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# Natural Resources Conservation Service Programs



## **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) was established to provide a single voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers to address significant natural resource needs and objectives. Nationally, it provides technical, financial, and educational assistance, at least half of its targeted to livestock-related natural resources concerns and the remaining to more general conservation priorities. EQIP is available primarily in designated priority area where there are significant natural resource concerns and objectives.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-Federal landowners (including Native American Tribes) engaged in livestock operations or agricultural production</li> <li>• Eligible land includes cropland, rangeland, pasture, forest land, and other farm and ranch lands</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Must have control of land for the duration of the contract	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost sharing: Up to 75 percent of cost of certain conservation practices</li> <li>• Incentive payments: Up to 100 percent for 3 years, paid at a flat rate</li> <li>• Maximum of \$10,000 per person per year and \$50,000 over the length of the contract</li> <li>• Technical Assistance in planning, designing, and construction assistance.</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Acceptance into the program is limited and is based on resources available. Must comply with wetland conservation and highly erodible land conservation. Must carry out a 5-10 year contract.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2210
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov">http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov</a>

## Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program helps protect lives and property threatened by natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, and wildfires. The program is administered by the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), which provides technical and financial assistance to preserve life and property threatened by excessive erosion and flooding.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Owners, managers, and users of public, private, or tribal lands are eligible for EWP assistance if their watershed area has been damaged by a natural disaster.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Sponsors must procure land rights and permits.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost sharing: Up to 75 percent of the construction cost of emergency measures</li> <li>• Remaining 25 percent must come from local sources and can be in the form of cash or in-kind services.</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	EWP funds cannot be used to solve problems that existed before the disaster or to improve the level of protection above that which existed prior to the disaster.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2210
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## Forestry Incentives Program (FIP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Forestry Incentives Program (FIP) is intended to ensure the Nation's ability to meet future demand for sawtimber, pulpwood, and quality hardwoods. FIP provides cost share monies to help with the cost of tree planting, timber stand improvements, and related practices on non-industrial private forestlands. In addition to ensuring a future supply of timber, FIPS's forest maintenance and reforestation provides numerous natural resource benefits, including reduced soil erosion and wind enhance water quality and wildlife habitat.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private landowner of at least 10 acres and no more than 1,000 acres of non-industrial forest or other suitable land. Individuals, groups, Indian Tribes or other native groups, associations, and corporations whose stocks are not publicly traded might be eligible provided they are not primarily engaged in the business of manufacturing forest products or providing public utility services.</li> <li>• Land must be suitable for conversion from nonforest to forest land, for reforestation, or for improved forest management. Land must be capable of producing marketable timber crop and meets productivity standards.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Owner must have 1,000 or less acres of forest land	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FIP provides no more than 65 percent of the total costs, with a maximum of \$10,000 per person per year</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	None	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
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## Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) is a voluntary program to restore and protect wetlands on private property. WRP provides landowners with financial incentives to enhance wetlands in exchange for retiring marginal agricultural land. Landowners may sell a conservation easement or enter into a cost-share restoration agreement. Landowners voluntarily limit future use of the land, yet retain private ownership. Landowners and the NRCS develop a plan for the restoration and maintenance of the wetland.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easement participant must have owned the land for at least 1 year. Owner can be an individual, partnership, association, corporation, estate, trust, business or other legal entities, a State (when applicable), political subdivision of a State, or any agency thereof owning private land.</li> <li>• Land must be restorable and be suitable for wildlife benefits.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Must own land with degraded wetlands.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<p>WRP provides three options to the landowner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Permanent Easement</i>: USDA purchases easement (price is lessor of the land value or payment cap.) USDA pays 100 percent of restoration costs.</li> <li>• <i>30 – year Easement</i>: Payment will be 75 percent of what would be paid for a permanent easement. USDA pays 75 percent of restoration costs.</li> <li>• <i>Restoration Cost Share Agreement</i>: Agreement (min. 10 yr.) to restore degraded wetland habitat. USDA pays 75 percent of restoration costs.</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Easements or Agreement	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<b>Address</b>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<b>Telephone</b>	(717) 237-2210
	<b>Internet</b>	<a href="http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov">http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov</a>

## Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (PL 83-566)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	This program works through local government sponsors and helps participants solve natural resources and related economic problems on a watershed basis. Projects include watershed protection, flood prevention, erosion and sediment control, water supply, water quality, fish and wildlife habitat enhancement, wetlands creation and restoration, and public recreation in watersheds of 250,000 or fewer acres. Technical and financial assistance is available for installation of works of improvement to protect, develop, and utilize the land and water resources in small watersheds.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local or State agency, county, municipality, town or township, soil and water conservation district, flood prevention or control district, Indian Tribe, Tribal organization, or nonprofit agency with authority to carry out, maintain, and operate watershed improvement works.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Must include benefits to rural areas and rural communities; watersheds must be less than 250,000 acres.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost-sharing (funds cover 100 percent of flood prevention construction costs; 50 percent of construction costs related to agricultural water management, recreation and fish and wildlife; and none of the costs for other municipal and industrial water management.)</li> <li>• Technical assistance and counseling</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Requires development of comprehensive watershed plan, environmental assessment, and compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. Congress must approve projects over \$5M in financial assistance. Authorized projects funded subject to availability for federal appropriations. Some projects require a sponsor with eminent domain and taxing powers, or other ability to fund their share of projects costs.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2210
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov">http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov</a>

## Resource Conservation and Development Program (RC&D)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Resource Conservation and Development Program (RC&D) was initiated in 1962 to help people care for and protect their natural resources to improve an area's economy, environment, and living standards. The program provides a way for local residents to work together and plan how they can actively solve environmental, economic, and social programs facing their communities. Assistance is available for planning and installation of approved projects specified in RC&D area plans, for land conservation, water management, community development, and environmental enhancement.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be a RC&amp;D area authorized by the Secretary of Agriculture for assistance.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Only RC&D program areas.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical Assistance</li> <li>• Grants (as funding allows) up to 25 percent of total cost not to exceed \$50,000.</li> <li>• Financial assistance has not been available in recent years due to budget constraints.</li> <li>• Local or State government must provide 10 percent of total cost; also responsible for operation and maintenance.</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	<p>None. Local people are best able to determine needs and create solutions for their community. The strength of the RC&amp;D is in the commitment of people to solve their own problems.</p> <p><i>NOTE: RC&amp;D councils have formed independent non-profit organizations to seek funding from private foundations, corporations, agencies, individual, and from various other source.</i></p>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<b>Address</b>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<b>Telephone</b>	(717) 237-2210
	<b>Internet</b>	<a href="http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov">http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov</a>

## Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program for people who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat on private lands. It provides both technical assistance and cost sharing to help establish and improve fish and wildlife habitat. Participants work with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service to prepare a wildlife habitat development plan in consultation with the local conservation district. The plan describes the landowner's goals for improving wildlife habitat, includes a list of practices and schedules for installing them, and details the steps necessary to maintain the habitat for the life of the agreement	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals must own or have control of the land under consideration, and cannot have the land already enrolled in programs that have a wildlife focus, such as the Wetlands Reserve Program, or use the land for mitigation.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Must have access to land	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost –share assistance: USDA pays up to 75 percent of the cost of installing wildlife practices.</li> <li>• Technical assistance for successfully establishing habitat development projects.</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	None	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2210
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov">http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov</a>



## Conservation Farm Option (CFO)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Conservation Farm Option is a voluntary pilot program for producers of wheat, feed grains, cotton, and rice. The program's purposes include conservation of soil, water, and related resources, water quality protection and improvement, wetland restoration, protection and creation, wildlife habitat development and protection, or other similar conservation purpose.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The farmer must be a grower of wheat, feed grains, cotton, or rice. He must have a production flexibility contract and be eligible for NRCS' Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), or Farm Service Agency's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must agree to implement plans that conserve soil, water, wetlands, or wildlife on their farms, and forgo EQIP, WRP, and CRP payments. In return for their agreement, they receive one payment for implementing their CFO contract.</li> <li>Participation is based on a 10-year contract between the producers and the Secretary of Agriculture</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All projects are fully funded for 10 years with the option of being renewed for an additional 5 years.</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	To participate in CFO, the producer or producers must write a proposal that: describes which innovative approaches and measures will be taken; assures delivery of the most environmental benefits from the project; ensures effective monitoring and evaluation of the project; encourages as many stakeholders as possible to participate in the project ; and provides non-Federal funding and is cost-effective.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2210
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov">http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov</a>

## Rural Abandoned Mine Program (RAMP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Rural Abandoned Mine Program (RAMP) was established to protect people and the environment from past coal mining practices. This reclamation program works through local communities (community leaders, conservation districts and others) to solve and address abandoned mine problems. RAMP works on a voluntary basis with individual landowners and communities based on their goals.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surface rights owners and users and water rights owners acting as individuals, partnerships, corporations, associations, estates or trust, and nonfederal entities (limited to 320 acres per one land ownership).</li> <li>• Land must be abandoned or inadequately reclaimed coal mined land or land and water affected by coal mining, if it was mined before August 3, 1977; if there is no continuing reclamation responsibility by the min operator or the state; if the land is in non-federal ownership- and if it is not under lease for coal mining.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land must be owned or have control of non-federal lands that have been impacted by coal mining prior to August 3, 1977.</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	One hundred percent (100%) cost-sharing for non-income producing land uses and 95 percent cost-sharing for income producing land uses up to 120 acres with off site public benefits and declaration of financial burden by the landowner. All projects are fully funded for 10 years with the option of being renewed for an additional 5 years. Eighty percent (80%) cost-sharing for non-income producing land uses and 75 percent for income producing uses for up to 120 acres with on site benefits and/or no declaration of financial burden. If more than 120 acres are offered for reclamation in one land ownership, then a reduced rate of cost-sharing will apply.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Land must remain unrestored land-use during terms of contract (5 to 10 years).	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2210
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov">http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov</a>

## Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Conservation Technical Assistance Program is to assist land-owners, communities, units of state and local government, and other Federal agencies in planning and implementing conservation systems. The purpose of conservation systems are to reduce erosion, improve soil and water quality, improve and conserve wetlands, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, improve air quality, improve pasture and range conditions, reduce upstream flooding, and improve woodlands.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be a landowner and/or land user.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Applicant must have authority to make decisions for the land.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Designing</li> <li>• Limited construction supervision.</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Limited; based on resources available.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2210
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov">http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov</a>

## Farmland Protection Program (FPP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Farmland Protection Program (FPP) is a voluntary program that helps farmers keep their land in agriculture. The program provides funding to State, local, or tribal entities with existing farmland protection programs to purchase conservation easements or other interests. The goal of the program is to protect between 170,00 and 340,000 acres of farmland. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service has been designated as the lead agency in implementing this program.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<p>Land offered must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be prime, unique, or other productive soil;</li> <li>• Be part of a pending offer from the state, local, or tribal farmland protection program;</li> <li>• Be privately owned;</li> <li>• Be large enough to sustain agricultural production;</li> <li>• Be accessible to markets for what the land produces and have adequate infrastructure and agricultural support services; and</li> <li>• Have surrounding parcels of land that can support long-term agricultural production.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	All lands enrolled must have a conservation plan developed according to the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for the program will come from the Federal Government's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority is given to applications that strive for perpetual easements.</li> <li>• Minimum of 30 years is required.</li> </ul>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2210
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov">http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov</a>

## Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative is a nationwide collaborative process of individuals and organizations working together to maintain and improve the management, productivity, and health of the Nation's privately owned grazing land. GLCI was developed to provide for a coordinated effort to identify priority issues, find solutions, and effect change on private grazing land. The initiative with complement and enhance existing conservation programs.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be a landowner or land user interested in developing a grazing system .</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	NONE	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical assistance will be provided to plan and install a grazing system..</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	NONE.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDAS-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2210
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov">http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov</a>

## Agriculture Management Assistance(AMA)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	AMA is a voluntary effort for agriculture producers, that provides cost share payments to construct or improve water management structures or irrigation structure; to plant trees for windbreaks or to improve water quality; and to mitigate risk through production diversification or resource conservation practices, including soil erosion control, integrated pest management, or transition to organic farming.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	NONE	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Applicants must own or control the land and agree to implement specific eligible conservation practices. The applicants must meet the Food Security Act 'person' definition.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	The Federal share shall be 75 percent of the cost of an eligible practice, based on the percent of actual cost, percent of actual cost with not-to-exceed limits, flat rates, or average costs. Participants will be paid based upon certification of completion of the approved practice.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	There will be a five to ten year contract period. The total AMA (NRCS, Risk Management Agency, and Agricultural Marketing Service) cost share payments paid per person shall not exceed \$50,000 for any fiscal year.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2210
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov">http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov</a>

## Soil and Water Conservation Assistance (SWCA)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	SWCS assistance is a voluntary effort for farmers and ranchers that provides cost share and incentive payments to address threats to soil, water, and related natural resources, including grazing land, wetland, and wildlife habitat; comply with Federal and State environmental laws; and make beneficial, cost-effective changes to cropping systems, grazing management, manure, nutrient, pest, or irrigation management, land uses, or other measure needed to conserve and improve soil, water, and related natural resources.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	NONE	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Applicants must own or control the land and agree to implement specific eligible conservation practices.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	The Federal share shall be 75 percent of the cost of an eligible practice, based on the percent of actual cost, percent of actual cost with not-to-exceed limits, flat rates, or average costs. Participants will be paid based upon certification of completion of the approved practice.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	There will be a five to ten year contract period. The maximum total payment per participant for SWCA shall not exceed \$50,000	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service One Credit Union Place, Suite 340 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2993
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2210
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov">http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov</a>

# FARM SERVICE AGENCY PROGRAMS (FSA)



## Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	CRP is a voluntary program that offers long-term rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term resources conserving cover on environmentally sensitive cropland or, in some cases, marginal pasture land. The protective cover reduces soil erosion, improves water quality, and enhances or establishes wildlife habitat. Enrollment is based on a competitive environmental benefits index.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land must be owned or operated for at least 12 months.</li> <li>• Individuals, partnerships, associations, Indian Tribal venture corporations, estates, trusts, other business enterprises or other legal entities, a State, State political subdivisions, State or local agencies owning or operating land might be eligible to participate.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Must own or operate land for at least 12 months prior to signup; must have certain cropping histories. Land must be one of the following: highly erodible; cropped wetland (or associated cropped land) subject to severe erosion.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual rental payments to participant of up to \$50,000 per fiscal year.</li> <li>• Payment to participant of up to 50 percent of the cost for establishing cover; paid after installation.</li> <li>• Incentive payments for wetlands hydrology restoration equal to 25% of cost</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Sign 10 – 15 year contract and agree to establish required practices and maintain practices for life of contract. Must have a conservation plan.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Farm Service Agency One Credit Union Place, Suite 320 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2994
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2113
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov">http://www.fsa.usda.gov</a>



## Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) provides financial assistance to farmers and ranchers for the restoration of farmlands on which normal farming operations have been impeded by floods, hurricanes, or other natural disasters. ECP also provides funds for carrying out emergency water conservation measures during periods of severe drought. ECP assistance is available for removing debris and restoring permanent fences, terraces, diversions, irrigation systems, and other conservation installations.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligible farmers are determined by individual on-site inspections, taking into account the extent of damage and need for assistance.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Cost-shares with agriculture producers to rehabilitate eligible farmlands damaged by natural disasters, including drought.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost share: FSA pays up to 64 percent of the total cost</li> <li>• Maximum \$200,000 total cost-sharing paid to an individual per disaster.</li> <li>• Technical assistance provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	There must have been a natural disaster and damage to farmland that so impairs or endangers that land that Federal assistance is necessary to return it to agricultural use.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Farm Service Agency One Credit Union Place, Suite 320 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2994
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2113
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov">http://www.fsa.usda.gov</a>

## Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a State-federal conservation partnership program targeted to address specific State and nationally significant water quality, soil erosion and wildlife habitat issues related to agricultural use. The program uses financial incentives to encourage farmers and ranchers to voluntarily enroll in contracts of 10 to 15 years in duration to remove lands from agricultural production. This community-based conservation program provides a flexible design of conservation practices and financial incentives to address environmental issues.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land must be owned or operated for at least 12 months.</li> <li>• Individuals, partnerships, associations, Indian Tribal venture corporations, estates, trusts, other business enterprises or other legal entities, a State, State political subdivisions, State or local agencies owning or operating land might be eligible to participate.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Must own or operate land for at least 12 months prior to signup; must have certain cropping histories. Land must be one of the following: highly erodible; cropped wetland (or associated cropped land) subject to severe erosion.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual rental payments to participants of up to \$50,000 per fiscal year.</li> <li>• Payment to participant of up to 50 percent of the cost for establishing cover paid after installation.</li> <li>• Incentive payments 75 to 100% of the annual rental payments.</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Sign 10 – 15 year contract and agree to establish required practices and maintain practices for life of contract. Must have a conservation plan.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Farm Service Agency One Credit Union Place, Suite 320 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2994
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2113
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov">http://www.fsa.usda.gov</a>

## Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<p>The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, (NAP) was created by the Federal Crop Insurance Reform Act of 1994, and amended by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996. NAP helps to reduce the risks you face when you produce crops for which Federal Crop Insurance is not available. NAP reduces risk of financial losses when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production or prevented planting of an eligible crop. Your eligibility for payment is based on an expected yield based on an expected yield for the area and your approved yields based on actual production history, or a transitional yield if sufficient production records are not available.</p>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An eligible producer is a landowner, tenant, or sharecropper who share in the risk of producing the crop and is entitled to share in the crop and would have shared had the crop been produced</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<p>Commercial grower of an eligible crop. Eligible crops must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• grown for food;</li> <li>• planted and grown for livestock, consumption, including, but not limited to grain and seeded and native forage crops;</li> <li>• grown for fiber, except for tree; and</li> <li>• specialty crops, such as aquaculture, floriculture, ornamental nursery, Christmas trees, turf for sod, industrial crops, and seed crops used to produce crops that are eligible for NAP.</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FSA will compensate producers for losses of eligible crops exceeding 50 percent of the expected yield, based on 60 percent of the average market price of the commodity for that year's crop and prior crops, and 55 percent of the average market price of the commodity for 1999 and subsequent crops;</li> <li>• Prevented planting of more than 35 percent of intended acreage.</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	<p>Must lose more than 50 percent of expected crop production in approved NAP area due to natural disaster; comply with HELC and WC requirements; file notice of loss and report crop acreage; have qualifying gross income less than \$2 million for last tax year.</p>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	<p>USDA-Farm Service Agency            One Credit Union Place, Suite 320            Harrisburg, PA 17110-2994</p>
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2113
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov">http://www.fsa.usda.gov</a>

## Emergency Loan Assistance (EM)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	Emergency Loan Assistance (EM) is a low interest loan provided by FSA to assist eligible farmers in covering production and physical losses in counties that are declared a disaster area by the President or designated by the Secretary of Agriculture.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An established operator of a family farm;</li> <li>• Citizen or permanent residents of the United States;</li> <li>• Must have adequate training or experience in managing and operating a farm or ranch necessary to assure reasonable prospects of success;</li> <li>• Must have suffered a qualifying physical loss, or a production loss of at least 30 percent in any essential farm or ranch enterprise;</li> <li>• Cannot obtain commercial credit;</li> <li>• Can demonstrate that they have repayment ability.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borrowers must keep acceptable farm records;</li> <li>• Borrowers must operate in accordance with a farm plan they develop and agree to with FSA;</li> <li>• Borrowers may be required to participate in a financial management training program, and may be required to obtain crop insurance.</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	The loan limit is up to 80 percent of actual production loss (i.e., the value of lost crops, milk etc.), or 10 percent of the actual physical loss, with a maximum indebtedness under this program of \$500,000.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Loans for crop livestock and non-estate losses are normally repaid in 1 to 7 years depending upon the loan purpose, repayment ability, and collateral available as loan security. Loans for physical losses to real estate must normally be repaid within 30 years. In unusual circumstances, repayment may be extended over a maximum of 40 years.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Farm Service Agency One Credit Union Place, Suite 320 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2994
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2113
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov">http://www.fsa.usda.gov</a>

## Tree Assistance Program (TAP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Tree Assistance Program (TAP), administered by the Farm Service Agency, provides payments to eligible tree and vineyard growers who incurred losses due to natural disasters, including losses caused by freeze, excessive rainfall, floods, drought, tornado, and earthquakes.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligible tree and vineyard growers, including orchards.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<p>Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• earn less than \$2.5 million gross annual revenue in the tax year preceding the year in which the losses occurred;</li> <li>• suffered 20 percent or greater loss, adjusted for normal mortality; and</li> <li>• be in compliance with highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions.</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Payment will be provided for the replacement or rehabilitation of all qualifying losses to eligible trees or vines with the individual payment limitations. Payments will provide an amount not to exceed 100 percent of the cost, adjusted for normal mortality, to replant or rehabilitate the eligible tree or vine.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Eligible owners may not receive payment of more than \$25,000 per person.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Farm Service Agency One Credit Union Place, Suite 320 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2994
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2113
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov">http://www.fsa.usda.gov</a>

## Direct Farm Ownership Loans

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	Direct Ownership Farm Ownership Loan allows you to purchase farmland, construct or repair buildings and other fixtures, and develop farmland to promote soil and water conservation. This loan may also be used to refinance existing debt..	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers/ranchers or beginner farmer/ranchers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Applicant must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have sufficient education, training, or experience in managing and operating a farm.</li> <li>• Have good credit history, show repayment ability and provide sufficient loan security.</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Maximum loan amount is \$200,000 for up to forty (40) years. Rates are based on Agency borrowing cost. Temporarily limited resource interest rates available for those unable to repay at regular rates.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Eligible owners may not receive payment of more than \$25,000 per person.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Farm Service Agency One Credit Union Place, Suite 320 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2994
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2113
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov">http://www.fsa.usda.gov</a>

## Direct Operating Loans

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	Operating Loans may be used to purchase items needed for a successful farm operation, such as livestock, farm equipment, feed, seed, fuel, farm chemicals, insurance, and other operating expenses. Also Operating Loans can be used to pay for minor improvements to buildings, cost associated with land water development, family subsistence, and to refinance debts under certain conditions.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers/ranchers or beginner farmer/ranchers who are temporarily unable to obtain private, commercial credit.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Applicant must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have sufficient education, training, or experience in managing and operating a farm.</li> <li>• Have good credit history, show repayment ability and provide sufficient loan security.</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Maximum loan amount is \$200,000 for up to seven (7) years. Rates are based on Agency borrowing cost. Temporarily limited resource interest rates available for those unable to repay at regular rates.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	None	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Farm Service Agency One Credit Union Place, Suite 320 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2994
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2113
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov">http://www.fsa.usda.gov</a>

## Youth Project Loans

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	FSA makes loans to individual rural youths to establish and operate income-producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H clubs, Future Farmers of America, and similar organizations. Each project must be planned and operated with the help of the organization adviser, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural youths between the ages of 10 – 21 who participate in 4-H Clubs, FFA, or similar organization.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Applicant must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live in a town of less than 10,000 people, and</li> <li>• Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work.</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Loans granted may be used to finance nearly any kind of income-producing projects. Some common projects include livestock and crop production, lawn and garden services, repair shops, and roadside stands. Only projects of modest size can be financed. A modest project is limited in physical size for running the projects.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Youths must be capable of managing and operating the project under guidance from a project advisor. Project advisor must recommend the project and agree to provide adequate supervision. Repayment schedule will be tailored to the type of project.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Farm Service Agency One Credit Union Place, Suite 320 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2994
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2113
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov">http://www.fsa.usda.gov</a>



## Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Loans

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides direct and guaranteed loans to beginning farmers and ranchers who are unable to obtain financing from commercial credit sources. This also provides a way for retiring farmers to transfer land to a future generation of farmers/ranchers.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beginning farmers and ranchers who are temporarily unable to obtain private commercial credit.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<p>Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have operated a farm at least 3 years but not more than 10 years.</li> <li>• Have farm size that doesn't exceed 25% of the average farm in the county.</li> <li>• Have sufficient education, training, or experience in managing and operating a farm.</li> <li>• Have good credit history, show repayment ability, and provide sufficient loan security.</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<p>Maximum loan amounts are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct FO or OL: \$200,000</li> <li>• Guaranteed FO or OL: \$700,000</li> </ul> <p>Farm Ownership (FO) Loans, you can purchase farmland, construct or repair buildings and other fixtures, and promote soil and water conservation.</p> <p>Operating Loans (OL) may be used to purchase livestock, farm equipment, feed, seed, fuel, farm chemicals, insurance, and other operating expenses.</p>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cash down payment of at least 10 percent of the purchase price</li> <li>• FSA may finance some of the cost at 4 percent interest over 10 years.</li> <li>• FSA can also provide a 95 percent guarantee to private lenders.</li> <li>• Purchase price or appraised value may not exceed \$250,000</li> </ul>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Farm Service Agency One Credit Union Place, Suite 320 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2994
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2113
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov">http://www.fsa.usda.gov</a>

## Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The livestock Indemnity Program is an emergency effort administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to help livestock producers who suffered losses from recent natural disasters. It provides a partial reimbursement to eligible producers for livestock losses	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Owned a substantial beneficial interest in eligible livestock at the time of the loss;</li> <li>• Had a financial risk in the eligible livestock at the time of the loss;</li> <li>• Suffered a loss of eligible livestock that is the direct</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Applicant must incur losses from natural disasters pursuant to a Presidential or Secretarial declaration.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Payment will be made after all applications have been received, and it has been determined that a uniform reduction must be applied.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Must suffer a loss in excess of national normal mortality rate for 6-month period.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Farm Service Agency One Credit Union Place, Suite 320 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2994
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 237-2113
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov">http://www.fsa.usda.gov</a>

# RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS



## Guaranteed Rental Housing Program

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Rural Housing Service guarantees loans under the Rural Rental Housing Guaranteed loan program for development of multi-family housing facilities in rural areas of the United States. Loan guarantees are provided for the construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation of rural multi-family housing.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	Applicant must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. citizen,</li> <li>• Nonprofit organization (i.e. local govt., community development group, or American Indian tribe), or a</li> <li>• For-profit corporation.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project area must have a population of 20,000 or less.</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Direct loans and loan guarantees for new construction or substantial rehabilitation of rental housing. Loan guarantees can be on tax-exempt financing.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to 100% of appraised value (non-profits); 97% of appraised value (for profits).</li> <li>• Repayment up to 50 years.</li> <li>• Tenants can be subsidized in the direct loan program</li> </ul>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Rural Development office One Credit Union Place, Suite 330 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996
	<i>Telephone</i>	(202) 237-2187
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.rdev.usda.gov">http://www.rdev.usda.gov</a>

## Housing Preservation Grant

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) program provides grants to sponsoring organizations for the repair or rehabilitation of low- and very low- income housing. The grants are competitive and are made available in areas where there is a concentration of need	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public bodies and non-profit corporations.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Recipient must be operating similar programs in rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Financial assistance provided may be in the form of a grant, loan interest reduction on commercial loans, or other comparable assistance. This will be used to operate home repair and rehabilitation programs.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Grant agreement conditions must be met.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Rural Development office One Credit Union Place, Suite 330 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996
	<i>Telephone</i>	(202) 237-2187
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.rdev.usda.gov">http://www.rdev.usda.gov</a>

## Community Facilities Grant Program

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	Community Programs provides grants to assist in the development of essential community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population. Grants are authorized on a graduated scale. Applicants located in small communities with low populations and low incomes will received a higher percentage of grants.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public bodies and non-profit corporations.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Any essential community facilities in rural areas (population of 5,000 or less), except for recreational activities.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Grant assistance available is up to 75% of project costs.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	<p>Grant funds cannot be used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pay any annual recurring cost, including purchases or rentals that are generally considered to be operating and maintenance expenses.</li> <li>• Construct or repair electric generating plants, electric transmission lines, or gas distribution lines to provide services for commercial sales.</li> <li>• Pay costs to construct facilities to be used for commercial rental where the applicant has no control over tenants and services offered.</li> <li>• Construct facilities primarily for the purpose of housing State, Federal or quasi-Federal agencies.</li> </ul>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Rural Development office One Credit Union Place, Suite 330 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996
	<i>Telephone</i>	(202) 237-2187
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.rdev.usda.gov">http://www.rdev.usda.gov</a>

## Farm Labor Housing

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Farm Labor Housing Loan and Grant program provides capital financing for the development of housing for domestic farm laborers.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	Must be a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmer</li> <li>• Farm corporation</li> <li>• Non-profit organization</li> <li>• Public agency</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project area must be in a rural area or population of 20,000 or less.</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Grants will cover up to 90% of development cost. The balance may be a Farm Labor Housing Program loan. The District Director has the authority to approve loans to individuals of up to \$100,000, and the State Director can approve loans of up to \$400,000.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Up to 100% of appraised value. Repayment is over 33 years at 1% interest.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	USDA-Rural Development office One Credit Union Place, Suite 330 Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996
	<i>Telephone</i>	(202) 237-2187
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.rdev.usda.gov">http://www.rdev.usda.gov</a>

# Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture



## Pennsylvania Drought Relief Program

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has created an emergency drought relief program in the form of crop loss assistance for producers who suffered crop loss due to the drought of 1999.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pennsylvania farmers who meet the eligibility criteria of the USDA-FSA 1999 Crop Disaster Program.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Applicant must have a minimum of 35% crop loss to qualify.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	The amount of the state grant, if any, is not to exceed 75% of the amount you receive under the federal program.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Must meet the terms of the Crop Disaster Program to be eligible.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	Contact your State Agriculture office Headquarters: Pennsylvania State Department of Agriculture Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 787-3568
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.state.pa.us">http://www.state.pa.us</a>

## Livestock Hay Assistance Program

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Hay Assistance Program is a \$5,000,000 state program initiated by Governor Ridge in response to the drought of 1999. The program is being administered by the PA Department of Agriculture with cooperation Extension Service and the USDA Farm Service Agency. The purpose of the program is to address the hay needs of livestock producers with the intent to help preserve and protect their capacity to produce food and fiber.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The applicant must be a Pennsylvania resident with a farm in Pennsylvania, and; be a livestock producer with dairy cows, beef breeding cows or mature breeding ewes.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<p>Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have lost a minimum of 30% of the crops intended for livestock feed (including pasture), due to the drought of 1999.</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<p>The hay assistance program has two components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,300 ton of donated hay, and</li> <li>A rebate plan based upon the \$5,000,000 allocation for farmer-purchased hay and long-distance hauling costs. The PA Department of Agriculture will cover costs associated with the donated hay. Within the financial limits of the \$5,000,000 allocation, the rebate plan will cover \$60/ton for each ton of hay purchased out-of-state. In addition, a \$25/ton rebate for each ton of hay will be provided to help defray long-distance hauling cost for hay purchased from areas outside.</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	The rebate will only apply to hay purchased after October 1, 1999	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	Contact your State Agriculture office Headquarters: Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture 2301 North Cameron Street. Room G11 Harrisburg, PA 17110-9804
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 787-3568
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.state.pa.us">http://www.state.pa.us</a>



# State Conservation Commission Programs



## Plan Development Incentives Program (PDIP)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Plan Development Incentives Program (PDIP) was established by the State Conservation Commission to assist farm operators by offsetting their costs of developing an approved nutrient management plan under Pennsylvania's Nutrient Management Act. This program is administered by the Commission through the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and with the cooperation of the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts and the county conservation districts. This program is available to farmers throughout Pennsylvania.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only existing animal operations (in production prior to 10/1/97) are eligible for PDIP funds</li> <li>• A concentrated Animal Operation (CAO) is required to develop a nutrient management plan</li> <li>• A non-CAO (volunteer) developing a nutrient management plan according to Act -6 criteria</li> <li>• Eligible planning costs include those service fees (and soil and manure analysis costs if they are part of the overall service fee) for all of the lands included in the approved plan</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operators must be willing to develop an approved nutrient management plan under the state's Nutrient Management Act in order to receive PDIP funds</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For plans written by private sector consultants on farms with 85 acres or less, the cost share rate is 75% of actual costs, not to exceed \$340 per operation</li> <li>• For plans written by private sector consultants on farms with greater than 85 acres the cost share rate is 75% of actual costs, not to exceed \$4.00 per acre or \$800 per operation</li> <li>• For plans written by the farmer for farms with 85 acres or less the cost share rate is \$325 per operation</li> <li>• For plans written by the farmer for farms with greater than 85 acres the cost share rate is \$3.80 per acre, not to exceed \$800 per operation</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Farmers must have a certified plan submitted and in the review process within 180 days of their application being approved	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	Contact your Local county conservation district, or Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry headquarters at 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg PA 17110
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 772-4187
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.state.pa.us">http://www.state.pa.us</a>

## Agriculture-Linked Investment Program (AgriLink)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<p>The Agriculture-Linked Investment Program (AgriLink) is a low interest loan program established by the State Treasury to assist farm operators in the implementation of approved nutrient management (NM) plans. Low interest loan funds are provided for the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) identified in the approved NM plan. This program is administered by the State Treasury in cooperation with the State Conservation Commission through the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The program also relies on the cooperation of approved state depositories (local lending institutions) and the Farm Credit Service. This program is available to farmers throughout Pennsylvania.</p>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only existing animal operations (in production prior to 10/1/97) are eligible for AgriLink loan funds</li> <li>• Only those BMPs listed on the approved nutrient management plan are eligible for AgriLink loan funds</li> <li>• Eligible costs include those associated with the design and implementation of the BMPs listed in the approved nutrient management plan</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<p>Operators must have an approved nutrient management plan developed in accordance with the state's Nutrient Management Act</p>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A low interest loan of up to 100% of the cost of the design, construction and implementation of the BMPs offered below current market interest rates</li> <li>• Farmers can receive up to \$75,000 in AgriLink loan funds for the installation of BMPs identified in their approved NM plan</li> <li>• The low interest rate is possible due to a loan subsidy provided by the Commission. This subsidy, or interest rate will be determined periodically by the Commission (currently, as of 2/1/2000, the AgriLink loan subsidy rate is a 4.0% reduction to the commercial loan rate)</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers must have a nutrient management plan developed under the state's Nutrient Management Act approved by the conservation district or the Commission, and</li> <li>• Farmers must apply with a participating lending institution for participation into the program</li> </ul>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The local county conservation district can provide a listing of the participating lending institutions in the area as well as general information on the program</li> <li>• The Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry headquarters at 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg PA 17110</li> <li>• Participating commercial lenders and offices of the Farm Credit Service</li> </ul>
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 772-4187
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.state.pa.us">http://www.state.pa.us</a>

## Nutrient Management Act Grants Program (NMA Grant) (PROPOSED)

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Nutrient Management Act (MNA) Grants Program is being developed by the State Conservation Commission to assist financially distressed farm operators in the implementation of approved nutrient management plans. Cost share funds are proposed to be provided for the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) identified in the approved nutrient management plan. This program is proposed to be administered by the State Conservation Commission through the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in cooperation with county conservation districts. This program will be available to farmers throughout Pennsylvania. The program is still under development and will be available to the agriculture community in the summer of 2000.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only existing animal operations (in production prior to 10/1/97) are eligible for Nutrient Management Act (NMA) Grant funds.</li> <li>• Only those BMPs listed on the approved nutrient management plan are eligible for reimbursement</li> <li>• Eligible costs are those associated with the design, construction and implementation of the BMPs listed in the approved nutrient management plan</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operators must have an approved nutrient management plan developed in accordance with the state's Nutrient Management Act</li> <li>• Operators must be willing to fully implement the approved nutrient management plan</li> <li>• Operators must meet established financial distress criteria in order to be eligible to receive these grant funds</li> </ul>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Currently, program elements are not developed to the extent that they are ready for release.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmers must have a nutrient management plan approved by the conservation district or the Commission</li> <li>• Farmers will apply to the State Conservation Commission, through the county conservation districts, for these funds</li> <li>• Farmers must enter into an agreement with the State Conservation Commission in order to receive these funds</li> </ul>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry and State Conservation Commission at 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg PA 17110</li> <li>• Your local county conservation district</li> </ul>
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 787-4187 (BPI) (717) 787-8821 (SCC)
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.state.pa.us">http://www.state.pa.us</a>

# DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEP)



## Chesapeake Bay Financial Assistance Funding Program

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Chesapeake Bay Financial Assistance Funding Program (FAFP) has provided grants to farmers that voluntarily agree to implement a nutrient management program and own land within all or parts of 41 counties comprising the Bay watershed in Pennsylvania. This cost share program began in 1985 and has averaged about \$2 million dollars annually in grants for the control of nutrients and sediments emanating from cropland and barnyards.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	The FAFP is open to farmers owning land within Pennsylvania's drainage to the Chesapeake Bay, which is primarily the Potomac and Susquehanna River Basins.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Landowners must own the land upon which best management practices (BMPs) will be implemented, agree to become a cooperator with the local county conservation district, and agree to implement a nutrient management program consisting of a nutrient application plan and other associated BMPs. The nutrient application plan is a written site-specific plan indicating how the major plant nutrients are to be annually managed for expected crop production and for the protection of water quality. Must be in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Landowners may be eligible to receive up to \$30,000 in cost share funds and free technical assistance in the planting, designing, and installation of structural BMPs. The program restricts payment to no more than 80 percent of the cost for a particular BMP, but conservation districts are allowed to set their own cost share rate and consequently landowners may be required to pay more than 20 percent of the costs. The required application plan is developed free of charge normally by a county conservation district technician working in cooperation with the landowner.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Landowner signs long-term agreement with county conservation district which includes implementing a nutrient application plan for the life of the agreement and maintaining the installed BMPs for their effective service life, usually a 10-year period.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	Department of Environmental Protection P.O. Box 8555 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8555
	<i>Telephone</i>	(800) 334-3190
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us">http://www.dep.state.pa.us</a>

## Stream Improvement Program

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Department of Environmental Protection stream improvement program offers assistance through the construction of small projects to prevent flooding, restore natural stream channels damaged in floods and to stabilize stream banks affected by erosion. Funding for this program is provided directly to DEP by the state legislature. DEP determines project eligibility, priority and construction scheduling within the limitations of available funding.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	All stream improvements projects must be sponsored by a local or county government	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	None	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Cost share is provided on a 80/20 split, with municipality providing 20 percent funding.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	To qualify for assistance, projects must provide direct benefit to homes, businesses or industrial structures. For a project to be approved, it must be hydraulically beneficial, economically feasible and environmentally sound.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	Department of Environmental Protection P.O. Box 8555 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8555
	<i>Telephone</i>	(800) 334-3190
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us">http://www.dep.state.pa.us</a>

## Pennsylvania Environmental Education Grants Program

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The purpose of the Environmental Education Grants (EEG) is to provide financial support for projects which design, demonstrate or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, or techniques. Projects must focus on one of the following: (1) improving environmental education teaching skills; (2) educating teachers, students, or the public about human health problems; (3) building State, local, or Tribal government capacity to develop environmental education programs; (4) educating communities through community-based organization; or (5) educating general public through print, broadcast, or other media.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	Local, Tribal, or State education agencies, colleges and universities, nonprofit organizations, State environmental agencies, and non-commercial education broadcasting agencies.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	None	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a reimbursement program.</li> <li>• Awards shall not exceed \$10,000</li> <li>• A 25 percent match is required of all applying organizations except county conservation districts.</li> </ul>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	None	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	Department of Environmental Protection P.O. Box 8555 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8555
	<i>Telephone</i>	(800) 334-3190
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us">http://www.dep.state.pa.us</a>

## Pollution Prevention/Energy Efficiency Site Assessment Grant Program

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Pollution Prevention/Efficiency (P2/E2) Site Assessment Grant Program, administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), offers funding to small businesses to obtain P2/E2 site assessments. The purpose of the grant program is to expose small businesses to the potential benefits of pollution prevention and energy efficiency by funding most of the cost of an initial site assessment. The grant program is a starting point to facilitate future investments in pollution prevention and energy efficiency.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	Any Pennsylvania for-profit enterprise with 100 or fewer employees is eligible to apply for a site assessment.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	None	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	DEP will fund 80 percent of the cost of a pollution prevent and energy efficiency site assessment up to a maximum of \$5,000. Reciepants are responsible for 20 percent of the assessment and any amount that exceeds DEP's \$5,000 limit.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Companies that receive grants assistance must submit a report to DEP one year after the assessment describing which, if any, of the suggestions were implemented and the resulting environmental and economic benefits. Also a company must submit one original and one copy of the site assessment application along with two cost proposals from qualified consultants or service providers.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Office of Pollution Prevention and Compliance Assistance Rachel Carson State Office Building P.O. Box 8772 Harrisburg, PA 17105
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 783-9981
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us">http://www.dep.state.pa.us</a>

## The Small Business Pollution Assistance Account

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Pollution Prevention Assistance Account is a loan program administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) that helps small Pennsylvania business implement pollution prevention and energy-efficiency projects. The low-interest loans available through this program will help small businesses comply with environmental regulations while receiving the economic benefits of preventing pollution and using energy more efficiently.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	Pennsylvania small businesses with 100 or fewer employees	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	The project also must have a payback period less than the term of the loan, and expected benefits must extend beyond the term of the loan.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	Businesses may borrow up to \$50,000, but no more than 75 percent of the total eligible project more than 75 percent of the total eligible project costs. Loan terms will not exceed seven years and annual interest rates will remain at 2 percent.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	None	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	PA Department of Community and Economic Development 400 Forum Building Harrisburg, PA 17120
	<i>Telephone</i>	(800) 379-7448
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us">http://www.dep.state.pa.us</a>



## Superfund Technical Assistance Grants for Citizen Groups at Priority Sites

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	This grant program provides funds to community groups to permit them to hire technical advisors who can assist the groups in interpreting technical information concerning the assessment of potential hazards and selection and design of appropriate remedies at sites eligible for cleanup under the Superfund Program. Funds can be used at sites listed or proposed for the National Priorities List where clean up is underway. The DEP/EPA implementation of Superfund has resulted in Pennsylvania being a national leader in achieving cleanup results. The DEP participates in negotiations with responsible parties for enforcement cleanup actions, the review of remedial investigations and feasibility studies, remedial action design and construction, and cost recovery efforts.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	Any qualified group of individuals	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Recipient group must incorporate to receive funds	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	The State of Pennsylvania finances 10% of a funded remedial action with the federal government contributing the remaining 90%. The state is responsible for 100% of the operation and maintenance costs after the remedial action is complete.	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	None	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	Department of Environmental Protection P.O. Box 8555 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8555
	<i>Telephone</i>	(800) 334-3190
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us">http://www.dep.state.pa.us</a>

## DEP Stream Bank Fencing Program

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	The Stream Bank Fencing Program (SBFP) began in 1994 as a stand-alone best management practice under the Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Program to accelerate efforts to improve water quality by reducing soil erosion and nutrient deposition caused by livestock.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	The SBFP is currently open to cattle operations along streams in the Susquehanna or Potomac River Basins of Pennsylvania.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	Landowners must own the land upon which the fence, stream crossings, or ramps will be installed.	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<p>All cost associated with the installation of a high tensile fence and agricultural crossing or ramp are paid by DEP. There is no limit on the amount of one- or two-strand fencing a landowner may receive. Each landowner is limited to one crossing or ramp as defined in DEP's General Permit 6.</p> <p>Further, DEP personnel provided technical assistance in design and layout of the fence and ramp/crossing in cooperation with the landowner.</p>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	<p>Landowner is required to provide at least an average 12-foot stream corridor width as measured from the top of the stream bank to parallel fence line. As required, clears vegetation from proposed line installation site, designated location of any known underground utilities, indicates boundary of impacted property lines, and performs notifications and obtains all necessary permits and approvals to install the agricultural crossing or ramp.</p> <p>Landowner signs a consent form allowing DEP's vendor to install fence crossing or ramp, and agrees to maintain fence for 10 years and the ramp or crossing in accordance with permit conditions.</p>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	Department of Environmental Protection P.O. Box 8555 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8555
	<i>Telephone</i>	(800) 334-3190
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us">http://www.dep.state.pa.us</a>

## Section 319 Non-Point Source Implementation Program

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<p>Pennsylvania's Non-point Source Implementation program is funded through Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act of 1972, amended (date), administered through the EPA.</p> <p>Pennsylvania's grant program directs funds to local entities to implement projects that help reduce the impacts from various non-point source pollution sources including agriculture, abandoned mine drainage, silviculture practices, construction and urban runoff, hydro-modification, and riparian restoration. The program has grown from approximately \$2 million in the mid-1990's to almost \$6 million in 1999. Pennsylvania's Unified Watershed Assessment and update NPS State Management Plan (October 1999) have been significant in achieving increased funding and establishing priorities.</p>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<p>Eligible applicants include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• County conservation districts</li> <li>• Watershed organizations, which means entities recognized by DEP and established to promote local watershed conservation efforts in an identified watershed.</li> <li>• Other authorized organization including non-profit entities involved in research, restoration, rehabilitation planning, acquisition, development, education or other activities, which further the protection, enhancement, conservation, preservation or enjoyment of Pennsylvania's environmental, conservation, recreation or similar resource.</li> <li>• .Counties and other municipalities</li> <li>• State and federal agencies</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	None	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<p>The Section 319 Implementation Program funds these types of projects:</p> <p>Watershed Restoration: implement the recommendation of comprehensive watershed restoration or management plans to address existing NPS pollution problems.</p> <p>Watershed Protection: address potential threats in High Quality or Exceptional Value watersheds, areas that do not necessarily have documented sources of impairment.</p> <p>Watershed Assessment: document existing NPS problems, incorporate existing data, and conduct public meetings to prepare a comprehensive watershed restoration or management plan.</p> <p>Education and Outreach: allow local entities to organize efforts to address NPS problems and education the public.</p>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	Two year project implementation period.	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Watershed Conservation P.O. Box 8555 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8555
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 787-5259
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us">www.dep.state.pa.us</a>

## Landowner Reclamation Program

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<p>The Land Reclamation Program allows interested landowners to utilize state funds to reclaim bond forfeited abandoned surface mine land on their own properties. Pennsylvania has the sad legacy of having thousands of acres of abandoned mine land. Although both the state and federal governments are dramatically increasing their efforts to reclaim this land, it may take many years before even the most hazardous sites are reclaimed. For some time, a number of landowners have indicated they would be willing to reclaim their properties for the amount of the forfeited bond if it were possible to do so without participating in a cumbersome contracting process. The Landowner Reclamation Program now makes this possible.</p>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<p>Any landowner whose property has been surface mined and bond monies were forfeited because of inadequate bond.</p>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	<p>The landowner must not have forfeited a mining bond.</p>	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<p>The local county conservation districts serves as the local contracting agent to administer the program. The landowner works with the local conservation district in all phases of the program. The district assists the landowner in developing the reclamation plan and coordinates the project with utilities and local governments this district also maintains necessary records and conducts inspections of the reclamation work.</p>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	<p>Site must remain idle for one year after the reclamation work is completed.</p>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	<i>Address</i>	<p>Department of Environmental Protection          Bureau of Water Quality Protection          P.O. Box 8465          Harrisburg, PA 17105-8465</p>
	<i>Telephone</i>	<p>(717) 783-7577</p>
	<i>Internet</i>	<p><a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us">www.dep.state.pa.us</a></p>

## Growing Greener: Environmental Stewardship and Watershed Protection Act

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<p>Growing Greener is the largest investment in Pennsylvania’s environment in modern history. Signed into law by Gov. Tom Ridge in December 1999, the nearly \$650 million spending plan invests new money and redirects existing funds to address the environmental challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century: loss of open space and farmland, tainted waterways, abandoned mines, aging sewer systems, and repair backlogs at state parks and forests. Funds provided by Growing Greener will be split among four state agencies on an annual basis: Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Agriculture, and Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority, the agency that helps communities upgrade their water and sewer systems</p>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<p>Eligible applicants include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counties and other municipalities</li> <li>• County conservation districts</li> <li>• Watershed organizations, which means entities recognized by DEP and established to promote local watershed conservation efforts in an identified watershed.</li> <li>• Other authorized organization including non-profit entities involved in research, restoration, rehabilitation planning, acquisition, development, education or other activities, which further the protection, enhancement, conservation, preservation or enjoyment of Pennsylvania’s environmental, conservation, recreation or similar resources.</li> </ul>	
<b>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT</b>	None	
<b>ASSISTANCE PROVIDED</b>	<p>DEP Growing Greener Grants include:</p> <p><b>Organization of a Watershed Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watershed Assessments and development of watershed restoration or protection plans</li> <li>• Implementation of Watershed restoration or protection projects</li> </ul> <p>Grants recipients will generally use project funds to cost share best management practices with eligible landowners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstration/ Education project/outreach</li> </ul> <p>Other Growing Greener Grants are administered by the Department of Agriculture, County Farmland Preservation, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Open Space and Recreation; and Pennvest, wastewater, Drinking water and Storm water Management</p>	
<b>TERMS/ CONDITIONS</b>	None	
<b>CONTACTS DEP</b>	<i>Address</i>	<p>Growing Greener Grants Center - Rachel Carson State Office Bldg 9<sup>th</sup> Floor          400 Market Street - P.O. Box 8776          Harrisburg, PA 17105-8776</p>
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 705-5400 or 1-877-PAGREEN
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us/growinggreen">http://www.dep.state.pa.us/growinggreen</a>

<b>CONTACTS DCNR</b>	<i>Address</i>	Contact your Regional DCNR Office 552 or 553 Forum Building Harrisburg, PA 17120
	<i>Telephone</i>	(717) 772-4362 or 705-5956
	<i>Internet</i>	<a href="http://www.dep.state.pa.us/growinggreen">http://www.dep.state.pa.us/growinggreen</a>

