



Discover the Cover II: Conservation Covers, Buffers & Hillside Farming

USVI Conservation Covers for Sloped Land Protection & Farming Workshop

**March 8-9, 2016 – University of the
Virgin Islands, St. Croix Campus**

Expand your knowledge of conservation buffers and cover crops and how they play an integral role in soil & water conservation on sloped land.

- How can conservation buffers and cover crops increase ecosystem services for farms and communities?
- Join us to explore the world of improved sloped land management and the many benefits that conservation covers can provide to your land.

**Tuesday, March 8, 2016, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. and
Wednesday, March 9, 2016, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Tuesday's event will be held at the UVI in the Research and Extension (REC) building room 133.

Wednesday's event will begin outside the South gate of the AES field facility, and then continue at Fred Miller's Farm to learn contour farming.

For Wednesday's field activities, wear outdoor clothing and comfortable walking shoes.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND? Farmers, Agricultural Professionals, Landscapers and Conservation/ Environmental Specialists. **The workshop is FREE.**



Sponsored by UVI-AES-CES, SARE, and USDA-NRCS

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Agenda at a Glance

Tuesday Afternoon 3/8/16

- 5:30-5:45 Sign in, welcoming remarks, speaker introduction.
- 6:45-6:15 The role of conservation covers, buffers, and cover crops in promoting soil health.
- 6:15-6:45 Contour farming on sloped land
- 6:45-7:30 Sloped land rain simulation & the need for soil conservation. Terrace farming techniques.
- 7:30-8:00 Overview of AES Agronomy Program, NRCS Plant Materials Program & assistance, cover crop research, closing remarks.

Wednesday Morning 3/9/16

- 8:45 a.m. Meet at AES field facility south gate.
- 9:00-10:00 Field tour begins. Tour sunn hemp and cover crop fields, discuss no-till vegetable production.
- 10:30-1:00 Tour hillside farming contours. Demonstrate and practice establishing contours using a T-Stick and A-Frame. Show terrace construction; use of perennial buffers, annual crops for sloped hillside farming. Explore different ecosystem services that contour farming with conservation buffers can provide.

**Please RSVP by contacting UVI-AES at 340-692-4020
or email Stuart Weiss at sweiss@live.uvi.edu**

