make a conservation plan that includes the necessary high tunnels.

### Select Your Vendor

Once you’ve been approved for the grant, it’s time to select your high tunnel vendor! CT Greenhouse is an NRCS-approved supplier; we can help you find the right high tunnel for your farm’s needs.







## Frequently Asked Questions

### ? How is the Program Structured?

Reimbursement for the NRCS program is based on your **signed contract value**. Regardless of how much you actually spend, you will get paid a fixed amount based on the following formula:

$$\text{total sq. ft. built} \times \text{reimbursement rate up to maximum contract value}$$

For example, if you are contracted for 3,000 sq. ft. at \$7/sq. ft., and you build 3,000 sq. ft., you will receive **\$21,000**. If you only build 2,000 sq. ft., you will receive **\$14,000**.

In some cases, NRCS will provide **advanced payment** for up to 50% of the total contract value. Additional upfront costs will need to be covered out of pocket or by an additional USDA loan.

### ? What is an NRCS-Approved Vendor?

Each state has its own rules for approving vendors and high tunnel designs, so check with your agent. Pay special attention to the requirements in your state for:

- Tubing size and gauge
- Spacing of bows
- Number of purlins
- Number of tubing pieces used for the mainframe

CT Greenhouse is an NRCS-approved vendor in every state where our high tunnels have been reviewed.

The owners of CT Greenhouse were phenomenal to work with... They were extremely familiar with the NRCS grant process and had some great tips on how to maximize the 90-day deadline for beginner farmer grants... All in all these guys truly care about making this process as seamless as possible for us farmers. Absolutely top-notch!

- Gavin Jones, Local Roots Farm

## Questions About the Program? Ready to Get Started?

Get in Touch for a Free Quote!  [info@ctgreenhouse.com](mailto:info@ctgreenhouse.com)