

State Conservation Commission Meeting

May 8, 2018

PA Department of Agriculture

Agenda

Briefing Session – 10:00am

1. Review of Public Meeting Agenda items
2. Phosphorous Index Revision Briefing; Jennifer Weld, PSU

Business Session – 1:00PM – 3:00PM

A. Opportunity for Public Comment

B. Business and Information Items

1. Approval of Minutes –
 - a. March 13, 2018 (A)
 - b. April 10, 2018 - Conference Call - Cancelled
2. Nutrient and Odor Management Program
 - a. FY2018-19 Nutrient Management Program Budget; Frank Schneider, SCC (A)
 - b. FY2018-19 Nutrient Management & Manure Management Delegation Agreement Allocations; Frank Schneider, SCC (A)
 - c. Penn State University, Proposals for Education and Technical Support Activities (FY2018-19 Work Plans and Budget): Johan Berger, SCC (A)
 - d. 2018 Appointments to the Nutrient Management Advisory Board; Larry Baum, SCC (A)
3. Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road Program– Roy Richardson, SCC
 - a. FY 2017-18 Proposed Allocations to Conservation Districts (A)
 - b. Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies, Education and Technical Assistance Work Plan and Budget (A)
4. Proposed revisions to the FY2018-19 REAP Guidelines and Application: Joel Semke, SCC (A)
5. Leadership Development Program Update; Johan Berger, SCC (NA)
6. Pennsylvania Envirothon State Board of Directors Appointment (A)
7. Chesapeake Bay Program Update – Veronica Kasi, DEP (NA)
8. Pennsylvania Agricultural Recognition Program Update, Greg Hostetter, Deputy Secretary (NA)

C. Written Reports

1. Program Reports
 - a. Act 38 Nutrient and Odor Management Program Reports
 - i. Program Measurables
 - ii. CY2017 Act 38 Nutrient Management Plan Count
 - iii. CY2017 Chapter 91 – Manure Management Program Activities
 - iv. Act 38 Facility Odor Management Program - Status Report on Plan Reviews
 - b. Certification and Education Programs Accomplishment Report
 - c. REAP Program
2. Ombudsman Program Reports – Southern Allegheny Region (Blair County Conservation District and Lancaster County Conservation District).

D. Cooperating Agency Reports

Adjournment

Next Public Meetings/Conference Calls:

June 12, 2018 - Conference Call

July 18, 2018 – DoubleTree Resort, Lancaster Pa

**STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING
PA Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, PA
Tuesday, March 13, 2018 1:00 p.m.**

Draft Minutes

Members Present: Secretary Russell Redding, PDA; Secretary Patrick McDonnell, DEP; Michael Flinchbaugh; Donald Koontz; Ron Kopp, Ross Orner; Ron Rohall, MaryAnn Warren; Denise Coleman, NRCS; Drew Gilchrist, DCNR for Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn (via conference call); Denise Brinley, DCED, Brenda Shambaugh, PACD.

A. Public Input

There were no public comments presented.

B. Business and Information Items

1. a. Approval of Minutes – January 17, 2018 - Public Meeting.

Ron Rohall moved to approve the January 17, 2018 public meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Mike Flinchbaugh. Motion carried.

b. Approval of Minutes – February 13, 2018 - Conference Call.

Ron Kopp moved to approve the February 13, 2018 conference call minutes. Motion seconded by Don Koontz. Motion carried.

2. Nutrient and Odor Management Program

- a. Nutrient Management Plan, Justin and Nadine Barclay, Lehighon, PA Carbon County. Michael Walker, SCC, reported that Justin and Nadine Barclay own and operate a horse boarding and training facility in Carbon County. The operation houses approximately 10 equines year-round. The manure from stalls and arena area is collected, stored, and then exported to a company that makes soil products for landscaping. This plan is before the Commission, because the Carbon (not Monroe as indicated on the cover memo) Conservation District does not have a Nutrient Management delegation agreement. Staff has reviewed this plan and indicates that it meets the requirements of the PA Act 38 Nutrient Management Regulations and is recommending approval.

Don Koontz made a motion to approve the Justin and Nadine Barclay Nutrient Management Plan. Motion seconded by Ross Orner. Motion carried.

3. Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Program Update.

- a. Changes to the Driving Surface Aggregate (DSA) Standards and Specifications. Steve Bloser, Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies reported that Driving Surface Aggregate (DSA) is a crushed stone product defined by the Commission and allowed to be utilized as a wearing surface for unpaved roads. In 2017, conservation districts oversaw the placement of more than 200,000 tons of DSA

on Dirt and Gravel Road projects. The Policy and Planning Committee of the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Program is recommending a modification of the “soundness” criteria within the DSA Standard. Steve summarized the changes to DSA Standard Specifications, including “soundness”- resistance to degradation due to weather.

MaryAnn Warren made a motion to amend the “Soundness” criteria by deleting the last sentence “The Conservation District may accept aggregate failing the soundness test if it can be demonstrated that the material has a satisfactory service record.” Motion seconded by Mike Flinchbaugh. Motion carried.

- b. Approval of the Letter of Understanding between Pennsylvania State University and the State Conservation Commission. Roy Richardson, SCC, reported that for the past 18 years, the Commission and the Penn State Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies (Center) have worked cooperatively to implement the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Program. The Commission relies on the Center to provide technical support and training to municipalities and conservation district staff. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been used to help define this working relationship, and the current MOU is due to expire May 8, 2018. Commission and Center Staff have worked to redraft and update this document as a Letter of Understanding (LOU). The revised document includes activities to be performed by both parties for the Low Volume Road program.

Ron Kopp made a motion to approve the proposed Letter of Understanding between the Commission and Penn State University. Motion seconded by Don Koontz. Motion carried.

- c. Approval of Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads Program 5-Year Program Agreement Between the State Conservation Commission and Conservation District. Roy Richardson reported that the Commission allocates Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road funds to conservation districts through a 5-year agreement. The current 5-year agreement expires June 30, 2018 (with a 1-year extension for the completion of projects under contract at that time). A new 5-year agreement will begin on July 1, 2018. Several significant changes have been proposed for this new agreement, a requirement that districts spend their annual allocation within 2 years of receipt (versus spend or commit to a contract) to be eligible for new allocations, and submission of quarterly reports by participating district instead of annual reports. These and other changes were discussed at length with the Policy and Planning Workgroup, and districts were provided an opportunity to review these changes and offer comments on the proposed document.

Ross Orner made a motion to approve the proposed 5-year agreement for the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Program. Motion seconded by Ron Rohall. Motion carried.

- d. Overview of DGLVR Annual Summary Report. Steve Bloser, Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies, gave an overview of information contained in the draft DGLVR Annual Report. In 2017, the ESM training attendance included 600-700 persons. In 2017, the number of contracts for completed DGR projects was 336 and 156 LVR project contracts. The money spent on these projects was \$14.6

million for DGR and \$5.6 million for LVR. The average spending per project was \$43,000 for DGR and \$35,000 for LVR. In-kind contributions continued to increase: \$9 million in 2017. Steve then reported on the following Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance Practices installations:

- Stream Crossings: 100 in 2017
- Drainage Cross Pipes: similar to 2016 numbers; more replacements than new on LVRs.
- Road Fill Added: 38% increase from 2016-2017
- Driving Surface Aggregate: decreased in 2017

Action Requested: No action requested.

4. REAP – Draft Concepts to Changes to the FY 2018-2019 REAP Guidelines. Joel Semke, SCC, reported that the Commission is currently working on developing proposed changes to the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Tax Credit Program. Joel reviewed several proposed changes to the 2018-2019 REAP Program guidelines:

- Cover Crops BMP – the intent is to make it easier for farmers to utilize REAP for this BMP. Based on conversations with the PA No-Till Alliance and others, staff is proposing to make the following changes:
 - The practice will now be eligible for REAP credits multiple times
 - Applicants will no longer be required to send in maps that detail the location of the practice.
 - Applicants will be able to apply for more than 1 year of cover crops per REAP application – with a max of 3 years in advance.
- Plan Writer Sponsorship Option – introduced in FY 2017 as a way for plan writers to offset the cost of writing plans for farmers that could not afford the plan development costs. The plan writer received the REAP credits directly and the farmer had very little out-of-pocket costs. The Commission processed plan writing sponsor applications in FY 2017 from 2 plan writers – to write 29 plans (Ag E&S, Nutrient Management, Manure Management). Unfortunately, several issues have arisen over the course of the year that have made it difficult to envision continuing with the plan writing sponsorship option. Farmers can still offset the cost of plan development by applying to REAP on their own.
 - Eliminate the Plan Writer Sponsorship option
- Low Disturbance Residue Management Equipment (Vertical Tillage) – current REAP guidelines for this equipment focuses on 3 main specifications: max gang angle of 5 degrees, no concave discs allowed, max working depth of 4 inches. However, there are several equipment manufacturers that offer equipment with specifications very close to these guidelines. Staff recommends keeping the REAP Guidelines for Low-Disturbance Residue Management Equipment unchanged – with no exceptions. Staff will redouble efforts to communicate the Guidelines to equipment dealers and farmers.

- Waste Storage (313) BMP – for brand new animal housing: underground waste storage facilities (313) are not eligible for REAP tax credits. Current REAP guidelines exclude new animal housing from the program – unless otherwise specified by USDA-NRCS. Staff will add clarifying language to the 2018 REAP Guidelines and Application directing all roofed manure storage facility applicants to complete the Roof Evaluation Worksheet (p. 15 of the REAP Application).

Action Requested: No action requested.

5. Indiana County Conservation District Building Project, Request for Approval. Johan Berger, SCC, and Adam Cotchen, Indiana County Conservation District, reported that the Indiana County Conservation District is finalizing plans for the construction of a new office to house the district operations. For the past ten years, the Indiana County Conservation District (District) has leased office space in the Indiana County Commerce Center. The District is not co-located with USDA agencies. The owner of the building currently housing the District office has targeted that office space for expansion and informed the District that their respective lease would not be renewed after January 2019. After investigating options for future office space, the District Board determined that the best option was to construct a new building at the Indiana County Development Corporation's (ICDC) newly developed Windy Ridge Business & Technology Park. The project will be funded in part by the District and funds obtained under a Redevelopment Assistance Capital Project grant. Districts are authorized by district law to purchase and improve real property. Commission policy requires any district that will enter into a contract greater than \$250,000 to seek approval of the Commission.

Mike Flinchbaugh made a motion to approve the request of the Indiana Conservation District to allow the district to enter into the necessary agreements to complete their building project. Motion seconded by MaryAnn Warren. Motion carried.

6. Chesapeake Bay Program Update. Veronica Kasi, DEP, reported that work continues on the development of Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Watershed Improvement Plan (WIP 3). The PA Draft Phase 3 WIP planning targets and reference loads were explained in detail. PA Nitrogen – Phase 6 loads and target were reduced from 124.5 M lbs/yr in 1985 to 109.6 M lbs/yr in 2016. PA Phosphorus – Phase 6 loads and target were reduced from 6.38 M lbs/yr in 1985 to 3.94 M lbs/yr in 2016. There is a meeting scheduled for April 10, 2018 to develop a toolbox for county stakeholders to use in developing local action plans to meet local reduction goals. There will be a pilot program in 3 to 4 counties to implement the local action plans from May through October 2018. There will also be continued public engagement and input between May and October 2018. The anticipated Draft WIP Plan will be completed in March 2019. The Final Phase 3 WIP will be completed in June 2019.

Action Requested: No action requested.

C. Written Reports – Self Explanatory

1. Program Reports

- a. Act 38 Nutrient and Odor Management Program Report
- b. Act 38 Facility Odor Management Program & Status Report on Plan Reviews
- c. 2018 Odor Management Plan Self Certification Status Report
- d. Certification and Education Program Accomplishment Report
- e. REAP Program Accomplishment Report

2. Ombudsman Program Reports – Southern Allegheny Region (Blair County Conservation District) and Lancaster County Conservation District.

D. Cooperating Agency Reports

DEP – Secretary McDonnell reported that the PAG12 comment, evaluation, and draft progress is moving forward. This renewal process is on a fast track for revision and release.

DCNR–Drew Gilchrist reported that the Riparian Buffer Summit was held in State College in early March 2018. There were approximately 270 people in attendance. There were 35 different presentations on all aspects of buffers, and the topics ranged from funding to planning to planting to maintenance. There were more than 20 attendees from various County Conservation Districts. A Riparian Buffer Grant announcement was made at the Summit: \$1 million was awarded to eight organizations (including \$250,000 to PACD).

PACD –Brenda Shambaugh reported that the All Bay Meeting was held on March 12, 2018 at Bucknell University. E&S training will be held during the week of March 19, 2018. Basic and Advanced Boot Camp training is scheduled in April 2018. PACD is in the process of hiring a management director and Leadership Development Coordinator in cooperation with the Commission.

DCED –no report

NRCS – Denise Coleman reported that the Pennsylvania CIG application cycle is still open-- \$225,000 is available for projects targeted towards nutrient reduction and urban farming BMPs.

PSU – no report

PDA – Deputy Secretary Greg Hostetter reported that the Department of Agriculture has a new communications director – Casey Smith, who started in this position on March 12, 2018. Casey formerly was employed at the Department of Education. Deputy Secretary Hostetter reported that 42 milk producers in Pennsylvania received a 90-day notice stating that their milk would no longer be processed by Dean Foods, a parent company of Swiss Premium, a local dairy processor. Those dairy producers will have to locate a new processor for their milk production.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Next Public Meeting: April 10, 2018 – Conference Call

May 8, 2018 – Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Building
Harrisburg, PA, Room 309



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DATE: April 13, 2018

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Frank X Schneider, Director
Nutrient and Odor Management Programs

RE: Nutrient Management Program Fiscal Year 2018-19 Budget Proposal

Action Requested

Grant “conditional” approval for the Nutrient Management Program budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 (FY 2018-19). This approval would be contingent on final approval of the state budget consistent with the Governor’s proposed FY 2018-19 General Fund Budget. Please note that “conditional approval” is at the discretion of the Commission. In the past the “conditional approval” has not been an issue.

Background

The Governor’s proposed FY 2018-19 General Fund Budget provides an appropriation to the Nutrient Management Fund of \$2,714,000, which is identical to the FY 2017-18 appropriation.

The attached proposed budget allocates the appropriation to the Nutrient Management Fund (NMF) based on the ‘proposed appropriation’ to the fund and proposed ‘spending authorization’ of \$3,122,000 under the Governor’s proposed Budget. Note that the ‘spending authorization’ was decreased by \$47,000 this year, as the nutrient management fund non-lapsing balance is slowly decreasing.

Program staff’s proposal provides funding for the following program elements:

- a. Prioritizes funding to conservation districts recognizing their key role in carrying out the mandates of the Nutrient and Odor Management Act, known as Act 38. The proposed allocation represents a contribution from the Nutrient Management Fund towards a delegation agreement outlining combined Nutrient Management Program and Manure Management Program activities. Manure Management Program activities will be funded by Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) under the Nutrient Management and Manure Management Program delegation agreement between conservation districts, the State Conservation Commission and the Pa DEP.
- b. Illustrates ‘zero’ funding to farmers for plan development and implementation financial assistance programs and ‘zero’ funding for USDA-NRCS engineering support. A special

note: USDA-NRCS staff should be recognized for their continued commitment to support the Nutrient Management Program training and certification courses and field engineering support, without the need for a state contract for their assistance.

- c. Provides funding for educational and technical support, provided by the Pennsylvania State University (PSU) program partners, Dr. Charlie White, Dr. Robert Mikesell and program staff from the College of Agricultural Sciences. The proposed FY 2018-19 budget provides funding at the Year 2 contracted levels in the 3 year agreements. These contracts will be handled under a separate agenda item.
- d. Maintains the Commission's operational budget at current levels. Commission staff funding levels is based on anticipated expenditures for FY 2018-19 projected from anticipated operational expenses and union contract personnel costs.
- e. Provides up to \$20,000 for field proofing and testing of the revised P Index, if needed.

If at the completion of the state's budget negotiations, a final appropriation to the Nutrient Management Fund or adjustment to an approved spending authorization impacts any of the Nutrient Management Program elements (increase or decrease), program staff will bring an amended budget proposal to the Commission for its consideration.

Thank you for your consideration of this budget proposal.

Attachment

'DRAFT' 2018-19 Proposed Act 38 Nutrient Management Program Budget				
	<u>2016-17 Actual</u>	<u>2017-18 Proposed</u>	<u>2017-18 Actual</u>	<u>2018-19 Proposed</u>
Executive Spending Authority (EA) ¹	\$3,136,000	\$3,169,000 ¹	\$3,169,000	\$3,122,000 ¹
<u>Receipts</u>				
Balance forward ⁵	\$1,820,000 ⁵	\$1,491,265	\$1,491,265 ⁵	\$1,221,847 ⁵
General fund receipt	\$2,714,000	\$2,714,000	\$2,714,000	\$2,714,000
Anticipated interest	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (penalties, fees, reimbursements)	\$67,365	\$50,000	\$44,000	\$50,000
Total available	\$4,601,365	\$4,255,265	\$4,249,265	\$3,985,847
<u>Expenditures</u>				
Conservation district funding	\$ 2,073,000	\$2,175,000 ²	\$1,984,040	\$1,944,000 ²
Financial Assist (BMP Grants; PDIP; Agri-Link)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
PSU Education & Technical Support				
Nutrient Management	\$191,500	\$195,930 ³	\$197,690	\$202,134 ³
Manure Hauler/Odor Management	\$146,500	\$145,145 ³	\$151,288	\$154,644 ³
PA OneStop Ed & Training	\$22,300	\$0 ³	\$0	\$0
Annual Meeting	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Research	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,000 ⁶
Personnel	\$635,400	\$667,000 ⁴	\$659,000	\$678,000 ⁴
Operational	\$41,400	\$59,000 ⁴	\$35,400	\$50,000 ⁴
Information Technology needs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total expenditures	\$3,110,100	\$3,242,075	\$3,027,418	\$3,048,778
Anticipated Balance (EA vs. Expenditures)	\$25,900	-\$73,075	\$141,582	\$73,222
Est. Cash Balance (Receipts vs Expenditures)	\$1,491,265		\$1,221,847	\$937,069
¹ Fiscal year spending threshold authorized by the Governor's Office of Budget.				
² Nutrient Mgmt. Fund contribution to combined Nutrient Mgmt. Program/Manure Mgmt. Program delegated activities.				
³ Contract Year 2 - Certification, Technical and Training Support				
⁴ 'Anticipated' expenses provided by PDA Budget Office				
⁵ Estimated Cash Balance from Governor Office of Budget				
⁶ Possible Field Testing of Revised P Index				
Revised (4/10/18)				



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: April 13, 2018

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

TROUGH: Karl G. Brown, Executive Secretary
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Frank X. Schneider, Director
Nutrient & Odor Management Programs

Johan Berger, Director
Financial Administration, Policy, Certification & Conservation District Programs

SUBJECT: Proposed Nutrient Management/Manure Management Delegation Agreement
Funding Levels for the 2018-19 Fiscal Year

Action Requested

Grant approval of funding levels for participating conservation districts for Fiscal Year 2018-19 (FY2018-19) for the Act 38 Nutrient Management / Chapter 91 Manure Management (NM/MM) delegation agreement. This approval is consistent with the final FY2018-19 Nutrient Management Fund budget, that approval is being asked for under separate correspondence, and commitment of funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Background

In 2017, Commission staff along with the NM/MM delegation workgroup worked on a process to distribute funding to counties that will accepted delegation.

This process utilized a program workload analysis that considered the number of farmers in each county implementing current Act 38 and CAFO nutrient management plans, as well as, an analysis of number of farms and number of animal operations that could possibly have Chapter 91 obligations. The workload analysis incorporated realistic staff resources for program implementation activities, reflecting a practical workload history for each county and subsequently producing appropriately adjusted district funding levels.

As in the last 5-year delegation agreement, additional financial resources will be provided by DEP, through a grant under the Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Program (CBRAP), in the amount of \$632,000, in order for conservation districts to accomplish Chapter 91 activities.

The NMF and CBRAP funds combined will provide the resources to conservation districts for implementation of Act 38 and Chapter 91 program activities under the delegation agreement.

Total available funds for allocation to conservation districts under the delegation agreement would be \$2,576,000. Please note that this amount is smaller than last year, as the Northumberland County Conservation District has chosen not to renew their delegation agreement.

The FY2017-18 General Fund budget proposed an appropriation of \$2,714,000 to the Nutrient Management Fund (NMF). Based on the proposed Commission approved FY2018-19 Act 38 Nutrient Management Program budget; \$1,944,000,000 would be allocated to conservation districts for delegated Act 38 activities.

Funding under this proposal are available to any conservation districts that has expressed interest in a NM/MM delegation agreement with the Commission and DEP.

Proposal

The attached chart, '*Proposed' FY2018-2019 Nutrient Management/Manure Management Delegation Agreement Funding*', illustrates the suggested funding allocations for conservation districts implementing Act 38 and Chapter 91 activities under the 2nd year of the delegation agreement.

Conservation districts receiving 'zero' dollars under this proposal are currently designated as "non-delegated" districts under the Act 38 program. If a "non-delegated" district is interested in implementing Chapter 91 activities, primarily outreach and education activities, the Commission and DEP would have to consider funding of a petitioning district on a 'case-by-case' basis, as resources permit.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed delegation agreement funding levels as this will assist conservation districts, DEP and the Commission in the implementation of the nutrient and manure management programs in Pennsylvania.

Enclosure

**'Proposed' FY2018-2019
Nutrient Management Program Delegation Agreement Funding**

County	Total Grant
Adams	\$ 84,000.00
Allegheny	\$ 14,000.00
Armstrong	\$ 14,000.00
Beaver	\$ 14,000.00
Bedford	\$ 28,000.00
Berks	\$ 168,000.00
Blair	\$ 28,000.00
Bradford	\$ 56,000.00
Bucks	\$ 14,000.00
Butler	\$ 14,000.00
Cambria	\$ 14,000.00
Cameron	\$ -
Carbon	\$ -
Centre	\$ 42,000.00
Chester	\$ 56,000.00
Clarion	\$ 14,000.00
Clearfield	\$ 14,000.00
Clinton	\$ 42,000.00
Columbia	\$ 14,000.00
Crawford	\$ 28,000.00
Cumberland	\$ 70,000.00
Dauphin	\$ 70,000.00
Delaware	\$ -
Elk	\$ 14,000.00
Erie	\$ 14,000.00
Fayette	\$ 14,000.00
Forest	\$ -
Franklin	\$ 112,000.00
Fulton	\$ 42,000.00
Greene	\$ 14,000.00
Huntingdon	\$ 28,000.00
Indiana	\$ 14,000.00
Jefferson	\$ 14,000.00

County	Total Grant
Juniata	\$ 112,000.00
Lackawanna	\$ -
Lancaster	\$ 448,000.00
Lawrence	\$ 14,000.00
Lebanon	\$ 168,000.00
Lehigh	\$ 14,000.00
Luzerne	\$ -
Lycoming	\$ 42,000.00
McKean	\$ 14,000.00
Mercer	\$ 14,000.00
Mifflin	\$ 70,000.00
Monroe	\$ 14,000.00
Montgomery	\$ 14,000.00
Montour	\$ 14,000.00
Northampton	\$ 14,000.00
Northumberland	\$ -
Perry	\$ 84,000.00
Pike	\$ -
Potter	\$ 14,000.00
Schuylkill	\$ 56,000.00
Snyder	\$ 112,000.00
Somerset	\$ 14,000.00
Sullivan	\$ 14,000.00
Susquehanna	\$ 14,000.00
Tioga	\$ 28,000.00
Union	\$ 70,000.00
Venango	\$ 14,000.00
Warren	\$ 14,000.00
Washington	\$ 14,000.00
Wayne	\$ 14,000.00
Westmoreland	\$ 14,000.00
Wyoming	\$ 14,000.00
York	\$ 70,000.00
Total:	\$ 2,576,000.00



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DATE: April 30, 2018

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Johan E. Berger
Financial Administration, Certification & Conservation District Programs

RE: Proposed annual work plans for educational and technical support activities for the Nutrient Management; Odor Management and Manure Hauler/Broker certification and education programs.

Action Requested

Approve annual work plans for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 for the continuation of existing services provided by Pennsylvania State University, College of Agricultural Sciences (PSU CAS) staff.

Background

In July 2017, the Commission entered into three-year contracts with PSU providing continued financial support for educational and technical activities performed by PSU CAS staff for the Act 38 and Act 49 certification and education programs, administered by the Commission and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA). The attached annual work plans and budgets describe educational and technical activities to support Pennsylvania's Nutrient and Odor Management Act program (Act 38), Commercial Manure Hauler & Broker Act (Act 49) and, education and training support for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Manure Management Program (Pa Clean Streams Law, Chapter 91.36).

Proposal Summary

The following summarizes education and certification program activities outlined in the respective work plans for FY2018-19 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2018). Activities for the Nutrient Management, Odor Management and Manure Hauler and Broker have not changed for the upcoming program year.

Nutrient Management (NM) Education & Certification:

1. Assist in the planning, development and delivery of mandatory nutrient management specialist certification and continuing education workshops, in coordination with PDA and the Commission.
2. Develop and support spreadsheet versions of the nutrient management plan, nutrient balance sheet and P-Index planning tool, including instructional training on the use of these planning tools.

3. Assist PDA and the Commission in distribution of Nutrient Management Program information through newsletters, factsheets, technical guidance and maintenance of the Pa Nutrient Management Program website.
4. Provide technical and education support for the DEP Manure Management Manual education program as requested.

Odor Management (OM) Education & Certification; Animal Production Site Assessment:

1. Assist in the planning, development and delivery of mandatory odor management specialist certification and continuing education workshops, in coordination with PDA and the Commission.
2. Develop and support the Odor Site Index and Odor BMP Reference List planning tools.
3. Conduct assessments of potential large scale animal production operations for siting recommendation and identification of potential conflicts in the community as requested by animal production integrators.

Commercial Manure Hauler & Broker (MHB) Education & Certification:

1. Assist in the planning, development and delivery of mandatory certification and continuing education workshops, in coordination with PDA and the Commission.
2. Assist PDA and the Commission in the development of educational materials, (i.e. certification workbooks) and outreach through periodic distribution of newsletters.

Manure Management Program

1. Assist DEP and the Commission in development of curriculum and supporting educational materials to be used by facilitators to conduct workshops to guide farmers through the process of completing a written manure management plan for their operations.
2. Provide facilitator training to cooperative extension staff, conservation districts and private sector groups who will conduct farmer plan writing workshops.
3. Maintain a Manure Management Education Program webpage on the Act 38 Nutrient Management Program Website.

Due to a general increase in staffing costs at PSU to support both work plans, the annual budget for each project in FY2018-19 has increased an average of 2.2% over the prior project year.

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Nutrient Management Education & Certification: | \$197,690 to \$202,602; |
| 2. Odor Management/Animal Production Site Assessment/Manure Hauler Education & Certification: | \$151,288 to \$154,644. |

Special Note: It is anticipated that a slight adjustment of approximately 1.0% for fringe benefits costs may be applied to the proposed FY2018 budget (approximately \$1,300 and \$1,000 for the NM Education and the OM/Animal Production Site Assessment/MHB Education projects, respectively). However, actual adjustment information is not available until after July 1, 2018 and is not considered in this recommendation.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the annual work plans for the Nutrient Management Education and the Manure Hauler Broker Certification/Odor Management Support/Site Assessment Program work plans for FY2018-19 as allocated under the proposed Nutrient Management Program budget and described under this memo. Funding of the projects is contingent on the availability of funds appropriated to the Nutrient Management Fund.

If any further adjustments are necessary to the FY2018-19 contract budgets, program staff will update the Commission at a later meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of these annual work plans and budget proposals. The Inter-agency and University partnership that has grown around this contract over the years has been the key to developing and implementing sound nutrient management regulatory and education standards in Pennsylvania.

Attachments

Nutrient Management Education Program

Annual Workplan

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

Submitted to: Pennsylvania State Conservation Commission (SCC)

Submitted by: Department of Plant Science
Penn State University (PSU)
116 ASI Building
University Park, PA 16802

Project Leader: Charles M. White, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Agronomy

Annual Nutrient Management Education Workplan

Conduct annually the following mandatory commercial and public certification workshops and trainings:

- Two (2) Managing Manure Nutrients Workshop training courses on basic soil fertility concepts and management manure nutrients as part of nutrient management planning.
- Two (2) Plan Writing Workshop training courses to teach participants how to develop nutrient management plans and nutrient balance sheets using the program spreadsheet planning tools.
- Two (2) P Index Workshop training courses to introduce the Pennsylvania Phosphorus Index and learn how to complete the Index as part of nutrient management planning.

Conduct annually the following basic and advanced workshops and trainings to provide background training in the required competencies. Conduct and participate in additional trainings to address specific educational needs as determined by program staff based on evaluation of program needs.

- One (1) Introduction to Livestock Production Systems training course to learn about housing and manure handling and management systems for dairy, swine, poultry and veal operations.
- One (1) Horses 101 – Choosing Best Management Practices That Work training course to learn about equine housing and manure handling and management approaches and how to work with equine operations.

Participate annually in the planning, instruction, and support of the following mandatory commercial and public certification workshops and trainings:

- Two (2) Nutrient Management Orientation training courses to familiarize participants with the requirements within the Act 38 regulations and components of an Act 38 nutrient plan. This training is coordinated by SCC staff.

- Two (2) Plan Review Workshop training courses to teach participants how to review nutrient management plans submitted under the Act 38 regulations. This training is coordinated by SCC staff.
- Two (2) ACA & Manure Storage Workshop training courses to train participants how to identify, evaluate, and make recommendations for manure management practices related to manure storages and animal concentration areas. This training is coordinated by Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff.
- Two (2) Stormwater & Soil Loss Workshop training courses to train participants to identify, evaluate, and make recommendations for critical runoff problem areas and to provide a demonstration of how PAOneStop can be used to determine soil loss for nutrient management planning. This training is coordinated by NRCS staff.

Develop and support spreadsheet versions of the Nutrient Management Plan, Nutrient Balance Sheets, and Phosphorus Index along with supporting tools and documents.

- Develop revised versions of the spreadsheets to facilitate and streamline the planning process, including data entry, and to incorporate changes to the Nutrient Management Program.
- Provide NMP and NBS Spreadsheet support to nutrient management planners, manure brokers, Conservation District staff and state agency staff.
- Conduct computer lab NMP and NBS spreadsheet trainings as needed.
- Conduct periodic online Spreadsheet Assistance Sessions and Spreadsheet Webinars to provide instruction and support for spreadsheet tools.
- Explore and evaluate alternative planning tool options to Excel spreadsheets to better serve program planning requirements and interface with other programs.

Provide for the distribution of Nutrient Management Act information to the general public and specific audiences as needed. This will include the:

- Production and distribution annually of at least two (2) issues of the Pennsylvania Nutrient Management Program Newsletter.
- Coordinate and maintain the Pennsylvania Nutrient Management Program website.
- Reprint current Nutrient Management Act related factsheets as necessary.
- Publish new Nutrient Management Act related factsheets as necessary.

Provide relevant nutrient management educational outreach efforts determined by SCC to be necessary to support Pennsylvania's Nutrient Management Act program.

- Provide relevant presentations and materials at the Nutrient Management Program Annual Conference.
- Provide educational support for locally conducted nutrient management education programs.
- Provide technical and educational support to Act 49 Manure Haulers Certification Program.
- Provide technical and education support for the Phosphorus Index review and revision process.

Provide technical and educational support for the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Manure Management Manual (MMM) education program in consultation with SCC and the Nutrient Management Educational Workgroup.

- Provide assistance to DEP and SCC in developing an effective educational strategy and workplan to facilitate compliance with the manual's written manure management plan requirement.
- Develop a workshop curriculum and supporting educational materials to assist farmers with developing a written manure management plan.
 - Provide assistance with development of the equine MMM education program.
 - Develop, in consultation with DEP, updates of the MMM rate charts and supporting worksheets as appropriate.
 - Review and update training materials as appropriate.
- Provide facilitator training for extension, conservation district, and private sector groups to conduct manure management plan writing workshops for their clientele.
- Coordinate and maintain a MMM education program webpage on the Act 38 nutrient management program website.

Provide technical support to SCC and DEP staff.

- Serve as the liaison between the SCC and PSU extension specialists and other PSU professional staff on information requests to support nutrient and manure management.

Provide University representation in an advisory role to the Nutrient Management Advisory Board and its associated committees and workgroups.

- Provide scientific and technical support to the Nutrient Management Advisory Board and associated subcommittees as appropriate.

Provide extension support to nutrient management related workshops and conferences.

Develop a detailed annual workplan of proposed workshop topics, educational materials, newsletters, etc., in consultation with SCC staff, prior to the beginning of the fiscal year each year of the contract.

- Submit written reports quarterly, including copies of any educational materials developed, to SCC staff.

Plant Science (Agricultural Sciences) / The Pennsylvania State University
 Nutrient Management Education Program
 COP: Department of Agriculture
 Project Dates: 07/01/2018 - 06/30/2020

	07/01/2018 - 06/30/2019	07/01/2019 - 06/30/2020	Total
Direct Costs			
Salaries (Category I)			
White, Charles Macaulay (Principal Investigator) 1% Effort Yearly	1,154	1,184	2,338
Foulk, Donna Lee (Other) .75% Effort Yearly	616	632	1,248
Martin, Gerald Lee (Other) 100% Effort Yearly	68,118	69,822	137,940
Orner, Donald G (Technician) 100% Effort Yearly	59,310	60,794	120,104
Total Salaries	129,198	132,432	261,630
Total Salaries and Wages	129,198	132,432	261,630
Fringe			
Category I @ 41.60%	53,744	55,094	108,838
Total Fringe	53,744	55,094	108,838
Total Salaries, Wages and Fringe	182,942	187,526	370,468
Modified Total Direct Costs			
Materials and Supplies	9,000	9,000	18,000
Materials and Supplies (Equine)	500	500	1,000
Travel - Domestic	10,000	10,000	20,000
Travel - Domestic (Equine)	160	160	320
Total Modified Total Direct Costs	202,602	207,186	409,788
Total Direct Costs	202,602	207,186	409,788
F&A Costs (TDC basis)			
Total Requested From Sponsor	202,602	207,186	409,788
Total Project Costs	202,602	207,186	409,788

CLONED from Unit Budget ID: 20233 CLONED from Unit Budget ID: 41993

Proposal: 50087

Generated by dmr14 on: 04/19/2018

Created on 04/05/2018 and last updated on 04/05/2018

Delivery of Manure Hauler & Broker Certification, Odor Management Support, and Site Assessment Programs

Annual Work Plan

July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

Submitted to the Pennsylvania State Conservation Commission

By

Robert J. Meinen and Robert E. Mikesell

The Pennsylvania State University

Odor Management Regulatory Support

Background: The SCC's Odor Management Planning Regulations and PDA's Odor Management Certification Regulations require the development and review of odor management best management practice (BMP) technology and criteria and, the development and implementation of training and education activities for the certification of individuals to develop and review odor management plans. Penn State University provides support in these key program elements as the agencies continue to implement Pennsylvania's Odor Management Program. The most significant time investment includes training, educational support, and advisory responsibilities.

Objectives: To facilitate the implementation of the Odor Management Planning Regulations and the Odor Management Certification Regulations, Robert Mikesell, with assistance from Robert Meinen (as needed) will provide the following services to SCC and PDA:

1. Collaborate with agency professionals from the SCC and PDA in the implementation of regulations, review of odor management BMP criteria and the development and delivery of certification training and general education of the agriculture community and the general public.
2. Maintain and update the PA Odor Best Management Practice Reference List.
3. Provide support in the development and delivery of education materials via written and web-based formats.

Annual Work Plan:

Odor Management Certification training support

1. Develop and deliver certification training courses for certified odor

management plan writers and reviewers. This training will include use of the Odor Site Index and the mapping elements of a plan as well as the selection of appropriate odor BMPs. Up to two orientation and plan writing training sessions per year will be offered, depending on demand. Trainings will serve prospective plan writers.

2. Assist the SCC and others in the development and delivery of a minimum of two continuing education programs for certified odor management specialists. Provide relevant educational and technical assistance efforts in order to assist the Commission in administering the Odor Management Regulations.
3. Develop and maintain the Pennsylvania Odor BMP Reference List.
4. Serve in an advisory capacity to the SCC and PDA for reviewing plans and new odor remediation technologies.
5. Provide technical support to the SCC on the use, further development, and clarification and review of the Odor Site Index and odor management plans, including on-farm accompaniment of SCC personnel to plan Level II BMPs at farms.
6. Assist with the development and printing of educational materials and fact sheets relating to odor management.
7. Participate in research projects with Penn State's Odor Laboratory to identify and screen Odor BMPs.

Commercial Manure Hauler Certification Program

Background: The Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker Certification Act (Act 49 of 2005) requires that all commercial haulers and brokers must be certified under the program prior to engaging in transport or application of manure on behalf of an agricultural operation. The use of certified commercial manure haulers and brokers is a requirement of certain agricultural operations in the Nutrient Management Regulations. Training materials have already been developed and delivered for current manure hauler participants. Individuals new to the industry will be trained and certified depending on demand.

Objectives: To provide professional resources and coordination for the development and conduct of education programs for certification of individuals in the industry. The objectives will be carried out by a project coordinator (Robert Meinen) through the following activities:

1. Collaborate with an interagency workgroup consisting of other professionals at Penn State, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, the State Conservation Commission and representatives from the industry to develop and deliver education and certification program content.

2. Develop and conduct certification-training programs and assist in continuing education programming for participants who have completed certification requirements.

Annual Work Plan:

1. Participate annually in the planning and the instruction of mandatory workshops and training:
 - Two or three orientation training courses for Level 3 Commercial Manure Hauler and Level 1 and Level 2 Broker certification, depending on demand.
 - Two or three Nutrient Balance Sheet training courses for Level 2 Commercial Manure Broker certification, depending on demand.
2. Assist in the review and development of education materials and exams for appropriate certification levels.
3. Participate in the development and distribution of program information:
 - Develop and distribute program newsletter or informational bulletin. Issues of the newsletter will be produced as necessary. Newsletters and bulletins will be emailed whenever possible. Hard copies will be mailed by the PA Department of Agriculture to individuals without access to email.
 - Develop and publish program related factsheets and other education materials.
4. Assisting in the planning and delivery of continuing education programs and workshops in consultation with the Department of Agriculture or other organizations, using webinars and online training whenever practical.

Assessment of Potential Animal Production Sites

Background: This program is essential in helping the livestock industry avoid conflicts by carefully considering the size and location of proposed livestock facilities and providing education and assistance in selecting appropriate sites. The criteria for establishing a viable site are more rigorous than the Act 38 odor regulations. Several integrators continue to demand this program as part of their selection process for new operations. The site assessment program will remain a valuable tool and will potentially preclude the need for elaborate and possibly ineffective odor management plans.

- Objectives:**
1. Conduct assessments of potential large-scale animal agriculture sites for the potential for conflicts in the community.
 2. Use assessment information to further refine the Odor Site Index.

3. Interact with and provide progress reports (as needed) to relevant agencies and partners including, but not limited to:
 - Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA).
 - State Conservation Commission (SCC).
 - Pennsylvania Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS).

Annual Work Plan

The program coordinator (Robert Mikesell) will administer and coordinate the site assessment process and work closely with industry contacts and allied industry professionals to maintain awareness and viability of the program. During the contract period, the coordinator will:

1. Review all site evaluation requests and plan to conduct the assessments. Coordinator is expected to conduct approximately 30 site assessments per year.
2. Promote the program appropriately by meeting with integrators and industry leaders, and by summarizing and publishing program results in selected media outlets.
3. Provide an annual summary of site assessment program (fiscal year).

Producer Education and Awareness of DEP Manure Management Manual

Background: The Department of Environmental Protection Manure Management Manual provides the tools for an agricultural producer to develop a manure management plan (MMP) to comply with DEP's Chapter 91 Manure Management Manual program. Producers who do not currently have manure management plan will require in-service education for the development and implementation of a MMP and associated best management practices for their operation.

Objectives: Provide technical and educational support for the Department of Environmental Protection Manure Management Manual (MMM) program. Specific activities to support the program will be determined in consultation with DEP and SCC staff and the Nutrient Management Educational Workgroup.

Annual Work Plan

Activities may include but are not limited to some or all of the following:

1. Provide assistance to DEP and SCC in developing an effective educational strategy for training and informing farmers on the current MMM requirements.
2. Assist as needed with development of workshop curriculum and educational materials to assist farmers and the private sector with developing a manure management plan that will comply with DEP's Chapter 91 requirements.
3. Assist, as need with 'train the trainer' education for Cooperative Extension, conservation district and private sector groups that plan to provide manure management plan preparation workshops for their clientele.
4. Provide technical support to individuals assisting farmers develop MMPs and to farmers developing their manure management plans for their operation as needed.

Planning and Reporting

A detailed work plan of proposed workshop topics, educational materials, newsletters and other educational approaches will be developed in consultation with DEP and SCC staff through the Nutrient Management Education Workgroup, prior to the beginning of each fiscal year of the contract.

Written reports will be submitted quarterly. Copies of any educational materials developed will be supplied upon request.

Animal Science (Agricultural Sciences) / The Pennsylvania State University
 Delivery of Manure Hauler & Broker Certification, Odor Management Support, and Site Assessment Programs
 COP: Department of Agriculture
 Project Dates: 07/01/2017 - 06/30/2020

	07/01/2017 - 06/30/2018	07/01/2018 - 06/30/2019	07/01/2019 - 06/30/2020	Total
Direct Costs				
Salaries (Category I)				
<u>Meinen, Robert James (Principal Investigator)</u> 90.29% effort	57,568	59,008	60,482	177,058
<u>Mikesell, Robert Eugene (Co-Investigator)</u> 34.92% effort	37,266	38,200	39,154	114,620
Total Salaries	94,834	97,208	99,636	291,678
Total Salaries and Wages	94,834	97,208	99,636	291,678
Fringe				
<u>Category I @ 41.60%</u>	39,454	40,436	41,448	121,338
Total Fringe	39,454	40,436	41,448	121,338
Total Salaries, Wages and Fringe	134,288	137,644	141,084	413,016
Modified Total Direct Costs				
<u>Materials & Supplies</u>	6,000	6,000	6,000	18,000
<u>Travel In State</u>	11,000	11,000	11,000	33,000
Total Modified Total Direct Costs	151,288	154,644	158,084	464,016
Total Direct Costs	151,288	154,644	158,084	464,016
F&A Costs (MTDC basis)				
Total Requested From Sponsor	151,288	154,644	158,084	464,016
Total Project Costs	151,288	154,644	158,084	464,016



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: April 24, 2018

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Larry G. Baum, Conservation Program Specialist I
State Conservation Commission

THROUGH: Karl G. Brown, Executive Secretary
State Conservation Commission

SUBJECT: 2018 Appointments to the Nutrient Management Advisory Board

Action Requested

Action is requested to approve the following individuals to the Nutrient Management Advisory Board (Board):

- Gaby Gilbeau
- Sarah Dohle
- Leslie Bowman
- Charles White
- Donna Foulk

The appointments have been made by the Commission Chairperson and are provided to the Commission for final approval.

Background

The term for Ross Pifer, Non-Farmer Citizen Representative to the board will expire June 30, 2018 and he is no longer eligible to serve in this capacity. Gaby Gilbeau has been nominated by Ross Pifer, Penn State Law. Ms. Gilbeau is a staff attorney at Penn State Law.

The partial term for Sarah Dohle, Academia Faculty in Agronomy at Delaware Valley University will expire June 30, 2018 and she has agreed to serve her first full three-year term. Sarah Dohle is an assistant professor at Delaware Valley University. Sarah served the unexpired term of Owen S.D. Wally.

The first three-year term for Leslie Bowman, Egg Poultry Producer Representative will expire June 30, 2018 and he has agreed to serve his second three-year term.

Replacing advisors who have retired.

Penn State Advisor in Plant Science Doug Beegle retired from PSU and has stepped down from the Board as advisor. Charles White has been nominated by Eric Connolly, Professor and Department Head of Plant Science. Charles White is an Assistant Professor / Extension Specialist, Soil Fertility and Nutrient Management, Penn State University.

Ann Swinker Equine Advisor retired from Penn State University and has stepped down from the Board as advisor. Donna Foulk has been nominated by Penn State University. Donna Foulk is the Penn State Extension Equine Natural Resource Educator providing short courses and workshops.

The Nutrient and Odor Management Act of 2005 requires board members and advisors to be appointed by the Commission Chairperson, and approved by a 2/3 vote of the Commission. **These appointees now require a formal vote of the Commission in order to be placed on the Board for 3-year terms.**

Thank you for your consideration of these appointments.

Attachments:

Gaby Gilbeau
Sarah Dohle
Leslie Bowman
Charles White
Donna Foulk



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Date: April 24, 2018
To: State Conservation Commission
From: Roy Richardson, Dirt and Gravel Roads Program Coordinator
Through: Karl G. Brown, Executive Secretary
RE: Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads Program Allocations

Dirt and Gravel Road Conservation District Allocations

At its January 17th, 2018 meeting, the State Conservation Commission approved several changes to the allocation formula used to allocate Dirt and Gravel Road funding to conservation districts. The most significant of these changes including the removal of “number of identified worksites” from the allocation formula in favor of relying on “length of identified worksites”, and a change to the High Quality / Exceptional Value analysis method to allow for more current data to be used. The Commission approved the phasing in of these changes over a three-year period to minimize swings in conservation district allocations. Conservation districts were given until the end of March to commit funds and update information in the Program’s online Geographic Information System. Data was collected from the system and used to populate the revised allocation formula to determine allocations for each district.

In addition to allocation changes because of revisions to the formula, many districts will see a Dirt and Gravel allocation reduction for FY 2018-19 because of changes in district allocation eligibility. Three districts were ineligible for allocations in FY 2017-18 because they did not meet SCC spending requirements, and their allocations were distributed among eligible counties. For 2018-19, all 65 districts are eligible for Dirt and Gravel allocations, resulting in an average ~2% allocation reduction for all non-minimum (\$100,000) and non-maximum (\$1,375,000) allocation districts compared to the previous fiscal year.

Staff recommends approval of the conservation district allocations for Dirt and Gravel Roads, based on the allocation formula approved by the SCC on January 17, 2018, pending state budget approval.

Paved Low Volume Road Conservation District Allocations

At its January 17th, 2018 meeting, the State Conservation Commission approved several changes to the allocation formula used to allocate Paved Low Volume Road (LVR) funding to conservation districts. The most significant of these changes including a slight increase to weighting of urban roads within 500' of a stream, and the incorporation of a minor extra weighting for roads near high quality or exceptional value streams. Because the changes to the LVR formula resulted in less impact than those to the Dirt and Gravel formula, the SCC approved the changes to the formula for use in FY 2018-19 with no phasing-in necessary. Conservation districts were given until the end of March to commit funds to meet SCC spending requirements. Data was collected from the system and used to populate the revised allocation formula to determine allocations for each district.

In addition to allocation changes because of revisions to the formula, many districts will see a LVR allocation reduction for FY 2018-19 because of changes in district allocation eligibility. Five districts were ineligible for allocations in FY 2017-18 because they did not meet SCC spending requirements, and their allocations were distributed among eligible counties. For 2018-19, all 65 districts are eligible for Low Volume Road allocations, resulting in an average ~7% allocation reduction for all non-minimum (\$40,000) allocation districts compared to the previous fiscal year.

Staff recommends approval of the conservation district allocations for Dirt and Gravel Roads, based on the allocation formula approved by the SCC on January 17, 2018, pending state budget approval.

PA State Conservation Commission
Dirt, Gravel, and Low-Volume Road Maintenance Program
DIRT AND GRAVEL Proposed County FY 18-19 Allocations
for SCC approval 5/8/2018

* FY 18-19 Low Volume Road funds allocated separately

County	for comparison 2017-18	FOR APPROVAL 2018-19	
Adams	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Allegheny	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Armstrong	\$ 918,331	\$ 888,591	
Beaver	ineligible	\$ 101,307	
Bedford	\$ 287,334	\$ 278,748	
Berks	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Blair	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Bradford	\$ 1,375,000	\$ 1,375,000	max
Bucks	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Butler	\$ 164,464	\$ 161,753	
Cambria	\$ 120,887	\$ 116,899	
Cameron	\$ 134,412	\$ 133,909	
Carbon	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Centre	\$ 155,390	\$ 152,364	
Chester	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Clarion	\$ 383,792	\$ 365,944	
Clearfield	\$ 433,431	\$ 425,852	
Clinton	\$ 178,109	\$ 170,116	
Columbia	\$ 388,907	\$ 373,205	
Crawford	\$ 761,964	\$ 770,393	
Cumberland	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Dauphin	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Elk	\$ 161,890	\$ 157,226	
Erie	\$ 324,274	\$ 336,534	
Fayette	\$ 254,931	\$ 246,907	
Forest	\$ 119,725	\$ 113,628	
Franklin	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Fulton	\$ 143,772	\$ 140,878	
Greene	\$ 415,889	\$ 398,445	
Huntingdon	\$ 290,824	\$ 295,120	
Indiana	\$ 539,539	\$ 519,915	
Jefferson	\$ 322,270	\$ 316,027	
Juniata	ineligible	\$ 104,463	

County	for comparison 2017-18	FOR APPROVAL 2018-19	
Lackawanna	\$ 133,062	\$ 128,935	
Lancaster	\$ 104,049	\$ 100,000	min
Lawrence	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Lebanon	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Lehigh	ineligible	\$ 106,907	
Luzerne	\$ 210,318	\$ 200,551	
Lycoming	\$ 423,286	\$ 417,236	
McKean	\$ 218,953	\$ 274,594	
Mercer	\$ 220,969	\$ 208,813	
Mifflin	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Monroe	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Montgomery	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Montour	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Northampton	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
N'uberland	\$ 209,705	\$ 212,799	
Perry	\$ 149,183	\$ 144,139	
Pike	\$ 121,712	\$ 113,947	
Potter	\$ 853,192	\$ 835,165	
Schuylkill	\$ 185,934	\$ 185,722	
Snyder	\$ 125,630	\$ 124,959	
Somerset	\$ 305,096	\$ 293,636	
Sullivan	\$ 379,818	\$ 364,836	
Susquehanna	\$ 1,375,000	\$ 1,375,000	max
Tioga	\$ 1,069,331	\$ 1,052,059	
Union	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	min
Venango	\$ 539,678	\$ 512,942	
Warren	\$ 597,951	\$ 565,657	
Washington	\$ 366,960	\$ 354,797	
Wayne	\$ 517,172	\$ 496,123	
Westmoreland	\$ 168,272	\$ 159,534	
Wyoming	\$ 296,120	\$ 279,605	
York	\$ 373,474	\$ 368,820	
TOTAL	\$ 18,620,000	\$ 18,620,000	

NOTES:

min = minimum allocation
max = maximum allocation

Note most allocations decreased from FY 17-18 because 3 counties were ineligible in FY 17-18, and their funding was distributed to eligible counties, whereas all 65 counties are eligible for FY 18-19.

PA State Conservation Commission
Dirt, Gravel, and Low-Volume Road Maintenance Program

LOW VOLUME ROAD Proposed County FY 18-19 Allocations
for SCC approval 5/8/2018

* FY 18-19 Dirt and Gravel funds allocated separately

County	for comparison 2017-18	FOR APPROVAL 2018-19
Adams	\$ 130,987	\$ 116,285
Allegheny	\$ 273,374	\$ 268,189
Armstrong	\$ 146,004	\$ 132,837
Beaver	ineligible	\$ 103,178
Bedford	\$ 191,903	\$ 178,249
Berks	\$ 279,839	\$ 252,793
Blair	\$ 88,329	\$ 83,327
Bradford	\$ 111,071	\$ 97,837
Bucks	\$ 197,956	\$ 197,067
Butler	\$ 196,594	\$ 181,787
Cambria	\$ 118,840	\$ 110,414
Cameron	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000
Carbon	\$ 54,572	\$ 50,005
Centre	\$ 113,249	\$ 106,505
Chester	\$ 219,021	\$ 226,983
Clarion	\$ 104,888	\$ 91,750
Clearfield	\$ 127,597	\$ 113,902
Clinton	\$ 60,115	\$ 58,531
Columbia	\$ 92,158	\$ 83,274
Crawford	\$ 110,169	\$ 100,520
Cumberland	ineligible	\$ 127,412
Dauphin	\$ 131,192	\$ 122,186
Elk	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000
Erie	\$ 139,062	\$ 125,691
Fayette	\$ 158,875	\$ 144,620
Forest	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000
Franklin	\$ 139,003	\$ 124,398
Fulton	\$ 68,459	\$ 61,662
Greene	\$ 117,802	\$ 102,837
Huntingdon	\$ 116,585	\$ 106,596
Indiana	\$ 183,830	\$ 165,456
Jefferson	\$ 107,275	\$ 96,623
Juniata	ineligible	\$ 66,995

County	for comparison 2017-18	FOR APPROVAL 2018-19
Lackawanna	\$ 84,673	\$ 83,388
Lancaster	\$ 295,831	\$ 271,171
Lawrence	\$ 112,601	\$ 99,704
Lebanon	\$ 91,268	\$ 81,451
Lehigh	ineligible	\$ 124,127
Luzerne	\$ 166,274	\$ 151,800
Lycoming	\$ 139,939	\$ 131,371
McKean	\$ 65,625	\$ 60,134
Mercer	\$ 148,519	\$ 128,660
Mifflin	\$ 58,244	\$ 56,586
Monroe	\$ 123,641	\$ 125,429
Montgomery	\$ 175,596	\$ 174,013
Montour	\$ 41,008	\$ 40,000
Northampton	ineligible	\$ 123,548
N'uberland	\$ 115,598	\$ 101,622
Perry	\$ 113,777	\$ 103,698
Pike	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000
Potter	\$ 59,716	\$ 58,249
Schuylkill	\$ 168,199	\$ 148,163
Snyder	\$ 74,982	\$ 65,163
Somerset	\$ 191,876	\$ 174,212
Sullivan	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000
Susquehanna	\$ 66,291	\$ 58,938
Tioga	\$ 66,883	\$ 57,693
Union	\$ 49,382	\$ 45,370
Venango	\$ 81,073	\$ 71,046
Warren	\$ 63,792	\$ 58,530
Washington	\$ 214,255	\$ 201,062
Wayne	\$ 88,068	\$ 90,032
Westmoreland	\$ 286,082	\$ 269,550
Wyoming	\$ 44,110	\$ 40,402
York	\$ 281,948	\$ 254,981
TOTAL	\$ 7,448,000	\$ 7,448,000

NOTES:

min = minimum allocation

Note most allocations decreased from FY 17-18 because 5 counties were ineligible in FY 17-18, and their funding was distributed to eligible counties, whereas all 65 counties are eligible for FY 18-19.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Date: April 24, 2018

To: State Conservation Commission

From: Roy Richardson, Dirt and Gravel Roads Program Coordinator

Through: Karl G. Brown, Executive Secretary

RE: Penn State Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies Budget and Scope of Work

Penn State Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Studies (Center): Scope and Budget for FY 2018-19

The Center provides education, outreach, and technical assistance to entities involved in Pennsylvania's Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Maintenance Program. The Center is funded primarily through the PA State Conservation Commission and PA Bureau of Forestry through Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Maintenance Program funds. FY 2018-19 represents the final year of a five-year contract between the Center and the SCC established in 2014 to provide these services. The scope of work and budget for FY 2018-19 remains similar to the past four years, with the Center providing a variety of training and technical assistance events, in addition to maintaining the GIS project tracking system and working with SCC staff closely on a variety of issues. The most significant changes to the scope of work and budget for FY 2018-19 include:

- Development and delivery of "Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance Boot Camps" for district technicians who are new to the DGLVR Program.
- Development and implementation of improvements to the Program's online Geographic Information System used to track project spending and deliverables. The system will be upgraded to allow for more detailed tracking and reporting of spending on a quarterly basis.
- Providing funding to Trout Unlimited to provide additional education and technical assistance to conservation districts regarding the proper replacement of stream crossings on DGLVR projects.

The Scope of work and summary budget for FY 2018-19, year five of the Center's five-year contract with the SCC is attached. Staff recommends approval, pending state budget approval.

PA State Conservation Commission - Dirt, Gravel, and Low-Volume Road Maintenance Program

Penn State Center for Dirt and Gravel Studies

4/20/2018

Summary Budget for FY 2018-19

FY 2018-19 represents year five of a five-year contract between the Center and the SCC. Projected and approved budgets for the previous Fiscal Years are below.

ESTIMATED

5 Year Center Summary Budget ESTIMATE as Presented to SCC May 2014						
<i>SUMMARY BUDGET</i>	<i>projected Year 1 7/1/14 - 6/30/2015</i>	<i>projected Year 2 7/1/15 - 6/30/2016</i>	<i>projected Year 3 7/1/16 - 6/30/2017</i>	<i>projected Year 4 7/1/17 - 6/30/2018</i>	<i>projected Year 5 7/1/18 - 6/30/2019</i>	<i>Total 7/1/14 - 6/30/2019</i>
TOTAL PERSONNEL	\$ 821,040	\$ 954,512	\$ 978,719	\$ 1,003,542	\$ 1,028,995	\$ 4,786,808
TOTAL TRAVEL	\$ 161,400	\$ 161,400	\$ 161,400	\$ 161,400	\$ 161,400	\$ 807,000
TOTAL OPERATIONAL	\$ 239,560	\$ 216,088	\$ 221,881	\$ 197,058	\$ 175,605	\$ 1,050,192
TOTAL SUB-CONTRACT	\$ 150,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 216,000
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 6,860,000
Admin Fee (0\$)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL COSTS	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 6,860,000				

2014 Budget Projection 5-Year Estimates



Actual Approved Budgets	Actual Approved Budgets				NEW FOR SCC APPROVAL Year 5 7/1/18 - 6/30/2019	Total 7/1/14 - 6/30/2019
	approved Year 1 7/1/14 - 6/30/2015	approved Year 2 7/1/15 - 6/30/2016	approved Year 3 7/1/16 - 6/30/2017	approved Year 4 7/1/17 - 6/30/2018		
SUMMARY BUDGET						
TOTAL PERSONNEL	\$ 685,265	\$ 886,655	\$ 859,124	\$ 853,603	\$ 829,021	\$ 4,113,669
TOTAL TRAVEL	\$ 133,000	\$ 165,900	\$ 227,900	\$ 227,900	\$ 243,000	\$ 997,700
TOTAL OPERATIONAL	\$ 204,892	\$ 259,445	\$ 219,976	\$ 221,497	\$ 139,979	\$ 1,045,789
TOTAL SUB-CONTRACT	\$ 120,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 69,000	\$ 160,000	\$ 474,000
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS	\$ 1,143,157	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 6,631,158
Admin Fee (0\$)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
TOTAL COSTS	\$ 1,143,157	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 1,372,000	\$ 6,631,158

**FOR SCC
APPROVAL**

4/20/18

Scope of Work **(July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)**

Submitted To:

Dirt, Gravel, and Low-Volume Road Maintenance Program (Program)

Pennsylvania State Conservation Commission (SCC)

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

Performing Organization:

Center for Dirt & Gravel Road Studies (Center)

The Pennsylvania State University (Penn State)

201 Transportation Research Building

University Park, PA 16802-4710

Principal Investigator: Steven M. Bloser, 814-865-6967

Larson Institute Administrative/Contractual Contact: Frank C. Butts, 814-865-1942

FY 2018-19 represents year five of a five-year contract between the Center and the SCC. The work plan below is for FY 2018-19, but also includes anticipated work items for the first year of a new contract in FY 19-20 for planning purposes.

The Center provides education, outreach, and technical assistance to Conservation Districts and local road owning entities throughout Pennsylvania as part of the PA Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Maintenance Program (Program).

1) ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE MAINTENANCE (ESM) TRAINING COURSE

- a) **Description:** The two-day ESM training course focuses on the connection between road maintenance activities and surface water quality, and covers all of the road maintenance practices promoted by the Program. It also covers the basics of Program functionality and how to apply for Program funding. Municipalities or other road-owning entities who wish to apply for Program funding must have attended the ESM training within the previous 5 years in order to be eligible for funding.
- b) **FY 2018-19:** The Center will:
 - (1) Continue to provide ESM trainings throughout the state. The annual number to be based on requests for trainings by eligible entities and the recommendations of the SCC. Some of these training may be larger-scale “regional” trainings. It is estimated that 12 ESM trainings will be held in FY 2018-19 for approximately 700 attendees.
 - (2) Be responsible for training scheduling, logistics, publicity, registration, provision of continuing education units upon request, and attendee certification tracking and verification.
 - (3) Provide at least 2 trainers per session along with all necessary classroom equipment.
 - (4) Provide for training facility and necessary meals for attendees.
 - (5) Provide attendees with printed material related to the ESM training and instructions on applying for funds
 - (6) Update ESM training with new material and field project experience.
- c) **FY 2019-20:** The Center plans to:
 - (1) Provide trainings with similar deliverables described above for FY 2018-19.
 - (2) The number and size of trainings to be held will be determined based on

- (i) demand from local entities.
- (ii) the relative success of larger “regional” trainings.
- (iii) the recommendations of the SCC and Program advisory groups

2) **ANNUAL MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP**

- a) **Description**: Annual conference focusing on current issues and new practices related to the Program practices, procedure, and projects. This is a 2-3 day event with concurrent classroom session, invited speakers, and multiple field trips. It is held at a different location within PA each year.
- b) **FY 2018-19**: Plans are currently underway to hold the 2018 Workshop on September 18-20 in Indiana, PA. The Center will work with established advisory workgroups in developing classroom and field topics for the workshop. The Center will handle all of the logistics for the workshop including coordination of field trips, classroom sessions, meals, busses, agendas, registration, etc.
- c) **FY 2019-2020**: The Center plans to continue to conduct the Annual Maintenance Workshop. Options are currently being evaluated for a location for the 2019 workshop. The Center will make adjustments to the workshop duration and format to accommodate attendance and subjects to be addressed. It is anticipated that a workshop will continue to be held every fall at a different location in Pennsylvania. Any potential changes to the workshop format, timing, etc. will be made through recommendations by the Program’s advisory groups, in which both SCC and Center staff participate.

3) **FIELD OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

- a) **Description**: The Center provides a wide range of technical assistance education to Conservation Districts and local public road owners statewide regarding road projects funded by the Program. Technical assistance on road projects can include, but is not limited to:
 - (1) E-mail and phone response to specific project questions with varied levels of response required.
 - (2) Walkthrough of potential projects to assist in work plan development.
 - (3) Review and improvement suggestions for project applications.
 - (4) Pre, during, and post-project site visits to address specific project issues or questions.
 - (5) Detailed project walkthroughs for educational purposes, involving multiple site visits, especially in cases where there is new staff at the local Conservation District.
 - (6) Visits to assess post-project performance issues and remediation actions.
 - (7) More in-depth project oversight and on-site training in some cases.
- b) **FYs 2018-20**: The Center will:
 - (1) Handle daily support via phone and e-mail regarding project technical assistance throughout the counties involved in Program.
 - (2) Handle an estimated 150+ on-site technical assistance visits and at least 20 “in-depth” project oversight visits annually. The amount and type of technical assistance will be based on demand.
 - (3) Continue to utilize the tech-assist tracking and distribution system that will allow better summary of technical assistance efforts and direct access by SCC staff.

4) **PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

- a) **Description**: In addition to technical assistance related to “field operations” described above, the Center also provides a wide range of other technical assistance to entities involved in the Program. These services include but are not limited to:

- (1) General e-mail and phone support on a wide variety of Program-related questions (project eligibility, spending issues, Program policy questions, GIS issues, etc.)
 - (2) On-site walkthrough of programmatic issues at county offices when issues arise or when new staff comes on board with the District.
- b) **FYs 2018-20:** The Center will continue to serve as the “help desk” for general program questions and issues from participants. Office visits to Conservation Districts will be conducted on an as needed basis to address issues or to assist new District staff.

5) **GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) AND REPORTING**

- a) **Description:** Since the Program began, the Center has maintained a customized GIS system is used by County Conservation Districts throughout Pennsylvania to track location, project data, and spending information on the inventory of over 17,000 designated project sites currently identified throughout the state. In 2015-16, the Center developed a new expanded online version of the GIS system that also tracks LVR projects. The system was used to generate the Program’s Annual Summary Report for 2016 and 2017.
- b) **FY 2018-19:** The Center has been working with the SCC and advisory workgroups to make significant changes to the GIS system to incorporate more detailed financial tracking, and move toward quarterly reporting for all Conservation Districts. This more detailed quarterly reporting is currently scheduled to be implemented in the second half of 2018, and will include several trainings and expanded technical assistance during the transition.
- c) **FY 2019-20:** The Center plans to continue to support the new GIS and Annual Summary Report process throughout the life of the Program. Advisory workgroups and SCC involvement will guide the development, upgrades, and trainings necessary for the GIS system.

6) **MISCELLANEOUS:**

- a) **Advisory Workgroups:** The Center and Program have relied on advisory workgroups to make programmatic recommendations since before the Program began in 1997. These workgroups meet on an as needed basis. The Center works closely with Program staff to schedule and chair workgroup meetings. The Center will continue to coordinate with SCC staff in order to schedule these workgroup meetings as needed. Currently active workgroups include:
- (1) **Policy and Planning:** Deals with program policies, allocations, and administration.
 - (2) **Education and Outreach:** Deals with trainings and workshops
 - (3) **Product and Process:** Deals with approval of products such as dust suppressants for the Dirt and Gravel Road Program.
- b) **Administrative Manual:** The Center worked closely with SCC staff to write the Program’s Administrative Manual in 2014, and implement significant edits to the manual in 2017. The Center will continue to work with SCC staff to on corrections, additions, and clarifications to the manual as necessary.
- c) **Administrative Training:** The Center worked with the SCC to develop a one-day administrative training directed at Conservation Districts. The Center will continue to work with SCC staff to schedule additional trainings and edit the training material as needed.
- d) **Quality Assurance / Quality Control (QAQC):** The QAQC effort visits individual Conservation Districts to evaluate how they are administering the Program within their county and make recommendations for improvement. While the QAQC effort is driven

by the SCC, the Center is part of the QAQC team and typically assists with visit data preparation, evaluation of field sites, and review of the field sites with Conservation District staff during the visit. The Center will continue to assist the SCC in these QAQC visits, which are expected to be held in approximately 22-23 counties each year.

- e) **ESM Boot Camp:** New in 2018, this “Environmentally Sensitive Road Maintenance Boot Camp” is a three-day training aimed at new hires at Conservation Districts. This field-intensive course is designed to “jump start” new technicians into their role with the DGLVR Program at the district. It will cover basics on construction, surveying, project evaluation, project oversight, and more. Two sessions are currently planned for the second half of 2018, and the training is expected to evolve in the future based on feedback from this initial effort.
- f) **Research and PSU Class:** Working in conjunction with the PA Bureau of Forestry and other outside contracts, the Center will continue to conduct and promote research that will be of direct value to participants in the Program. Research findings will be incorporated into the ESM trainings annually to strengthen the practices promoted by the Program. The Center will continue to offer, through other funding sources, an “Environmentally Sensitive Road Maintenance” focused course for graduate and undergraduate students at Penn State University.

7) **COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:**

- i) **Newsletter:** The Center will continue to publish its quarterly newsletter to alert Program participants and various stakeholder groups about events of concern and the potential impacts on DGRP.
- ii) **Fact Sheets/Technical Bulletins:** The Center will continue to revise and publish new information bulletins on specific maintenance practices.
- iii) **Website:** Continued maintenance and expansion of the Center and Program website will occur throughout the contract year. The website typically experiences approximately 650 “hits” per month from all over the world.
- iv) **Reporting:** The Center will submit quarterly activity reports along with invoices.

8) **OTHER TASKS AS ASSIGNED AND AGREED UPON**

The Center will, on occasion, provide other products and/or services to SCC under this agreement provided that funds to do so are available. It is expressly understood by both parties that this section is intended to allow flexibility in carrying out the annual work plan to address items unexpected or unforeseen at the time of adoption. In all cases, such additional products and/or services will be undertaken based on mutual agreement of SCC and the Center. This flexibility has worked well between the SCC and Center over the past decade. Office and field supplies are required for assigned projects. Purchase of field equipment, including but not limited to safety equipment, paint, flagging, survey equipment, and testing equipment may be required to fulfill contract obligations. Purchase of office equipment including but not limited to laptops, projectors, screens, cameras, copiers, software, printers, and other office or computer equipment, may be required to fulfill contract obligations.

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Conservation Commission

FROM: Joel Semke – REAP Coordinator

SUBJECT: FY 2018 REAP Guidelines and Application

For FY 2018, staff is proposing a few revisions to the REAP Guidelines and Application. Primarily, we have focused on expanding the use of REAP for Cover Crops and Riparian Forest Buffers. The proposed changes for FY 2018 reflect conversations we've had with other groups and agencies in PA.

Staff has again worked to simplify the Guidelines and Application to make REAP easier to utilize. In addition, staff has been working with PA Department of Revenue to ensure that the process of receiving REAP credits is clear and consistent. Also, staff has been working with the Ag IT department to overhaul the REAP database – to ensure that the internal functioning of REAP is clear and consistent.

The following is a summary of the changes proposed for FY 2018 REAP. All other changes to the REAP Guidelines and Application are cosmetic.

1. Cover Crops

The Guidelines for Cover Crops BMP have been revised with the goal of reducing paperwork for applicants. The new guidelines will eliminate the single year eligibility restriction for applicants. Applicants will now be allowed to apply for REAP credits for an unlimited number of years. In addition, farmers will be able to apply for up to 3 years of proposed cover crop plantings on one application. Applicants will no longer be required to submit detailed maps with their applications because of the proposed changes. Attachment 11 of the Guidelines has been updated and the Cover Crop job sheet in the Application has been changed to reflect the new guidelines.

2. Riparian Buffer Maintenance

Riparian Buffer Maintenance is a new addition to the list of REAP-eligible BMPs. Other agencies have identified potential buffer maintenance costs as a hindrance to landowners installing riparian buffers. REAP credits have always been available to offset the costs of **planting** buffers. We are proposing to make costs incurred in the maintenance of a riparian buffer eligible for REAP credits. The proposed REAP guidelines for buffer maintenance list several common maintenance actions that farmers and landowner often take in the years following the establishment of a riparian buffer. These actions have been identified by DEP, DCNR, and others as necessary for a healthy and fully functioning riparian buffer. Riparian Buffer Maintenance has been added to Attachment 1 of the REAP Guidelines and a Riparian Buffer Maintenance worksheet has been added to the REAP Application.

3. Low Disturbance Residue Management Equipment and Roofs and Covers BMPs

We are proposing to simply reiterate the existing guidelines for these 2 BMPs. Residue management equipment must comply with the existing guidelines – no exceptions. Applicants for roofed structures must complete the existing Roofed Structure Evaluation Worksheet in the REAP Application.

Attachments include: DRAFT Attachment 1 of the REAP Guidelines, DRAFT Riparian Buffer Maintenance Worksheet (application), DRAFT Attachment 11 of the REAP Guidelines, DRAFT Cover Crops job sheet (application).

Staff recommends the Commission accept the proposed changes for FY2018 REAP Guidelines and Application.

Attachment 1

REAP Eligible Best Management Practices (BMPs)

REAP Eligible Planning BMPs

Agricultural Erosion & Sedimentation (AG E&S) Control Plan

Practice Code:
Reportable Units: Ac.
Lifespan: 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 75%
Additional Information: Refer to [Attachment 2](#)
REAP Conditions: The plan must meet the requirements of Chapter 102 of the PA Clean Streams Law
Certification Requirements: The Ag E&S Plan shall be prepared by a person trained and experienced in Agricultural E&S control methods and techniques applicable to the size and scope of the project being designed.

Conservation Plan

Practice Code:
Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 75%
Additional Information: Refer to [Attachment 2](#)
Certification Requirements: The plan must be written by a NRCS certified conservation planner.

Manure Management Plan (MMP)

Practice Code:
Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 75%
Additional Information: Refer to [Attachment 3](#). See also: DEP Land Application of Manure – Manure Management Plan Guidance
REAP Conditions: The plan must meet the standards of Chapter 91 of the PA Clean Streams Law

Nutrient Management Plan

Practice Code:
Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 75%
Additional Information: Refer to [Attachment 3](#). Must meet Act 38 Standards.
Certification Requirements: Must be written by an Act 38 certified specialist.

REAP Eligible Equipment BMPs

Composting Equipment

Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: New Equipment - 7 years, Used Equipment - 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Additional Information: Compost screeners, Compost turning equipment, Compost baggers, other equipment approved by Commission
REAP Conditions: Composting must be included in the operation’s Nutrient/Manure Management Plan.

Cover Crop Rollers and Roller Attachments

Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: New Equipment - 7 years, Used Equipment - 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Additional Information: Refer to [Attachment 5](#)
REAP Conditions: Equipment used to roll down cover crop residue prior to no-till planting of subsequent crops

Certification Requirements: Requires Equipment Dealer Certification

Manure Incineration Equipment

Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: New Equipment - 7 years, Used Equipment - 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Additional Information: Furnaces, Burners, Conveyors, other equipment approved by Commission
REAP Conditions:

Manure Injection Equipment – Low Disturbance

Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: New Equipment - 7 years, Used Equipment - 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Additional Information: Refer to Attachment 6
REAP Conditions: Equipment must be capable of shallow injection of manure and/or must be a contiguous part of a manure injection system. Manure injection equipment that utilizes new technology will be evaluated by the Commission on a case by case basis.
Certification Requirements: Requires Equipment Dealer Certification

Manure Separation Equipment

Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: New Equipment - 7 years, Used Equipment - 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Manure separation must be included in the operation’s Nutrient/Manure Management Plan.

No-Till Planting Equipment

Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: New Equipment - 7 years, Used Equipment - 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Additional Information: Refer to Attachment 5
Certification Requirements: Requires Equipment Dealer Certification

Precision Nutrient Application Equipment

Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: New Equipment - 7 years, Used Equipment - 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Additional Information: Refer to Attachment 5
REAP Conditions: Components of Nutrient Application Equipment that enable base equipment (new or existing) to perform with variable rate application capabilities.
Certification Requirements: Requires Equipment Dealer Certification

Residue Management Equipment – Low Disturbance

Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: New Equipment - 7 years, Used Equipment - 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Additional Information: Refer to Attachment 6
REAP Conditions: Vertical tillage equipment used to incorporate manure and/or manage heavy corn residue with minimal soil disturbance. Equipment whose main function is secondary tillage (i.e. disking equipment) is not eligible. Equipment that utilizes new technology will be evaluated by the Commission on a case-by-case basis.
Certification Requirements: Requires Equipment Dealer Certification

All Other REAP Eligible BMPs

Access Road

Practice Code: 560
Reportable Units: Ft.
Lifespan: 5 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: This practice shall only be applicable to those locations on the farm where an improved travel-way is needed to access newly established BMPs. REAP tax credits will not be authorized for any construction or portion thereof exceeding 14 feet in width or 500 feet in length.
Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Animal Mortality Facility

Practice Code: 316
Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: 10 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: The animal mortality composting facility must be part of a manure/nutrient management plan. The dead animals must come from the producer’s operation and may not come from outside sources.
Certification Requirements: Any Conservation district or NRCS employee, or NRCS Certified Technical Service Provider, or private sector engineer or technician who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods and techniques applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Animal Trails and Walkways

Practice Code: 575
Reportable Units: Ft.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Eligible in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. REAP tax credit not authorized for any construction or portion thereof that is greater than 12 feet in width.
Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Brush Management

Practice Code: 314
Reportable Units: Ac.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Applicable to removing undesirable woody vegetation in existing pastures by mechanical and/or chemical methods. Eligible in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. The acres needing treatment must be identified in the Prescribed Grazing Plan.
Certification Requirements: Any Conservation district or NRCS employee, or NRCS Certified Technical Service Provider, or private sector engineer or technician who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods and techniques applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Channel Stabilization

Practice Code: 584
Reportable Units: Ft.
Lifespan: 10 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Additional Information: Applicant is responsible for all local, state and federal permits and approvals that may be required.
REAP Conditions: Used to stabilize stream banks eroded due to excessive water flow or livestock activity.
Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Channel Vegetation

Practice Code: 322
Reportable Units: Ac.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Eligible in conjunction with Vegetated Buffer, Riparian Forest Buffer and Riparian Herbaceous Cover establishment.

Certification Requirements: Any Conservation district or NRCS employee, or NRCS Certified Technical Service Provider, or private sector engineer or technician who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods and techniques applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Closure of Waste Impoundments

Practice Code: 360
Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: Operator must agree to permanently abandon the designated existing structure and the appropriate component practices of the structure.
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: BMP must be identified in operator’s nutrient or manure management plan. Plan must also state whether the facility is to be replace or is no longer needed.
Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Composting Facility

Practice Code: 317
Reportable Units: Sq. Ft.
Lifespan: 10 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: The composting facility must be included in manure/nutrient management plan. The material to be composed must include animal waste generated on the operation and may not originate from outside sources. The composting operation must meet the PA-DEP criteria for on-farm composting.
Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Constructed Wetland

Practice Code: 656
Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Eligible for wastewater treatment only.
Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Cover Crop

Practice Code: 340
Reportable Units: Ac.
Lifespan: Annual
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Additional Information: Refer to Attachment 11
REAP Conditions: Applicants may include 3 years of proposed plantings. Invoices must be submitted at the end of each year’s establishment. Burndown, nutrient applications, and lime are not eligible.
Certification Requirements: Completion of the Cover Crop – Job Sheet (Application p 16) is required.

Critical Area Planting

Practice Code: 342
Reportable Units: Ac.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50% or 75% (rate when used for ACA treatment)
Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Diversion

Practice Code: 362
Reportable Units: Ft.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50% or 75% (rate when used for ACA treatment)
REAP Conditions: Companion practices are limited to the minimum amount needed for proper function and safe outlet of the diversion.

Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Fence

Practice Code: 382
Reportable Units: Ft.
Lifespan: 10 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50% or 75%
Additional Information: 75% rate only applies when used for ACA treatment or for animal exclusion in conjunction with 50 Foot Riparian Forest Buffer (391). All other uses are at the 50% rate.
REAP Conditions: Used in conjunction with Access Control (472) to protect other practices and or land uses AND in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. REAP tax credits authorized for establishing fencing is limited to permanent fence utilizing new materials. Fencing receiving REAP tax credits must not have indirect negative environmental impacts on adjacent areas, such as allowing uncontrolled livestock access to sensitive areas such as stream corridors, steep areas subject to erosion, or woodland subject to overgrazing. REAP tax credit not authorized for removal and/or upgrade of existing fence.

Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer

Filter Strip

Practice Code: 393
Reportable Units: Ac.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Vegetated buffer establishment only.

Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Forage and Biomass Planting

Practice Code: 512
Reportable Units: Ac.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Eligible for conversion to Prescribed Grazing (528) only. REAP tax credits limited to land being converted from annual crop production to permanent pasture. REAP tax credit not authorized for re-seeding existing pastures, converting lands with greater than 20% woody vegetation into pasture, introducing hay into the crop rotation, or for lime and/or fertilizer application as a standalone practice.

Certification Requirements: Any Conservation district or NRCS employee, or NRCS Certified Technical Service Provider, or private sector engineer or technician who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods and techniques applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Grassed Waterway

Practice Code: 412
Reportable Units: Ac.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50% or 75% (rate when used for ACA treatment)

Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Heavy Use Area Protection

Practice Code: 561
Reportable Units: Sq. Ft.
Lifespan: 10 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50% or 75%
Additional Information: 75% rate when used for ACA treatment; If BMP includes a roof structure, the Roofed Storage/Roofed ACA worksheet (page 15 of Application) must be submitted along with the application.

REAP Conditions: SCC staff site visit required prior to BMP approval for roofed Heavy Use Area Protection.

Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Lined Waterway or Outlet

<i>Practice Code:</i>	468
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	Ft.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	5 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50% or 75% (rate when used for ACA treatment)
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Used where vegetation alone will not provide adequate stabilization.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Obstruction Removal

<i>Practice Code:</i>	500
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	Ac.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	5 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Eligible when existing obstructions interfere with other planned BMPs. REAP tax credits not authorized to remove brush in order to install fence.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Pipeline

<i>Practice Code:</i>	516
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	Ft.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	5 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Eligible as a component of livestock watering systems in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. Pipe with a diameter of 8 inches or less that is used to convey clean water for livestock. REAP tax credits not authorized when the pipeline will be used in conjunction with a domestic water supply or irrigation.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Pond

<i>Practice Code:</i>	378
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	No.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	5 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Practice is eligible for livestock water source in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. Applicant is responsible for all local, state and federal permits and approvals that may be required.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Poultry/Livestock Housing Vegetative Buffers

<i>Practice Code:</i>	380 (Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment)
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	ft.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	10 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>Additional Information:</i>	Plantings must conform to USDA/NRCS Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380) Technical Note No. 1
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Establishment costs only. Plantings must be within close proximity to livestock housing and exhaust fans
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Pumping Plant for Water Control

<i>Practice Code:</i>	533
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	No.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	10 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Eligible for livestock water source only.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Riparian Forest Buffer

Practice Code: 391
Reportable Units: Ac.
Lifespan: 15 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50% rate when used in conjunction with the minimum width of the practice (35 feet); 75% rate when used in conjunction with 50 foot or greater width.
Additional Information: [NRCS Practice Guide for Riparian Forest Buffers](#), [PA DEP Riparian Forest Buffer Guidance](#)
REAP Conditions: Vegetated buffer establishment only, 180 foot maximum width eligible for REAP Tax Credit, maintenance costs for three years may be included in eligible costs. This practice is available to agricultural and non-agricultural operations. REAP Tax credits not authorized for moving or replacing existing stream fencing.
Certification Requirements: Any Conservation district or NRCS employee, or NRCS Certified Technical Service Provider, or private sector engineer or technician who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods and techniques applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Riparian Forest Buffer - Maintenance

Practice Code: 391
Reportable Units: Ac.
Lifespan: annual
Tax Credit Rate: 50% rate when used in conjunction with the minimum width of the practice (35 feet); 75% rate when used in conjunction with 50 foot or greater width.
Additional Information: [NRCS Practice Guide for Riparian Forest Buffers](#), [DEP Riparian Forest Buffer Guidance \(pp10-11\)](#)
REAP Conditions: Maintenance activities performed to ensure the survival and growth of riparian buffer plantings, in accordance with long-term buffer operation and maintenance, are eligible – including: mowing, applications of herbicide, vegetation removal, control of noxious weeds, protections from competing plants/animals.
Certification Requirements: Any Conservation district, NRCS employee, NRCS Certified Technical Service Provider, DEP employee, or private sector technician who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods and techniques applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.
 Completion of the Riparian Forest Buffer Maintenance Worksheet (Application p 17) is required.

Riparian Herbaceous Cover

Practice Code: 390
Reportable Units: Ac.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Vegetated buffer establishment only.
Certification Requirements: Any Conservation district or NRCS employee, or NRCS Certified Technical Service Provider, or private sector engineer or technician who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods and techniques applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Roof Runoff Structure

Practice Code: 558
Reportable Units: Ft.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50% or 75% (rate when used for ACA treatment)
REAP Conditions: This practice includes roof gutters and downspouts and shall only be applied to locations where runoff from farm buildings presents is causing severe erosion and/or transporting pollutants from animal wastes. Practice must include establishment of a stable outlet (see Underground Outlet). Repairs to a roof in preparation for this practice are not eligible for REAP tax credits.
Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Roofs and Covers

Practice Code: 367
Reportable Units: Sq. Ft.

<i>Lifespan:</i>	10 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50% or 75% (rate when used for ACA treatment)
<i>Additional Information:</i>	The Roofed Storage/Roofed ACA worksheet (page 15 of Application) must be submitted along with the application.
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Practice applies to construction of roofing over Waste Storage Facility (313) and/or Heavy Use Area Protection (561). SCC staff site visit required. Roofs over new permanent animal housing (barns) are not eligible for REAP credits.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.
Sediment Basin	
<i>Practice Code:</i>	350
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	No.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	5 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Basins associated with new animal housing are not eligible for REAP credits. If other REAP-eligible BMPs are associated with the practice, a prorated portion of the basin may be eligible.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.
Silage Leachate Management	
<i>Practice Code:</i>	
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	No.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	Equal to longest component BMP lifespan, not to exceed 15 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Any Conservation district or NRCS employee, or NRCS Certified Technical Service Provider, or private sector engineer or technician who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods and techniques applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.
Sinkhole Treatment	
<i>Practice Code:</i>	527
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	Ac.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	5 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Utilized to permanently close sinkholes that currently pose a threat to groundwater pollution from animal activity or manure application.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.
Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility	
<i>Practice Code:</i>	632
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	No.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	10 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Manure separation must be included in the operation's Nutrient/Manure Management Plan.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.
Spring Development	
<i>Practice Code:</i>	574
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	No.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	5 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Eligible in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. Subsurface drainage (606) is only authorized for supplying a viable water source needed for the livestock and in conjunction with providing a stable outlet. The practice is not authorized for traditional tile drainage in adjacent fields. Practice may include a maximum of 1,200 feet of 4-inch collection line only. For collection systems greater than 1,200 feet, SCC staff approval is required. All Federal, State, and Local laws and regulation pertaining to wetlands must be followed.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Stream Crossing

<i>Practice Code:</i>	578
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	No.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	5 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>Additional Information:</i>	Applicant is responsible for all local, state and federal permits and approvals that may be required.
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Eligible for animal and agricultural equipment crossing and in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528). REAP tax credits not authorized for any construction or portion thereof that is greater than 14 feet in width.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Stream Bank and Shoreline Protection

<i>Practice Code:</i>	580
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	Ft.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	5 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>Additional Information:</i>	Applicant is responsible for all local, state and federal permits and approvals that may be required.
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Used to stabilize stream banks eroded due to excessive water flow or livestock activity.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Structure for Water Control

<i>Practice Code:</i>	587
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	No.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	5 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50% or 75% (rate when used for ACA treatment)
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	REAP tax credits not authorized for the installation of structures designed to impound water for irrigation, recreation, household water, or to create ponds.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Subsurface Drain

<i>Practice Code:</i>	606
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	Ft.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	5 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Subsurface drainage is eligible only as a companion practice for primary structural BMPs. REAP tax credits for 606 are not authorized for non-structural or vegetative practices such as Conservation Cover (327), Contour Farming (330), Cover Crop, Forage and Biomass Planting.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Terrace

<i>Practice Code:</i>	600
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	Ft.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	5 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	The practice is to be applied where: water erosion is a resource concern, the soils and topography are such that terraces can be constructed and farmed with a reasonable effort, and a stable outlet can be provided.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Tree/Shrub Establishment

<i>Practice Code:</i>	612
<i>Reportable Units:</i>	Ac.
<i>Lifespan:</i>	Riparian Forest Buffer – 15 years, Vegetated Buffer – 10 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50% or 75%
<i>Additional Information:</i>	75% rate when used in conjunction with 50 foot or greater width Riparian Forest Buffer.

REAP Conditions: 180-foot maximum width eligible for REAP Tax Credits. Eligible in conjunction with Riparian Forest Buffer (391) and Vegetated Buffer establishment only.

Certification Requirements: Any Conservation district or NRCS employee, or NRCS Certified Technical Service Provider, or private sector engineer or technician who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods and techniques applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Underground Outlet

Practice Code: 620

Reportable Units: Ft.

Lifespan: 5 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50% or 75% (rate when used for ACA treatment)

REAP Conditions: This practice is to be used as a supporting practice to outlet water from other conservation practices such as roof runoff structure, terrace, and watering facilities.

Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Vegetated Treatment Area

Practice Code: 635

Reportable Units: Ac.

Lifespan: 5 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50% or 75% (rate when used for ACA treatment)

REAP Conditions: Permanent vegetation used for agricultural wastewater treatment is eligible for REAP credits.

Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Waste Storage Facility

Practice Code: 313

Reportable Units: Cu. Ft.

Lifespan: 10 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50%

Additional Information: If BMP includes a roof structure, the Roofed Storage/Roofed ACA worksheet (page 15 of Application) must be submitted along with the application. Applicant is responsible for all local, state and federal permits and approvals that may be required.

REAP Conditions: SCC staff site visit required to prior to BMP approval for the roof structure component

Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Waste Transfer

Practice Code: 634

Reportable Units: Ft.

Lifespan: 10 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50% or 75% (rate when used for ACA treatment)

REAP Conditions: Eligible in conjunction with Waste Storage Facility (313) and Alternative Manure Utilization only. REAP tax credits are not authorized for: Portable pumps, pumping equipment or other portable equipment for removing, distributing, or applying animal waste on the land; Facilities that do not meet local or State regulations; Installations intended primarily for the operator’s convenience; electric lines.

Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Waste Treatment

Practice Code: 629

Reportable Units: No.

Lifespan: Annual

Tax Credit Rate: 50%

Additional Information: Only completed projects are eligible

REAP Conditions: Use of the Waste Treatment practice must be included in the operation’s Nutrient/Manure Management Plan.

Certification Requirements: Any Conservation district or NRCS employee, or NRCS Certified Technical Service Provider, or private sector engineer or technician who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP

planning, design and installation methods and techniques applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Water and Sediment Control Basin

Practice Code: 638
Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: REAP tax credit not authorized for structures designed to: impound water for irrigation, recreation, or supply water to troughs or tanks and sediment basin maintenance. Basins associated with new animal housing are not eligible for REAP credits. If other REAP-eligible BMPs are associated with the practice, a prorated portion of the basin may be eligible.
Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Water Well

Practice Code: 642
Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Eligible in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. REAP tax credits not authorized for: providing water for the farm headquarters; domestic use.
Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Watering Facility

Practice Code: 614
Reportable Units: No.
Lifespan: 5 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Eligible in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. REAP tax credits authorized for permanently located facilities within grazing paddocks or pastures. REAP tax credits not authorized for providing water for the farm headquarters; domestic use.
Certification Requirements: Individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Riparian Forest Buffer Maintenance Worksheet

I. PROJECT LOCATION: (PLEASE INCLUDE PROJECT SITE MAP)

Name: _____ Buffer Installation Date: _____ / _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____
 Municipality: _____ Land Ownership Type: Private Public
 Is buffer permanently protected? Yes No
 Stream Name: _____

Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

NOTE: A USGS 7.5 Topographic Quad map, with map name and project site marked, will provide latitude and longitude.

II. BUFFER CHARACTERISTICS:

Waterbody associated with Project: River Stream Unnamed Tributary
 Pond/Lake Wetland
 Adjacent Land Use: Crops Grass Pasture
 Herbaceous/Shrub Forest Paved/other

Side 1: Length of stream buffer (ft): _____ Average width of stream buffer (ft): _____

Side 2: Length of stream buffer (ft): _____ Average width of stream buffer (ft): _____

Sources of Technical Assistance: (e.g. NRCS, DCNR, conservation district, consultant) _____

Source(s) of Funding: (e.g. DCNR, CREP, CBF, Growing Greener, etc.) _____

The following is a list of typical maintenance activities for a newly planted riparian forest buffer. For additional maintenance activities, please check the box for "Other" and provide a brief description.

III. Riparian Forest Buffer Maintenance Activities (please check all that apply)

<p>Herbicide application Apply broad-spectrum herbicide to reduce competition by other plants and protect trees from rodents; ideally spray 3' strips along shelters or 4' circle</p>	
<p>Mowing Mow between rows at least twice between June and late September to prevent weeds going to seed, and reduce existing vegetation competition. If rodent population is high, reduce habitat by mowing additional three years in the fall only (see herbicide application above).</p>	
<p>Replacement plantings First identify and address the cause of losses (most commonly voles and other rodents), then replant any areas with significant losses to reinforce tree stocking to desired levels; check natural regeneration for potential free recruitment of trees.</p>	
<p>Flooding If riparian forest buffer site floods check within one week of any flood, straighten and reposition or replace shelters and stakes if need be - downed tubes will pin and kill trees and invite rodents</p>	
<p>Other:</p>	



REAP Cover Crop Guidelines

***See REAP Application p17 for the Cover Crop Job Sheet**

Cover Crop

Practice Code: 340
Reportable Units: Ac.
Lifespan: Annual
Tax Credit Rate: 50%

- Applicants may apply for up to 3 years of proposed cover crop plantings. Invoices must be submitted at the end of each year’s cover crop establishment.
- Tax credits are capped at \$35/acre for single species plantings and \$45/acre for multi-species plantings.
 - ✓ Multi-species plantings must include both a grass species **and** a broadleaf species.
- Only seed and planting costs are eligible. Herbicide/nutrient/lime applications are not eligible.
 - ✓ please refer to the NASS custom planting rates, if necessary
- Spreading of manure on the cover crop must be consistent with a current Nutrient Management Plan or Manure Management Plan.
- All seed purchased for cover crop must be tested and properly labeled in accordance with the PA Seed Law and regulations. If the grower elects to use home-grown seed, it must be tested for purity, germination, and absence of noxious weeds by a recognized seed laboratory prior to seeding.
- Cover crops harvested for grain are not eligible for credits.
- Completion of the **REAP Cover Crop Job Sheet (p17 of the REAP Application)** is required.

Purpose: Cover Crops have multiple purposes that benefit many aspects of the land.	
Reduce erosion from wind and water	Weed suppression
Increase soil organic matter content	Provide supplemental forage
Capture and recycle or redistribute nutrients in the soil profile	Soil moisture management
Promote biological nitrogen fixation	Reduce particulate emissions into the atmosphere
Increase biodiversity	Minimize and reduce soil compaction



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DATE: May 1, 2018
TO: State Conservation Commission
FROM: Johan E. Berger
Financial, Certification and Conservation District Programs
SUBJ: Leadership Development Program Update

In late 2017, the State Conservation Commission accepted a proposal from PACD to function as the host of the Leadership Development Program Coordinator, a key initiative that the Leadership Development Committee (Committee) had identified as necessary to further the implementation of the 'Building for Tomorrow' Leadership Development Program. The Coordinator will be employed and housed at PACD. The position is financially supported under the Leadership Development Program budget through a contract with the State Conservation Commission, which is currently in its final signature process.

While a few Leadership Development Program initiatives have taken a brief hiatus during this program year, program staff have been working closely with PACD to fill the Leadership Development Program Coordinator position. That search produced several viable candidates which were interviewed in late April. PACD offered the position to Mr. Matthew Miller (resume` attached) who resides in Harrisburg, Pa. Mr. Miller will be working closely with the Committee to facilitate program activities which had been previously been accomplished by Michael Lovegreen through the Bradford County Conservation District.

Additionally, program staff will be preparing to recommend re-appointments and appointments to fill vacancies representing conservation districts on the Committee, at its July 2018 public meeting. The Committee, includes representatives from the Commission, PDA, DEP, NRCS, PACD and Pennsylvania State University. Each of the partners has the opportunity to appoint its own representatives to the Commission. The Commission may appoint two (2) conservation district directors and 2 conservation district staff.

Attachment

Matthew S. Miller

717.580.1037 | msmiller1037@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/msmiller1037

Communications/Education/Marketing Professional, specializing in community and member engagement for mission-driven organizations.

Skills:

- event planning and management
- program development for professional continuing education, leadership development, staff training, and corporate sponsorships
- community outreach and member relations
- writing/editing: marketing, publications, public relations, development, training documentation
- public speaking and presentation with a wide variety of audiences
- volunteer recruitment and coordination
- Adobe CS (Premiere, After Effects, Photoshop), Adobe Connect, CRM applications

Professional Experience:

LeadingAge PA | Mechanicsburg, PA

Director, Corporate Partnerships & Sales (2017 - present)

- Generates revenue for a state-wide association of not-for-profit senior services providers by promoting the value of business membership.
- Develops and directs business member and sponsorship programming.
- Manages conference trade show and exhibition events.
- Authors communications and media relevant to business membership.
- Oversees renewal and dues processes.
- Assists in developing annual budget.

Accomplishments:

- Revised sponsorship program model to align with Association Strategic Plan.
- Restructured pricing and improved registration/renewal process for business members and trade show exhibitors, resulting in a 7% revenue increase.

Director, Education (2014 - 2017)

- Developed educational programming for a state-wide association of not-for-profit senior services providers.
- Directed event planning and management for conferences, seminars, and distance-learning programs.
- Managed leadership development program.
- Facilitated member-driven task forces and selection committees.
- Supported public policy, regulatory, and legislative advocacy initiatives through member outreach and media production.
- Provided webinar platform training, support, and coaching to association staff and presenters.

Accomplishments:

- Launched quarterly education calendar, increasing member engagement and generating \$40,000 in new programming revenue.
- Overhauled budget and renegotiated contacts for leadership program, correcting a budget gap of 18%

Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank | Harrisburg, PA

Donor Resource Consultant (2006 - 2014)

- Coordinated donor recruitment for a community-based regional blood services provider.
- Managed community, business, and institutional outreach activities, event planning and logistics.
- Organized marketing communications and promotional coordination across all levels of a diverse client base.
- Produced digital media content to support recruitment efforts.

Accomplishments:

- Managed new territory expansion, increasing collections 60% over 5 years.
- Redesigned recruitment collateral and media for first-time donors.

Cumulus Media | Harrisburg, PA

Marketing Consultant (2004 - 2006)

- Designed and executed broadcast advertising campaigns for local and national clients.
- Prospected and developed new business.
- Authored ad copy and produced advertising media.
- Planned and managed promotional events.

Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg | Harrisburg, PA

Communications Assistant (2000 - 2003)

- Assisted in creative development, production, and engineering for broadcast and web-based media.
- Coordinated presentation technology support and training for conference facilities.

Quaker State Broadcasting | Mechanicsburg, PA

Assistant Production Director (1998 - 2000)

- Managed commercial, promotional, and imaging production and copy writing for two FM radio stations.
- Provided promotional and engineering support.
- Programmed and hosted weekly specialty programming.

Education:

B.A., Communications | Elizabethtown College | Elizabethtown, PA
Anthropology Major | Grinnell College | Grinnell, IA



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Date: May 1, 2018

To: State Conservation Commission Members

From: Karl G. Brown
Executive Secretary

RE: Pennsylvania Envirothon
State Board of Directors Appointment

Action Requested:

Appointment of Michael Aucoin to the Pennsylvania Envirothon State Board of Directors.

Background:

According to the Pennsylvania Envirothon Program Bylaws, the State Conservation Commission is allowed to appoint 2 persons to the Envirothon State Board of Directors. Michael Aucoin (SCC) is currently serving a 4-year term that will end July 31, 2018.

I recommend the Commission reappoint Michael Aucoin to serve an additional term on the Envirothon State Board of Directors. Michael has been active with the Pennsylvania Envirothon since 2011, when he represented the State Conservation Commission as an Oral Component Judge. Michael has served on the State Envirothon Board since 2014, while working with the State Conservation Commission.

With Michael's appointment to the Envirothon State Board of Directors, DEP, PDA and the Commission will have continued representation on the State Envirothon Program Board and will be able to provide a broad array of support services and resources to the Pennsylvania State Envirothon Program.



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

May 1, 2018

To: Members
State Conservation Commission

From: Karl G. Brown
Executive Secretary

RE: Chesapeake Bay Program Update

Additional information pertaining to this agenda item will be provided at our May 8, 2018 Commission Meeting.

Conceptual Draft – Pennsylvania’s Agriculture Conservation Stewardship (PACS) Program

Program overview:

A voluntary program designed to recognize and provide certain benefits to Pennsylvania farmers who step forward to document their environmental stewardship. The program focuses on ensuring farmers meet Pennsylvania environmental regulatory compliance (soil conservation and manure management) along with the utilization of practices that demonstrate the farmer’s conservation stewardship addressing all resource concerns on the farm.

The program relies on third party entities to perform environmental assessments of farms applying for recognition, with the oversight of the local county conservation district or other designated entity to administer and provide assessment of program applications.

How it works:

Farmer outreach and education: Farmers obtain an information packet explaining the program, including eligibility criteria and the benefits of program participation. This packet includes a checklist/self-evaluation form of program eligibility criteria.

- Packets could be available from CCDs, DEP, SCC, PDA, PSU, private sector, and on agency and organization websites, etc.
- Participating farmers would enroll at least all contiguous acres under their management control, both owned and rented.

Farmers can use the checklist and program description information to self-assess their farm situation to determine if they appear to be eligible for program participation.

Initial farm assessments: Farmers will contact a third-party entity to do an initial farm assessment. These third-party assessors would include private sector agricultural consultants and other agriculture industry professionals. Conservation district staff would not be involved in this element of the program as their more effective role is expected to be the review of program applications and local administration of the program.

- Authorized third party verifiers need to be certified under PDA’s Nutrient Management Specialist Certification Program. In addition, authorized third party verifiers will be required to attend an additional one-day training outlining the requirements for the PACS program.
- Farmers initially applying for participation in the program must at a minimum be implementing their required 102 agriculture erosion control plan (or conservation plan), as applicable, and their manure management plan (or nutrient management plan), as applicable in order to be eligible.
- Participating farms will be required to demonstrate environmental stewardship in excess of the regulatory requirements when submitting application for renewal in the program in later years.
- Third-party verifiers would work with the farmer to complete the PACS program application/verification form.

Farm application submission and review: The farmer sends the completed program application/verification form (completed by the farmer and the verifier) to the participating district (or other designated entity) for review and acceptance.

- The application/verification form includes a summary of the information relating to implementation of the relevant erosion control and manure management plans, as well as information relating to the BMPs installed on the farm.
 - This farm summary information will be submitted to the conservation district electronically to facilitate data entry for farms approved under the program.

Conservation districts will provide a screening review of every application to assess compliance with program criteria. Applications with questionable information will be further assessed by contacting the farmer and/or the verifier to confirm the validity of the information provided with the application

- Districts will perform an on-site inspection of at least 10% of the submitted applications to assess if the verifier is properly assessing the farm.
 - Districts may be able to count farms where they do on-site checks, as counting towards their obligations under the CB agriculture initial inspection program.
 - Districts may be able to reduce their Act 38 NM plan inspection frequency for CAOs and CAFOs if the farm has a track record of compliance in the Act 38 Program
- The review process will include an assessment to verify there are no SCC, PDA or DEP open compliance issues with the farm prior to approving the farm for program participation.
- Where a district does not participate, the SCC will authorize an alternative entity to perform the application review and administration of the program.

Application approval: Conservation districts or other authorized entities will approve the application based on SCC application review guidance. The conservation district or other authorized entity will notify the farmer of their program approval/disapproval.

Once approved, the district or other authorized entity will record the farm information in a program database for PACS program tracking.

The initial approval under the program will be valid for 5 years, at which time a renewal application would be required for consideration of continued participation.

An annual self-certification form will be required to be completed by the farmer and submitted to the conservation district to retain program participation throughout the 5-year program approval lifespan.

- Conservation districts would update the farm information in the program database if the self-certification form indicates changes are needed.
- If major changes were made to the operation (such as inclusion of additional acreage) a new application and application review will need to take place.

Potential program benefits for the farmer:

- Appropriate agency recognition for their environmental stewardship
- Reduced inspection frequency
- Farm sign indicating program participation and environmental stewardship
- Marketing enhancement opportunities
- Reduced paperwork for grant applications
- Easier access to nutrient trading opportunities



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: April 20, 2018

TO: State Conservation Commission Members

FROM: Frank X. Schneider, Director
Nutrient and Odor Management Programs

THROUGH: Karl G. Brown
Executive Secretary

RE: Nutrient and Odor Management Programs Report

The Nutrient and Odor Management Program Staff of the State Conservation Commission offer the following report of measurable results for the time-period of March / April 2018.

For the months of March and April 2018, staff and delegated conservation districts have:

1. Odor Management Plans:
 - a. 11 OMPs in the review process
 - b. 10 OMPs approved
 - c. 2 OMP approval rescinded
2. Managing eighteen (18) enforcement or compliance actions, currently in various stages of the compliance or enforcement process.
3. Worked with legal counsel on two (2) separate Environmental Hearing Board (EHB) cases.
4. Worked with DEP and other SCC program staff to develop a proposed Nutrient Management Fund budget.
5. Worked with DEP on proposed delegation amounts for the 2nd year of the delegation agreement, as well as, the memo and paperwork for conservations district to submit.
6. Worked with DEP on enhancements to Practice Keeper, so delegated conservation districts can submit plan data electronically versus paper.
7. Continue to daily answer questions for NMP writers, NMP reviewers, delegated Conservation Districts, and others.
8. Assisted DEP with various functions and as workgroup members in Federal and State settings for the Chesapeake Bay Program.



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: March 29, 2018

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Frank X. Schneider, Director
Nutrient and Odor Management Programs

SUBJECT: Calendar Year 2017 Nutrient Management Plan Data

Attached is the most recent Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) approval data for Calendar year 2017. I would like to thank Tom Juengst from DEP for developing this report based on the data submitted by the delegated conservation districts.

The report shows that there are a total of 2,031 Pennsylvania farms that have NMPs approved for their operations. These approved operations have a net total of 457,327 acres under plan, which does not include the acres of importing farms with developed Nutrient Balance Sheets (NBS).

The last report given to the commission was on April 21, 2017. This report, when compared to the 2016 report, shows an increase of 89 operations with approved NMPs, and an increase of 2,395 planned acres on these farms.

ATTACHMENT

12/31/2017

County	CAOs	Acres	VAOs	Acres
ADAMS	26	6,703	10	3,019
ALLEGHENY	5	2,323	2	44
ARMSTRONG	0	-	14	4,568
BEAVER	0	-	3	532
BEDFORD	7	1,663	11	2,647
BERKS	62	5,180	39	7,248
BLAIR	1	7	36	18,875
BRADFORD	9	1,347	20	6,327
BUCKS	11	608	9	2,315
BUTLER	0	-	24	6,419
CAMBRIA	3	24	1	123
CENTRE	16	278	9	2,903
CHESTER	20	1,541	15	4,398
CLARION	1	7	0	-
CLEARFIELD	3	117	9	1,618
CLINTON	14	428	4	5,472
COLUMBIA	9	1,512	3	1,280
CRAWFORD	1	438	34	18,882
CUMBERLAND	22	1,467	74	21,238
DAUPHIN	30	2,697	17	4,658
ELK	0	-	0	-
ERIE	1	237	22	8,995
FAYETTE	1	62	13	5,367
FRANKLIN	47	5,358	27	16,662
FULTON	14	1,202	33	13,640
GREENE	1	-	7	1,899
HUNTINGDON	9	1,657	21	14,594
INDIANA	5	27	37	13,683
JEFFERSON	5	135	7	1,790
JUNIATA	60	2,831	43	12,614
LACKAWANNA	1	110	2	390
LANCASTER	296	31,577	58	15,422
LAWRENCE	1	11	6	2,376
LEBANON	91	5,077	23	6,367
LEHIGH	6	9,263	24	7,407
LUZERNE	5	367	0	-
LYCOMING	14	972	16	4,903
MCKEAN			7	1,738
MERCER	2	41	0	-
MIFFLIN	25	1,508	19	4,648
MONROE	7	212	0	-
MONTGOMERY	6	186	3	217
MONTOUR	13	327	1	30
NORTHAMPTON	1	61	4	1,822
NORTHUMBERLAND	16	698	12	6,796
PERRY	37	2,685	39	12,589
PIKE	2	13	0	-
POTTER	0	-	19	12,633
SCHUYLKILL	22	1,224	13	4,091
SNYDER	70	9,020	17	7,178
SOMERSET	0	-	51	26,972
SULLIVAN	1	-	0	-
SUSQUEHANNA	0	-	5	829
TIOGA	10	3,684	14	3,709
UNION	39	2,020	16	5,486
VENANGO	0	-	2	191
WARREN	0	-	1	89
WASHINGTON	2	284	11	2,836
WAYNE	0	-	10	3,294
WESTMORELAND	0	-	29	13,143
WYOMING	1	6	2	135
YORK	25	1,390	7	1,627
Totals	1,076	108,589	955	348,728



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: March 29, 2018

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Frank X. Schneider, Director
Nutrient and Odor Management Programs

Tom Juengst
DEP Bureau of Clean Water

SUBJECT: Calendar Year 2017 Chapter 91 Activities

Below is a summary of the Chapter 91 education and outreach activities performed by delegated county conservation districts during calendar year 2017.

DEP collects data, on a quarterly basis, on the Manure Management (Chapter 91.36) requirements that were added to the Nutrient Management and Manure Management Delegation Agreements in July 2012.

In calendar year 2017, delegated conservation districts performed the following activities in regards to Manure Management.

- 671 outreach events
- 7,652 outreach contacts
- 181 consultant contacts
- 234 complaints processed
- 115 instances of compliance needed
- 21 compliance issues referred to DEP

Chapter 91 Activity for CY 2017

<u>Quarter Date</u>	<u>Outreach Events</u>	<u>Outreach Contacts</u>	<u>Consultants Contacted</u>	<u>Complaint Processed</u>	<u>Compliance Required</u>	<u>Referred to DEP</u>
3/31/2017	282	3280	47	46	29	7
6/30/2017	203	1382	11	71	39	4
9/30/2017	81	1751	39	71	33	4
12/31/2017	105	1239	84	46	14	6
Totals	671	7652	181	234	115	21



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: April 23, 2018

TO: Members
State Conservation Commission

FROM: Karl J. Dymond
State Conservation Commission *KJ Dymond*

SUBJECT: May 2018 Status Report on Facility Odor Management Plan Reviews

Detailed Report of Recent Odor Management Plan Actions

In accordance with Commission policy, attached is the Odor Management Plans (OMPs) actions report for your review. No formal action is needed on this report unless the Commission would choose to revise any of the plan actions shown on this list at this time. This recent plan actions report details the OMPs that have been acted on by the Commission and the Commission's Executive Secretary since the last program status report provided to the Commission at the March 2018 Commission meeting.

Program Statistics

Below are the overall program statistics relating to the Commission's Odor Management Program, representing the activities of the program from its inception in March of 2009, to April 23, 2018.

The table below summarizes approved plans grouped by the Nutrient Management Program Coordinator Areas and by calendar year.

	Central	NE/NC	SE/SC	West	Totals
2009	7	6	27	1	41
2010	5	7	25	2	39
2011	10	11	15	2	38
2012	9	16	16	2	43
2013	10	11	37	3	61
2014	13	16	44	2	75
2015	16	15	60	2	93
2016	19	16	59	4	98
2017	24	24	43	3	94
2018	3	2	14		19
Total	116	124	340	21	
Grand Total					601

As of April 23, 2018, there are six hundred one **approved** plans and/or amendments, eight plans have been **denied**, sixteen plans have been **withdrawn** without action taken, forty-eight plans were **rescinded**, and eleven plans and/or amendments are going through the **plan review process**.

OMP Status Report

Action	OMP Name	County	Municipality	Species	AEUs	OSI Score	Status	Ammended
3/6/2018	Beiler, Samuel D	Clinton	Limestone Twp	Veal	0.00	34.9	Approved	
3/6/2018	Metzler, J Douglas	Lancaster	Martic Twp	Layers	412.20	26.1	Approved	A
3/16/2018	Hess, John E	Lancaster	E Donegal Twp	Cattle	208.22	71.3	Approved	
3/19/2018	LGH Farms LLC	Columbia	Locust Twp	Layers	424.65	25.7	Approved	
3/26/2018	Fisher, David	Lancaster	Paradise Twp	Cattle	0.00	45.0	Rescinded	
4/2/2018	Snook, Michael – Creek Bottom Farms	Snyder	Franklin Twp	Cattle	67.50	16.1	Approved	A
4/5/2018	Hardy, Jake	Mifflin	Brown Twp	Cattle	0.00	96.7	Rescinded	A
4/5/2018	Hardy, Jake	Mifflin	Brown Twp	Cattle	0.00	106.4	Rescinded	
4/12/2018	Molnar, Roxanne	Lebanon	E Hanover Twp	Broilers	0.00	25.9	Approved	
4/12/2018	Shuey, Debra	Lebanon	Union Twp	Broilers	154.25	81.8	Approved	
4/18/2018	Glick, Jesse S	Clinton	Green Twp	Veal	60.14	56.7	Approved	
4/18/2018	Lee, Jake H	Clearfield	Brady Twp	Veal	64.44	69.3	Approved	

As of April 23, 2018



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

DATE: April 16, 2018
TO: State Conservation Commission
FROM: Johan E. Berger
 Financial, Certification and Conservation District Programs
SUBJ: 2018 “To-date” Program Accomplishments: Nutrient and Odor Management Specialist; Commercial Manure Hauler & Broker Certification programs

Certification Program Summary

State Conservation Commission staff facilitate training and certification programs for persons interested in ‘commercial’ or ‘public’ certification in order to develop or review odor management or nutrient management plans under the Act 38 *Facility Odor Management or Nutrient Management* programs. Training is also facilitated for commercial manure haulers and brokers seeking certification under the Act 49 *Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker Certification* program.

Program Accomplishments (January 1, 2018 to March 31, 2018)

1. The Winter/Spring cycle for the Nutrient Management Specialist certification program began in March 2018. Seventeen (17) individuals began coursework towards certification. The spring certification cycle for the Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker certification program also began in March 2018. Twenty-nine (29) haulers/brokers completed their coursework and are now certified.
2. Completed eight (8) reviews of nutrient management plan reviews for certification requirements. *Note: This is an internal review conducted on NMPs under review by public review specialists seeking final certification.*
3. Issued the following licenses to individuals who successfully completed certification and/or continuing education requirements for license renewals:
 - a. Nutrient Management and Odor Management Specialists:20
 - b. Commercial Manure Haulers and Brokers: 156

Total licenses monitored and maintained by Commission staff on behalf of PDA:

 - a. *Nutrient Management Specialists*.....283
 - b. *Commercial Manure Haulers and Brokers* 705
 - c. *Odor Management Specialists* 28
4. Approved credits for eligible continuing education programs up to March 1, 2018:
 - a. Nutrient Management Specialist certification: 20 events
 - b. Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker certification: 17 events

Note: Most of these events are occurring during the months of February and March 2018.

5. Program staff performed fourteen (14) site inspections (new and follow-up) regarding record keeping requirements under the Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker Certification Program.



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: April 20, 2018
TO: State Conservation Commission
FROM: Johan E. Berger
 Financial, Certification and Conservation District Programs
SUBJ: 2018 Program Accomplishments
 Resource Protection and Enhancement Program (REAP)

REAP Program Summary

The Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Program allows farmers, businesses, and landowners to earn state tax credits in exchange for the implementation of conservation Best Management Practices (BMPs) on Pennsylvania farms. REAP is a “first-come, first-served” program – no rankings. The program is administered by the State Conservation Commission and the tax credits are awarded by the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue. Eligible applicants receive between 50% and 75% of project costs in the form of State tax credits for up to \$150,000 per agricultural operation.

Program Accomplishments

The FY2017 REAP application period opened on a ‘provisional basis’ on August 7th, 2017. Below is a summary of the FY2016 round of REAP applications and a summary of the FY2017 round, to date (1.) and, a summary of REAP activities from January 1, 2018 to April 17, 2018 (2). Approximately thirty (30) applications received in FY2016, representing approximately \$1.2 million, could not be considered under the FY2016 allocation. These applications will be held for consideration in the FY2017-18 round of applications for REAP.

(1.) FY 2016 & FY2017

Applications	Total Cost	Other Public Funds	REAP Requests	Credits Granted
2016 291	\$26.0 million	\$4.34 million	\$10.5 million	\$6.11 million
2017 214	\$17.5 million	\$3.3 million	\$6.9 million	\$2.3 million

a) <u>REAP Request – project types</u>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>FY2017</u>
1) Proposed.....	\$3.87 million	\$1.9 million
2) Completed Projects	\$6.63 million	\$5.0 million
b) No-Till Equipment.....	\$5.15 million	\$2.8 million
c) Structural BMPs	\$4.3 million	\$3.6 million
d) Plans (Ag E&S, Conservation, Manure Management, Nutr. Mgmt.)	\$185,000	\$123,000
e) Low Disturbance Residue Management Equipment	\$318,000	\$229,000
f) Precision Ag Equipment	\$100,200	\$88,000

(2.) January 01, 2018 – April 17, 2018

1. Tax Credits issued to applicants for completed projects\$860,000
2. Number of BMPs completed associated with issued tax credits..... 42
3. Number of new tax credit ‘sales’ completed..... *47 sale transactions*
4. Value of new tax credits processed through ‘sales’..... *\$871,000*
5. Number of site inspections conducted on completed projects 5
6. Educational and promotional activities included one press release:
 - 5 speaking events
 - 1 mass email
 - 1 Press release



BUILDING BRIDGES

Farmers * Municipalities * Citizens
Conservation Districts * Agribusiness

To: Members
State Conservation Commission

From: Shelly Dehoff
Agriculture/Public Liaison

Through: Karl G. Brown, Executive Secretary
State Conservation Commission

Re: Agricultural Ombudsman Program Update

May 8, 2018

Activities: Since mid-March 2018, I have taken part or assisted in a number of events, including the following:

- Coordinated with Cons Districts to offer Ag E&S Plan Writing workshops, partnering with the Centers for Dairy/Beef Excellence in eastern PA (completed Chester, Berks and Tioga County workshops)
- working with Lanc Co Ag Council and Lancaster Barnstormers to plan "Farm Show Weekend" in June
- attended WIP III "Steering Committee" meeting
- conducted educational sessions for "Ag in the Classroom" for 4th graders about soil science
- coordinated details for and attended "Ag Track" of SouthCentral Task Force Homeland Security Conference
- attended WIP III "Charrette" in Grantville
- began participation with WIP III "Communications" subcommittee, but ultimately will not be able to participate due to lack of funding to cover my involvement
- began participating with York Co. Stormwater Authority Implementation Plan "Communications" workgroup
- beginning efforts to assist SCC with a publication for farmers related to changes of Standard Animal Weights
- attended Mushroom Farmers of PA meeting
- participated in LCCD Scholarship Committee selection of high school seniors for college scholarships
- Coordinating details for Lancaster County Ag Week in October 2018
- Serve as Chair of the South Central Task Force Agriculture Subcommittee
- Attended and assisted at Lancaster Co. Agriculture Council meetings

Local Government Interaction: I have been asked to provide educational input regarding agriculture:

Chester Co—on-going attendance at meetings related to Mushroom Phorid Flies with residents/municipality and with the Mushroom Farmers of PA

Lycoming Co—asked by municipality to provide input on proposed ordinance

Chester Co—small-farm resident has concerns with municipal ordinance restrictions; required research to provide proper background information

York Co—municipality requested review of ordinance; required research to find out more details about Clean Streams Law applicability to the ordinance restrictions

York Co—municipality requested review of proposed ordinance changes, especially pertaining to CAO/CAFO applicability

Lancaster Co—attorney called with questions about situation a client was facing with municipality; was looking for background and some explanation of ag-related rules/regulations

Moderation or Liaison Activities: I have been asked to provide moderation or liaison assistance with a particular situation:

Lebanon Co— farmer having concerns with Township requirements in ordinance

Research and Education Activities:

Bucks Co— potential home buyer called with questions about rights of farmers surrounding a house for sale

Fly Complaint Response Coordination: I have taken complaints or am coordinating fly-related issues in:

Dauphin Co-- site visit included



BUILDING BRIDGES

Farmers* Municipalities* Citizens
Conservation Districts* Agribusiness

To: Members February 28, 2018
State Conservation Commission
From: Beth Futrick
Agriculture/Public Liaison
Through: Karl G. Brown, Executive Secretary
State Conservation Commission
Re: Ombudsman Program Update – Southern Alleghenies Region

Activities: March-April 2018

- Assisting with the AG-erosion and sedimentation control workshops in partnership with Penn State-PA OneStop, PA- Farm Bureau, and the Centers for Dairy/Beef Excellence
- Collaborating with *Farm to Table*, *Western PA* and Penn State-Altoona to develop a local food guide for the Southern Allegheny Local Food Network.
- Planning compost workshops to be held state-wide in partnership with Penn State Extension.
- Preparing education and outreach material for the nutrient management standard animal weights Roll Out.
- Organizing a pasturewalk to be held in Huntingdon County (Shade Gap, PA).

Meetings/Trainings/Events

- Huntingdon County Farmer's Meeting
 - Distributed ACRE information
- Southern Allegheny Conservancy meeting
- Southern Allegheny RC&D meeting
- Meeting with Penn State – PAOneStop to plan for 2019 workshops.

Conflict Issues/Municipal Assistance –

- Lycoming County:
 - On-going meetings with residents and farmers regarding fly complaints
 - Collaborating with the new PSU entomologist, Dr. Machtinger, to develop a fly management plan.
 - Working with Lycoming County Commissioners to develop outreach for the community
- Clinton and Snyder Counties: assisting Dr. Machtinger with fly data from poultry operations.
- Huntingdon County: gathered information on installing a windbreak for odor management for a landowner. The landowner has property next to a swine operation and would like to build additional best management practices for odor and noise issues.
- Westmoreland County: research about ACRE/AG ruling on ordinances to prevent the use air cannons for bird control.
- Greene County: assisting the Conservation District and landowner with finding information on invasive plant removal. A Greene Co farmer has increased invasive plants in a gas pipeline area of his hay field.

Reports & Grant Applications

--BCCD Board Report