Exercise 3: Technical Service Payment Rates (TSPR)

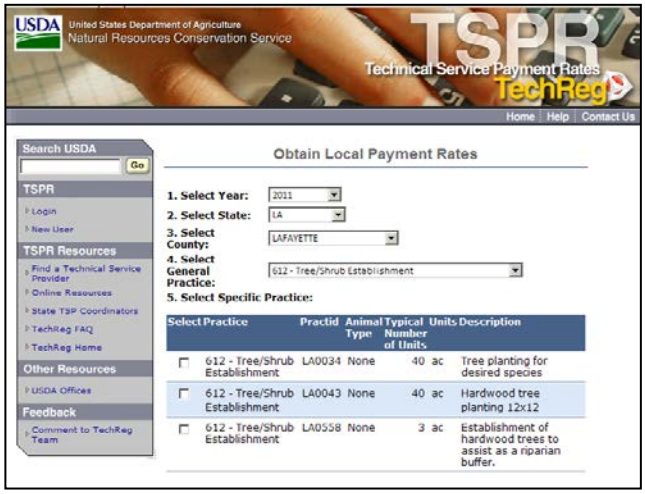
This exercise is designed to increase your awareness of Technical Service Payment Rates (TSPRs). You will not explore every TSPR found on the site; however, you are encouraged to go back to the site at a later time to identify rates and information that may apply to your specific area of interest.

If you are planning on working in multiple counties or states you may want to take the time now to look at the different rates in those areas. You will notice differences in the reimbursement rates across state and county lines. You will also want to keep in mind that just because a practice is listed, it does not mean that funds are available for producer reimbursement.

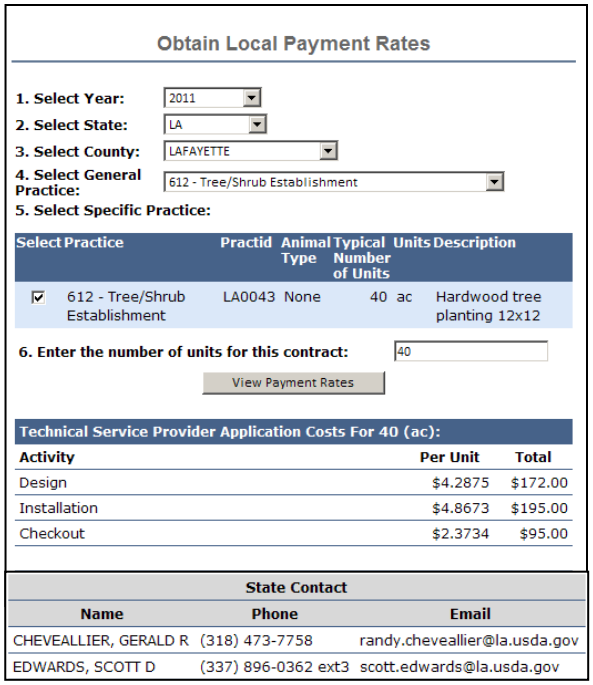
This exercise is easiest to complete if you print a copy of the exercise to reference as you move through the exercise. Allow 15 minutes to complete this exercise.

Part A – Find a TSPR for a Conservation Practice

1. Locate ***"Technical Service Payment Rates (TSPRs)"*** from the TSP Website under *Conservation Practice Design, Installation and Checkout.*
2. Click on the link to the TSPR webpage.
3. Click on ***"Obtain Local Payment Rate Prices"*** located in the grey bar at the bottom of the page
   a. ***Select the current year***. TSPRs are stored on the TSPR site since 2009.
   b. ***Select your own state*** from drop down list.
   c. ***Select a county in the state*** from drop down list
   d. ***Select a general practice*** from the drop down list associated with your area of expertise, e.g., 612 – Tree/Shrub Establishment
   e. ***Select Specific Practice*** - Once a general practice is selected, the screen will display a table that relates to a typical practice scenario and size or units for the conservation practice selected. It is important to note the units when selecting a specific practice. Units may be expressed in acres (ac), feet (ft), number (no), acre-feet (ac-ft) or animal unit (ani unt). For this exercise, ***select a practice in the table by clicking on the small box*** to the left of the practice number and name if not already checked. This will open up a new line on the screen that asks for the number of units for the practice a TSP would be working on.
   f. ***Enter the number of units*** for this Contract: For this exercise, enter the same number as shown in the Typical Number of Units shown in the table.
   g. Click on the ***"View Payment Rates"*** button.



Part B - Technical Service Provider Application Costs



Obtain Local Payment Rates

1. Select Year: 2011
2. Select State: LA
3. Select County: LAFAYETTE
4. Select General Practice: 612 - Tree/Shrub Establishment
5. Select Specific Practice:

Select	Practice	Practid	Animal Type	Typical Number of Units	Units	Description
☑	612 - Tree/Shrub Establishment	LA0043	None	40	ac	Hardwood tree planting 12x12

6. Enter the number of units for this contract: 40

View Payment Rates

Technical Service Provider Application Costs For 40 (ac):

Activity	Per Unit	Total
Design	$4.2875	$172.00
Installation	$4.8673	$195.00
Checkout	$2.3734	$95.00

State Contact

Name	Phone	Email
CHEVEALLIER, GERALD R	(318) 473-7758	randy.cheveallier@la.usda.gov
EDWARDS, SCOTT D	(337) 896-0362 ext3	scott.edwards@la.usda.gov

The screen will show a table with the TSPR for the practice with the number of units you specified. Note that the application rates are divided by activity and include design, installation, and checkout and describe a “Per Unit” and “Total” value. Directly below this table is a link to the contact information for the State TSP Coordinator.

Now, uncheck the box next to the practice code you chose. This will take you back to the table from Step 5. Select a different practice, which generally has a different typical unit size. Enter a number relating to unit size. Click on the “View Payment Rates” button to see the breakdown of practice application costs by design, installation and checkout.

Economy of size is often represented in the TSPRs. In many cases you will find that numbers for the smaller sized typical unit will result in a larger dollar amount per unit. Numbers larger than the typical sized unit generally result in a smaller dollar amount per unit.

Back out of the TSPR Website by using the back arrows on your browser to return to the TSP Website.