

# State Conservation Commission Meeting

March 8, 2016

Pa Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg PA

## Agenda

### Orientation/Briefing Session – 10:00am; Rm. 309

1. Driving Surface Aggregate (DSA) standards and specifications; Roy Richardson, SCC
2. REAP program initiatives for upcoming program year; Joel Semke, SCC
3. Review of agenda items.

### Business Session – 1:00pm; Rm 309

#### **A. Opportunity for Public Comment**

#### **B. Business and Information Items**

1. Approval of Minutes - February 9, 2016 Public Meeting (A)
2. Pa Conservation Explorer Tool (NA), Sec. Cindy Adams-Dunn; Ellen Shulzaberger, DCNR
3. Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant Program Technician/Engineer Funding Announcement (NA), Steven W. Taglang, DEP
4. Dirt Gravel, Low Volume Road Program (NA), Roy Richardson, SCC
  - a. Annual Summary Report and Update
  - b. Proposed 2016-2017 Conservation District Allocation Formula
5. SCC General Advisory Committee Activity Update (NA), Karl G. Brown, SCC

#### **C. Written Reports**

1. Program Reports
  - a. Act 38 Nutrient Management Program
  - b. Act 38 Facility Odor Management Program - Status Report on Plan Reviews
  - c. Certification and Education Programs
  - d. 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 Meeting – May 10, 2016; Pa Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pa.

‘A’ denotes ‘Action Requested’  
‘NA’ denotes ‘No Action Requested’

**STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Ramada Inn Conference Center, State College**  
**Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> @ 1:45 p.m.**

***Draft Minutes***

Members Present: Dep. Sec. Greg Hostetter for Secretary Russell Redding, PDA; Fred Fiscus for Secretary John Quigley, DEP; Michael Flinchbaugh; Ron Kopp; Ron Rohall; Drew Gilchrist for Sec. Cindy Adams-Dunn, DCNR; Denise Coleman, NRCS; Glen Seidel, PACD.

**A. Public Input**

There were no public comments presented.

**B. Business and Information Items**

1. Approval of Minutes (A)

a. January 22, 2016 Public Meeting

Ron Kopp moved to approve the January 22, 2016 minutes. Motion seconded by Ron Rohall. Motion carried.

2. Approval for the creation of and appointments to the Nutrient Management (Act 38) and Manure Management (Chapter 91) Delegation Workgroup – Frank Schneider, SCC (A)

Frank Schneider reported that the Commission and the PA Department of Environmental Protection entered into a five year delegation agreement with select conservation districts for delegation of Nutrient Management and Manure Management activities. This delegation agreement will end on June 30, 2017. It is the intent of program staff to facilitate a workgroup of conservation districts and agency staff that would meet several times over the next year to develop a new joint delegation agreement and a new funding formula for a fiscal year 2017-2022 agreement for delegation of nutrient management and manure management activities.

Fred Fiscus moved to approve the creation of and appointments to the Nutrient Management (Act 38) and Manure Management (Chapter 91) Delegation Workgroup. Motion seconded by Ron Kopp. Motion carried.

3. Appointments to the State Conservation Commission General Advisory Committee – Karl G. Brown, SCC (A)

Karl Brown reported that in November 2015, the Commission approved the creation of a general advisory committee to assist the Commission in the review and evaluation of mid and long term changes to the Conservation District Fund Allocation Program Statement of Policy (CDFAP). Staff is recommending this general advisory committee be appointed to advise on these specific changes to the CDFAP and also as an on-going advisory group to the Commission, DEP and PDA on policy matters related to conservation district programs and operations.

Ron Rohall moved to approve appointments to the State Conservation Commission General Advisory Committee. Motion seconded by Fred Fiscus. Motion carried. Ron Rohall publicly thanked those that volunteered to serve on this committee.

4. 2014 Conservation District Annual Audit Findings Report –Karen Books, DEP (A)

Karen reported that since 1999, the State Conservation Commission has required conservation district financial records to be audited under the supervision of a certified public accountant. Those audits must be completed in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to "Financial Statement" audits contained in the latest revision of Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Karen informed the Commission that staff would like to formulate an audit committee to review the common finding found in several of the audit reports and develop recommendations for solutions.

Fred Fiscus moved to approve the 2014 Conservation District Annual Audit Findings Report. Motion seconded by Greg Hostetter. Motion carried.

5. DEP Special Project Agreements - Signature Authority Approval for Deputy Secretary Kelly Hefner – Fred Fiscus, DEP (A)

Fred reported that the Commission has granted DEP the use of the Commission's Special Project Agreement for Chesapeake Bay Program Special Projects, Strategic Watershed Action Team Special Projects and Regional Agricultural Watershed Assessment Program Initiative Special Project. The use of the special project agreement necessitate the appropriate DEP staff to sign on behalf of the Commission for the DEP's CDFAP and approved Special Projects and related invoices. Program staff recommend Special Deputy Secretary Kelly Heffner be given the authority to sign on behalf of the Commission for those special projects documents noted in the proposal that are administered by DEP.

Ron Kopp moved to approve the Signature Authority Approval for Deputy Secretary Kelly Hefner. Motion seconded by Ron Rohall. Motion carried.

6. Penn State Non-Cost-Shared BMP Survey – Dr. Jim Shortle, PSU (NA)

Dr. Shortle reported that as Pennsylvania is challenged to meets its obligations under the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP), the documentation of voluntary implementation of agricultural best management practices is paramount to the success of the WIP. The 'Pennsylvania Farm Conservation Practice Inventory', a survey developed by a partnership of several agricultural and governmental organizations was recently released asking agricultural producers to document conservation practices they have implemented to promote water quality in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Dr. Shortle reviewed the background for the development of the voluntary BMP survey and commented that information gathered from the survey would remain confidential. Over 20,000 farmers are expected to receive the survey. Ten percent (10%) of the submitted surveys will be field verified to support the validity of the response. Returned surveys should be submitted by April 30<sup>th</sup>.

7. Growing Greener III Update – Erin Smith, Policy Director, PDA (NA)

Erin reported that a renewed Growing Greener initiative has been drafted to continue to advance critical environmental priorities, with a particular focus on solutions to prevent pollution, protect drinking water resources and invest in land conservation and preservation. This proposal would include \$900 million over the next six years. The initiative proposed \$175 million in funding for agricultural BMP implementation through the proposed Pa Agricultural Conservation Excellence Program that would be administered by PDA.

8. Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road Program Update – Roy Richardson, SCC & Steve Bloser, Center for DGR Studies (NA)

Steve reported on the progress of a new GIS tracking system. The user interface has been completed and all conservation districts have received training and entered data in the system. A summary of the collected data for dirt and gravel road projects indicates there has been a significant increase in projects (over 245 projects) and project spending. For low volume projects, data indicates the average cost of a project to be approximately \$23,000.

9. Tioga Conservation District Building Project – Erica Tomlinson, Tioga County Conservation District (NA)

Erica reported that the Tioga County Conservation District recently moved into new office space after completing a building renovation project. The new office space has nearly double their previous office space and provides areas for outdoor education activities. Several photographs of the district's new office building were shared with the audience.

10. NRCS Program Updates (NA)

a. PA NRCS Strategic Plan Results 2011-15 – Denise Coleman, NRCS

Denise provided a brief summary of implementation results for 5-year statewide strategic plan. Over 90,000 BMPs were completed in the time frame of the 2011-2015 Strategic Plan.

b. Remote Sensing Project – Joseph Kraft, NRCS

Joe presented an update on the Remote Sensing Project within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The project utilized remote sensing inventory technology to gather information on specific reportable BMPs, transferrable to the CBP model, implemented on over 5,700 farms. Five (5) counties were included in the project.

11. Chesapeake Bay Program Update (Strategy & FAQ Release & Posting) - Karl Brown (SCC)

Karl reported that on January 21, 2016, the Administration released a comprehensive strategy to improve water quality in PA and the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This reboot plan was developed by DEP in conjunction with staff from PDA, DCNR and SCC. DEP also consulted with certain stakeholders on portions of this plan, such as the effort to collect non-cost-shared BMP data for reporting to the Chesapeake Bay program model. This effort is intended to improve local water quality, which will also help to improve the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay. A number of key documents have been released regarding the reboot plan and are available on the DEP Chesapeake Bay Program webpage.

**C. Written reports**

1. Ombudsman Program Reports
2. Act 38 Nutrient Management Program

## **D. Cooperating Agency Reports**

### Deputy Secretary Greg Hostetter, PDA

Greg reported that the threat of HPAI remains active and to maintain vigilance when making farm visits. PDA is working with DEP on a land fill protocols for a disposal option of deceased poultry.

### Fred Fiscus, DEP

Fred reported that 24 conservation districts have submitted their Chapter 102/105 delegation 'Letter of Intent'. Six conservation districts have opted to take on level 3 delegation activities.

### Drew Gilchrist, DCNR

Drew reported that \$28 million has been invested in recreation projects through DCNR's Community Conservation Partnerships Program. The next application period for grants under this program ends in April 2016

### Denise Coleman, NRCS

Denise reviewed the distributed written report.

### Glenn Seidel, PACD

Glenn commented that Conservation Districts appreciate being considered as part of the Chesapeake Bay Program restoration discussions.

## **F. Adjournment**

The next Commission public meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at the Pa Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg PA.

**February 29, 2016**

**TO:** Members  
State Conservation Commission

**FROM:** Karl G. Brown  
Executive Secretary

**SUBJECT:** DCNR Conservation Explorer Tool

DCNR is developing a new tool to replace the current PNDI (Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory) Tool. This new tool, called the PA Conservation Explorer, will include both conservation planning and PNDI environmental review components—which will provide greater access to information, leading to better planning and reduced project impacts.

The new tool will go live in 2 weeks. DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams-Dunn and Ellen Shulzabarger who heads up the Ecological Services Division within the Department's Bureau of Forestry will provide a short discussion of the uses of the tool which should be somewhat familiar to the conservation districts.

Attachments

# Pennsylvania Conservation Explorer

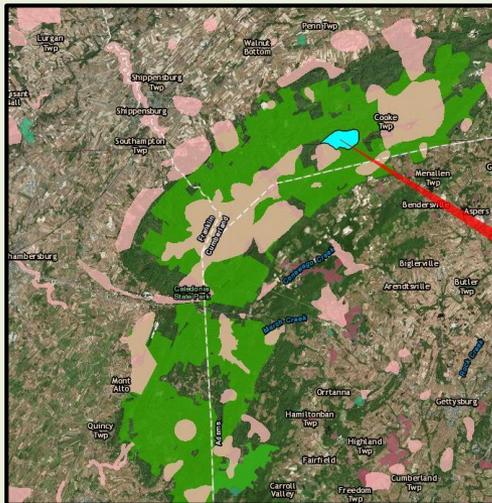
## Conservation Planning and PNDI Environmental Review



[www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us)

DCNR is developing a new tool to replace the current PNDI Environmental Review Tool. This new tool, called the PA Conservation Explorer, will include both conservation planning and PNDI environmental review. It will provide greater access to conservation information, leading to better planning and reduced project impacts.

This new tool will include visible conservation information to support project planning as well as an environmental review function where users can obtain their PNDI Receipts. These two tools in one will provide greater efficiency and certainty for both industry and conservation.

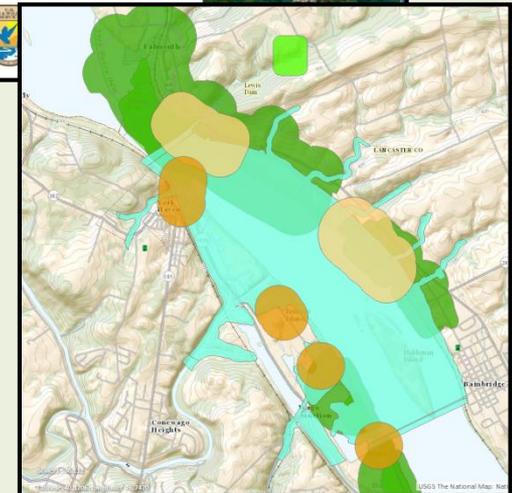


### Conservation Planning

The new tool provides users with the ability to view many layers of conservation information, as shown on the left, for carrying out responsible development and stewardship of land and water resources.

### PNDI Project Screening

Registered users can explore areas for potential impacts to rare, threatened and endangered species habitats as shown on the right.



# Pennsylvania Conservation Explorer

Conservation Planning and PNDI Environmental Review

[www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us)

## New and Improved Features

The new tool's enhancements include:

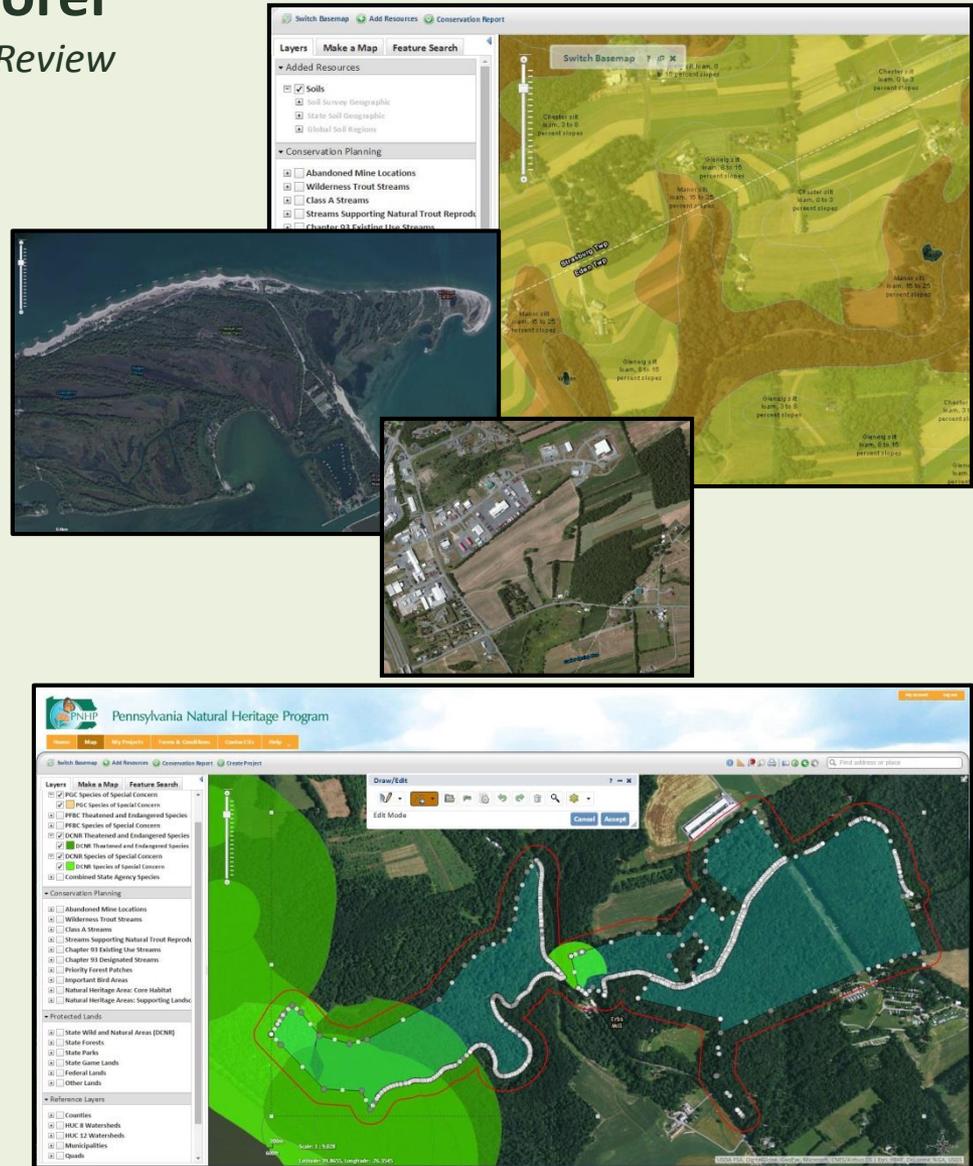
- Improved mapping with 11 different base maps
- Access to PA information for planning and review:
  - Protected lands
  - Visible rare, threatened and endangered species habitats
  - High-value surface water resources
  - PA Natural Heritage area reports

## PNDI Project Screening: Edit and View Projects

- Import project shapefiles to perform screenings
- View submitted projects and their status
- Upload project documents for review

## Convenience Charge for PNDI Receipts

Although most parts of the tool will be free of charge, DCNR intends to recover some of the costs of developing and managing the new tool by applying a \$40 convenience charge per PNDI project. The policy was recently published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.



For more information or to schedule a training or demonstration, please contact: [kenttaylor@pa.gov](mailto:kenttaylor@pa.gov) or visit <http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us>



MEMO

**TO** Karl G. Brown  
Executive Secretary  
State Conservation Commission

**FROM** Steven Wm. Taglang  
Chief  
Division of TMDLs and Stream Restoration

**DATE** March 1, 2016

**RE** 2016-17 Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Grant:  
Chesapeake Bay Program Technician and Engineering Funding

DEP is informing the Commission of the proposed availability of funds for Bay Technician and Engineering positions. Funds for Chesapeake Bay Program technicians and engineers are available to county conservation districts within the Pennsylvania portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Funds can be used to employ technical personnel, obtain technical services, or to acquire technical equipment and supplies for the purposes of implementing the program. DEP uses reimbursement caps for Bay Technician and Engineering positions. These rates have not changed from 2015-16. For FY 2016-17, DEP estimates available state and federal funds of \$3.0 million for about 52 staff in 37 counties.

#### TECHNICIANS

The salary cap for a full time technician for FY 2016-17 will be \$56,000, of which up to \$7,000 may be used for expenses (travel, equipment, supplies, program administration).

#### ENGINEERS

For FY 2016-17, the maximum dollar amount for Salaries and Benefits for the Engineer Specialist will be \$75,000, with up to \$5,000 of these funds available for expenses (travel, supplies, equipment, etc.) and the maximum dollar amount for Salaries and Benefits for the Engineer Assistant will be \$69,000 with up to \$5,000 of these funds available for expenses.

#### TRAVEL

For FY 2016-17, DEP will continue to provide each district that houses a Chesapeake Bay Technician with a \$1,000 travel stipend. This is being provided to support the travel costs of the 50 farm inspections. The purpose of these 50 farm inspections to assess agricultural operations compliance with their obligations under DEP's Chapter 102 and Chapter 91.36 regulations.

The Department presents this information to inform SCC of the availability of state and federal funds to support conservation district staff in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. A copy of the announcement of this 2016-17 funding opportunity will be provided.

This is the third year these staff positions are now funded via the EPA Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Grant (CBRAP). By funding these positions via CBRAP, additional Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant (CBIG) funds will be available to support agricultural BMPs and other conservation district projects.

bcc: File  
30 Day File



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**Written Report**

**Date:** February 26, 2016

**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 (DGLVRP) Update

**Driving Surface Aggregate ( DSA)**

Driving Surface Aggregate (DSA) is currently the only surface aggregate approved for funding under the program. The program uses the PennDOT specification MS-0450-004. While the use of this specification has worked for the program, Commission and Center staff, in conjunction with the Policy and Planning workgroup, recommends adopting a new standard for several reasons:

- Availability of material – The current PennDOT specification requires that all DSA is purchased from a PennDOT approved quarry. There are a number of smaller quarries in the state who are not on the PennDOT approved list, but they can produce quality DSA that meets all of the program standards. Allowing these quarries to provide DSA will increase the supply of quality material.
- Flexibility - any changes to the current PennDOT specification – even minor wording changes- can take a great deal of time. By adopting our own standards, the Commission will have the ability to make more timely adjustments, if needed.
- Local Control – The current PennDOT specification requires paver placement of DSA and compaction testing on all jobs, regardless of size. The proposed new standards will require paver placement and compaction testing for all jobs greater than 1,000 tons (equivalent to an 8” lift of DSA, 18’ wide, 1,500 feet long). For projects less than 1,000 tons, local conservation districts may keep these requirements, or they can adopt their own. For example - If a conservation district has a small project that only requires 300

tons of DSA they can decide to allow a township to “Tailgate” the DSA rather than pay expensive mobilization costs to bring in a paver.

### **FY 2016-2017 Conservation District Allocations**

The DGLVR Program allocates funding to Conservation Districts using formulas that quantify the potential work to be done in each county. The allocation formulas were developed by advisory workgroups consisting largely of Conservation District, SCC, and Center staff. The workgroups plan to meet in March to develop formal recommendations for the SCC regarding allocation formulas. These recommendations will be presented to the Commission at the May meeting.

**Annual Summary Report** - Commission and Center staff have prepared a 2015 draft annual summary report. This report summarizes the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road program’s accomplishments in 2015. The final version of this report will be submitted to the House and Senate Transportation Committees.

**Quality Assurance Quality Control (QAQC)** – Commission and Center staff have completed 4 QAQC visits in 2016. In addition, Bedford, Indiana, and Clearfield counties are scheduled for visits through early April.

**Training Update**– Eleven two-day Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance trainings, which potential applicants must attend before they can apply for Program funding, have been scheduled for 2015.

### **ESM Training Dates and Locations**

- March 15 & 16: Fayette County
- March 29 & 30: Columbia/Montour Counties
- April 13 & 14: Adams/Franklin Counties
- April 26 & 27: Blair County
- May 11 & 12: Susquehanna/Wayne Counties
- May 24 & 25: McKean County
- June 1 & 2: Erie County
- June 21 & 22: Monroe County
- July 12 & 13: Chester County
- October 19 & 20: Sullivan County
- November 15 & 16: Centre County

**Administrative Training for Conservation Districts** - Using the administrative manual as a guide, this class outlines the role of Conservation Districts in the Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Maintenance Program. Administrative training is scheduled for May 3 in State College.

**GIS training** - This training is designed to help conservation district staff become more familiar with the new GIS system used to track program accomplishments. GIS training will be held on May 4 in State College.

**Low Volume Roads Roundtable** – Staff moderated a low volume roads roundtable discussion at the Delaware County Conservation district office on February 2. Conservation district staff from nearby counties met to talk about their recently completed LVR projects and to ask staff questions about LVR projects and related topics.

**Help desk** - Program and Center staff manned a help desk at the SCC/PACD joint staff meeting on February 9. Another help desk is scheduled for the district staff annual conference on March 2.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**Date:** February 29, 2016

**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 Conservation District Allocations

**FY 2016-2017 Conservation District Allocations**

The DGLVR Program allocates funding to Conservation Districts using formulas that quantify the potential work to be done in each county. The allocation formulas were developed by advisory workgroups consisting largely of Conservation District, SCC, and Center staff. The workgroups plan to meet in March to develop formal recommendations for the SCC regarding allocation formulas. These recommendations will be presented to the Commission at the May meeting.

**Dirt and Gravel Allocation Formula:** (\$20Million) The Dirt and Gravel Allocation formula contains 5 weighted factors (in order of weight): number of potential worksites, length of potential worksites, length of unpaved roads, local price of limestone aggregate, and length of unpaved roads in protected watersheds. It is not anticipated that any major changes will be recommended to the allocation formula itself, although it will be open for discussion when the workgroup meets in March. Although the formula may remain the same, Dirt and Gravel allocations may be affected this year by the migration to a new Geographic Information System (GIS). The GIS system generates the base data described above for each county in the allocation formula. In making the transition to the online GIS system in 2015, the base data had to be altered to fit into the new system. The two major changes are: 1) increase in the number of worksites since any site that was made over a road intersection was previously counted as one site, but was split and is counted as three sites in the new system, and 2) increase in the length of unpaved roads in the new system, as it extends unpaved roads completely from intersection to intersection where the old system made this difficult. Because these factors affect each county differently, using the updated base data will have an effect on county allocations. Preliminary allocation testing shows that no county allocation would change by more than  $\pm 10\%$  if these new base factors

were implemented. The “Policy and Planning” advisory workgroup will discuss in detail and make a recommendation to the SCC for the May meeting.

**Low Volume Road Allocations:** (\$8Million) The Low-Volume Road allocation formula contains 4 weighted factors (in order of weight): rural LVRs near a stream, rural LVR not near a stream, urban LVRs near a stream, urban LVRs not near a stream. Because the Program does not have its own LVR data layers, the allocation formula relies on data from PennDOT (roads), USGS (streams), and the US Census Bureau (urban areas). It is anticipated that no changes will be recommended to the allocation formula itself for 2016-17, but allocations may fluctuate as updated base data layers have become available from the entities above. The “Low-Volume Road” advisory workgroup will discuss in detail and make a recommendation to the SCC for the May meeting.

**February 29, 2016**

**TO:** Members  
State Conservation Commission

**FROM:** Karl G. Brown  
Executive Secretary

**SUBJECT:** SCC General Advisory Committee

At the February 9, 2016 public meeting, the State Conservation Commission approved the membership and responsibilities of the General Advisory Committee. Those responsibilities include advising on revisions to the Conservation District Fund Allocation Program (CDFAP) Statement of Policy, advising on SCC policies and procedures and specific programs, issues or concerns.

The Committee recently convened its first meeting and discussed immediate and future activities of the committee. Karl G. Brown, Executive Secretary will update the Commission on the planned activities of the committee.



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DATE: February 26, 2016

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 February 2016.

For the month of February 2016, staff and delegated conservation districts have:

1. Odor Management Plans:
  - a. 16 OMPs in the review process
  - b. 5 OMPs approved
  - c. 1 OMP approval rescinded
2. Worked on recording and filing the 2016 Odor Management Self Certifications
3. Conducted two (2) county conservation district program evaluations.
4. Managing seven (7) enforcement actions, currently in various stages of the compliance process.
5. Worked with legal counsel on four (4) separate Environmental Hearing Board cases.
6. Started to pull together information for the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the delegation workgroup, which will hopefully meet in March 2016.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**DATE:** February 24, 2016 **ITEM: C.1.b**  
**TO:** Members  
State Conservation Commission  
**FROM:** Karl J. Dymond *KJ Dymond*  
State Conservation Commission  
**SUBJECT:** March 2016 Status Report on Nutrient 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 November 2015 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 February 23, 2016.

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

	W	Central	NE	SE	Annual Totals
**2009	4	3	6	28	41
**2010	2	4	8	26	40
**2011	6	7	11	17	41
*2012	10	2	16	18	46
**2013	5	6	14	43	68
**2014	7	8	18	44	77
2015	2	15	15	62	94
2016	0	2	1	6	
<b>Totals</b>	36	47	89	244	<b>Grand Total: 416</b>

*Note that 2016 YTD is through February 23, 2016*

*\*\*Note the change in approved plan numbers is due to rescinded OMPs*

As of February 23, 2016, four hundred seventy five OMPs have been **submitted**, four hundred sixteen have been **approved**, eight plans have been **denied**, thirteen plans have been **withdrawn** without action taken, twenty two plans were **rescinded** and sixteen plans are going through the **plan review process**. Note: of the 475 total plans, 81 of those plans are amendments of previously approved plans.

## *OMP Status Report*

<i>Action</i>	<i>OMP Name</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>AEUs</i>	<i>OSI Score</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Action By</i>	<i>Amend</i>
<i>CAO/CAFO</i>									
1/8/2016	Martin, Ken - Blue Lake Farm	Union	W Buffalo Twp	Layers	84.9	40.8	Approved	Exec. Sec.	A
1/8/2016	Musser, Larry - L&T Pullets	York	Washington Twp	Pullets	0	35.0	Approved	Exec. Sec.	
1/12/2016	Hissong Farmstead Inc	Franklin	Montgomery Twp	Cattle	351.0	48.1	Approved	Exec. Sec.	
1/20/2016	Nolt, Dwayne Z	Perry	Juniata Twp	Broilers	249.33	32.6	Rescinded PI	Exec. Sec	
1/20/2016	Churchview Downs LLC	Carbon	E Penn Twp	Horse	219.0	63.8	Rescinded PI	Exec. Sec.	
1/22/2016	Martin, Marlin	Lebanon	S Lebanon Twp	Multi	185.6	100.9	Approved	SCC	
2/8/2016	Gorrell Dairy, LLC	Bradford	Smithfield Twp	Cattle	0	26.0	Rescinded PI	Exec. Sec	
2/8/2016	Kauffman, Menno	Clinton	Greene Twp	Multi	91.14	41.9	Approved	Exec. Sec.	
2/8/2016	Zeager, Herman & Susan	Lancaster	Conoy Twp	Swine	314.6	42.7	Approved	Exec. Sec.	
2/8/2016	Martin, Tim	Lancaster	Warwick Twp	Turkey	185.77	85.8	Approved	Exec. Sec.	
2/12/2016	Wentzel, Timothy - Quint T Egg Farm	Dauphin	Jefferson Twp	Layers	423.0	25.6	Approved	Exec. Sec.	
2/18/2016	Brubaker, Jodie	Lancaster	Ralpho Twp	Broilers	184.93	50.3	Approved	Exec. Sec.	A
2/23/2016	Walmoore Holsteins, Inc - Unit 2	Chester	Londonderry Twp	Cattle	262.5	34.6	Approved	Exec. Sec.	B



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
**STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**DATE:** February 26, 2016  
**TO:** State Conservation Commission  
**FROM:** Johan E. Berger  
Financial, Certification and Conservation District Programs  
**SUBJ:** 2016 “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, 2016 to February 26, 2016)**

1. The Winter/Spring certification cycle for the Nutrient Management Specialist certification program will begin in March 2016. Twenty-two (22) individuals are currently registered to begin certification coursework. The spring certification cycle for the Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker certification program begins in March 2016. Currently ten (10) haulers/brokers are registered for the coursework.
  2. Completed 3 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: .....11
    - b. Commercial Manure Haulers and Brokers: .....35
- Note: Total licenses monitored and maintained by Commission staff on behalf of PDA:*
- a. Nutrient Management Specialists - 287
  - b. Manure Haulers and Brokers - 635
  - c. Odor Management Specialists- 34
4. Approved credits for eligible continuing education programs scheduled up to June 30, 2016:
    - a. Nutrient Management Specialist certification: ..... 21 events
    - b. Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker certification: ..... 11 events

*Note: Most of these events are occurring during the months of February and March 2016.*

5. Three compliance investigations under the Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker Certification program remain open pending completion of information collection and assessment.
6. One compliance investigation under the Nutrient Management Specialist and Odor Management Specialist certification program remain open pending completion of information collection and assessment.

**DATE:** February 29, 2016  
**TO:** State Conservation Commission  
**FROM:** Johan E. Berger  
Financial, Certification and Conservation District Programs  
**SUBJ:** 2016 “To date” 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 (Commission) and the tax credits are awarded by the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue (DOR). 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**

January 1, 2016 to February 26, 2016

1. Tax Credits issued to applicants for completed, eligible projects from FY14 and residual completed projects from prior program years..... *\$176,000*
2. Number of BMPs completed associated with issued tax credits..... *16 projects*
3. Number of tax credit ‘sales’ completed .....*3 sale transactions*
4. Number of applications received (FY2015) .....52
  - a. Amount of tax credits allocated for eligible projects ..... *\$2.53million*
  - b. Number of BMPs associated with tax credits for eligible projects ..... *157*
5. Number of 2015-16 applications received to date ..... *248*
  - a. Amount of tax credits requests for eligible project: ..... *\$8.0 million*
  - b. Amount of tax credits allocated/reserved for eligible projects ..... *\$7.91 million*
  - c. Number of BMPs associated with tax credits for eligible projects ..... *618*
6. Number of site inspections conducted on completed projects ..... *0*
7. Educational and promotional activities included three (3) farmer meetings various visits to conservation districts and NRCS offices across Pennsylvania.



## BUILDING BRIDGES

Farmers \* Municipalities \* Citizens  
Conservation Districts \* Agribusiness

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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

March 8, 2016

**Activities:** Since early-February 2016, I have taken part or assisted in a number of events, including the following:

- Chaired SouthCentral Task Force Ag Subcommittee strategic planning meeting
- Continuing to plan Ag Week 2016
- Working with Ag integrators and PennAg staff to continue outreach campaign empowering farmers to engage in discussions with non-farm neighbors
- drafted PACD mini-grant application for NPS pollution education
- helping plan Manure Mgmt Plan Writing workshops
- Serve as Secretary for Coalition for Smart Growth Board and Exec Comm
- Serve as Chair of the South Central Task Force Agriculture Subcommittee
- Attended and assisted at Lancaster Co. Agriculture Council meeting

**Local Government Interaction:** I have been asked to provide educational input regarding agriculture:  
**Lancaster Co-** received inquiry from Township Manager about proper animal disposal

**Moderation or Liaison Activities:** I have been asked to provide moderation or liaison assistance with a particular situation:  
**None Currently**

**Research and Education Activities:**

**Cumberland Co—** working with CD to learn more about residual food waste being mixed with manure and spread; causing some neighborhood concerns. I will handle future complaints.

**Fly Complaint Response Coordination:** I have taken complaints or am coordinating fly-related issues in:  
**Chester Co—**complaint of phorid flies on-going