



CUMBERLAND COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

www.cumberlandcd.com

Winter 2016

Manure Management Planning Workshops



Farmers that need a new or updated manure management plan can receive assistance in developing their plan through the Cumberland County Conservation District. The district will be offering a workshop on **February 25th** devoted to the development of Manure Management Plans. If you are interested in Manure Management Planning information to achieve compliance and possibly save on the cost of fertilizers, please contact Jared McIntire at 717-240-5360 or by email at jmcintire@ccpa.net

MANURE MANAGEMENT PLANS (MMP)

Here are the Requirements for MMP's

- Required of ALL operations generating or utilizing manure
 - ◊ Crop operation importing manure as supplemental fertilizer
 - ◊ Grazing operations even if they are not land applying mechanically
 - ◊ "Niche" farms such as llama, alpaca, goats, etc...
- Can be written by operator/producer
 - ◊ Manure management manual available online or hard copy
 - <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/nutrient-management/manure/plan-writing>
- Addresses
 - ◊ Nitrogen & Phosphorus (if necessary)
 - ◊ Pasture management
 - ◊ Animal Concentration Areas (ACAs)
- Farmers with ACAs needing corrective actions need to immediately contact their local Conservation District, NRCS, or a private consultant and must document that contact and the time frame for developing and implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs)
 - ◊ If BMPs for treatment of an ACA are identified in the plan, operator must implement them within 3 years of the completion of the MMP
- Nutrient Balance Sheets are not always a sufficient MMP
- Plan does not need to be formally approved by any government agency but must be available on the operation
- Records must be maintained to prove implementation of the plan

Winter Spreading

- Winter application of manure is discouraged
- Setbacks of 100 ft. are required from all sources of water (wells, streams, ponds, etc.)
- **No application** on field with slopes greater than 15%
- All fields must have a minimum 25% crop residue at time of application
- Maximum application rate are 5,000 gal/acre, 20 ton/acre of non-poultry manure, or 3 tons/acre poultry manure



NO-TILL CLINIC

The Cumberland County Conservation District in conjunction with local business, *Cumberland Planter*, held their 5th Annual No-Till Corn Planter Clinic on December 10th at the Shippensburg Auction Center. Chris Creek of Precision Planting talked about seed trench and technology of today's planters and the Natural Resources Conservation Service demonstrated their Rainfall Simulator. There were a total of 100 farmers in attendance and 30 Ag related vendors and government agency personnel. Those businesses and agencies included:

- Pioneer Seeds
- GR Eby Seed Sales
- Crop Production Services
- Smith's Implements LLC
- Red Barn Consulting
- Hoober Inc
- Growmark
- Team Ag
- Precision Planting
- Cumberland Planter
- Penn State Extension
- NRCS
- Cumberland County Conservation District
- Ag Choice Farm Credit
- Farm Service Agency



Chapter 102 Erosion Control and NPDES Updates

- A new Notice of Intent for General and Individual NPDES permits has been developed as of 10/2015. All new submissions must be submitted on this form. To download the most recent forms go to
 - <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/View/Collection-9432>
- A new Co-Permittee Liability Release form for NPDES permits was released by DEP on 10/2015. This form allows contractors whose portion of the work on a site is complete to be released from the permit. The original permittee or other co-permittee is still responsible for operation and maintenance inspections.
 - <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/View/Collection-12674>
- Chapter 93 Water Quality Standards have been updated to change existing uses to designated uses for surface waters. See DEP's website for all changes at www.dep.pa.gov.
- Brian Jaymes gave notification of his retirement from the District effective January 2016. Brian has been an erosion control technician for the past 25 years. He plans to come back on a part time basis to help with plan reviews when he is not golfing, hunting or fishing.
- Vince McCollum will be moving to full time as an erosion control technician. He will assume most of Brian's Townships, however go the District's website, click on Erosion Control (Ch. 102), then click on the E&S Technician municipality assignment map for an updated map.
- The District, in conjunction with Franklin and Fulton counties, will be holding an E&S/NPDES workshop for engineers on March 2, 2016. Stay tuned for more details and agenda items. Contact the District for more information.
- PNDI searches submitted with permit applications must be dated after May 4, 2015 to include a habitat screening for the Northern Long-Eared Bat. This bat is now a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act primarily due to the threat posed by white-nose syndrome.
- Any project proposing injection of post construction stormwater into the ground via a well or other device is now required to submit an individual NPDES permit.
- Post construction stormwater management best management practices and long term operation and maintenance MUST be recorded with the Recorder of Deeds Office within 45 days of permit authorization and provide notice of the recorded instrument to the District within 90 days of permit authorization, unless written approval is given by DEP.
- The District continues to review and acknowledge General NPDES permits.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT HOLDS ANNUAL ENVIROTHON

Students from nine area high schools competed in the annual Cumberland County Envirothon on Tuesday, May 5th, at Pine Grove Furnace State Park in Cooke Township, Cumberland County. The Melting Icecaps from Carlisle Area High School took first place with a score of 328; second place went to The Slimy Sculpins from Cumberland Valley High School with a score of 324; and third place went to The Hellbenders from Cumberland Valley with a score of 323. The Melting Icecaps represented Cumberland County at the 2015 Pennsylvania Envirothon at the University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown Campus, on May 19th and 20th. The team placed 34th out of 63 teams.

The Cumberland County Envirothon, presented by the Cumberland County Conservation District, is a fun academic event that provides high school students hands-on field experience dealing with environmental issues. Students complete five exams that test their knowledge on aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife, and a current issue, which was urban and community forestry. 110 students participated this year and enjoyed the mostly sunny day. Schools participating in the competition included Big Spring, Boiling Springs, Camp Hill, Carlisle, Cedar Cliff, Cumberland Valley, East Pennsboro, Mechanicsburg and Shippensburg.

Representatives from the PA Fish and Boat Commission, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, PA Game Commission, the Conservation District, and Natural Resources Conservation Service administered the tests.

Once the competition was over, the students enjoyed a picnic lunch provided by the Conservation District. After lunch, Cumberland County Commissioner Barb Cross and Jennifer Holtry, Legislative Assistant from PA State Representative Will Tallman's office presented awards to the winning teams. The awards, made from Pennsylvania hardwood, were given to the top three teams at each station and the top three teams overall. All participating students and advisors received an Envirothon t-shirt sponsored by Adams Electric Cooperative.



The Melting Icecaps, from Carlisle High School, the 2015 Cumberland County Envirothon Champions, pictured with County Commissioner Barb Cross (left) and Jennifer Holtry, Legislative Assistant from PA State Representative Will Tallman's office (right)

STORMWATER BMP SIGN PROJECT COMPLETE

The Conservation District received a grant to develop educational signs to promote previously constructed stormwater best management practices (BMP's) that were installed at the Conservation District office at 310 Allen Road in Carlisle a few years ago. Since then, the District has used the BMP's to show citizens, engineers and municipal officials options for managing stormwater. The signs are another way for interested individuals to learn more about the stormwater BMP's, including how the BMP's work, benefits of the BMP's and BMP design information. Additionally, the District developed and printed brochures that summarize the information on the signs. The signs and the brochure are great tools that enhance the effectiveness of the BMP's to promote stormwater management through a hands on experience. For more information about this project, or a copy of the brochure, please contact the Conservation District.



Sign at the main entrance to the Cumberland County Service Center at Allen Road, showing the overall stormwater BMP project, with location of BMPs around the facility



Pervious paver sign at the installation of the pervious pavers on the south side of the building



Rain garden sign located near the Penn State Cooperative Extension office entrance of the Allen Road building

Conservation District Tree Seedling Sale Scheduled

The Cumberland County Conservation District has scheduled their 39th Annual Tree Seedling Sale for April 14th and 15th, 2016. Contact the Conservation District Office at 240-7812 to receive an order form or go to our website at www.cumberlandcd.com and download the order form listed under the tree sale category.

Tree seedlings available for 2016 include: White Pine, Serbian Spruce, Colorado Blue Spruce, Concolor Fir, White Oak and Red Oak. Also, the District is offering three types of apple trees (Pristine, Liberty & Initial) and two pear trees (Harrow Sweet and Potomac).

Myrtle Clumps and a wildflower mix will be sold as well as tree shelters and wood stakes. Profits from the tree seedling sale help support environmental education projects and natural resource-related programs in Cumberland County.

Orders must be received at the Conservation District Office by March 28, 2016.



Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is currently looking for applicants to enroll in the Conservation Stewardship Program (CStP)! The program is different from other programs because participants are paid for conservation performance: the higher the operational performance, the higher the payment!

CStP provides annual incentive payments for 5 years for producers to maintain existing conservation systems, as well as adopt additional conservation activities to address resource concerns. Lands that are eligible include privately owned cropland, grassland, pastureland, and forest land. There is no limit on how large the operation needs to be or how small the operation is, only that the producer has effective control of the land for the term of the contract. If you are interested in participating in the program please stop by the NRCS service center located at 43 Brookwood Avenue Carlisle or call 717-249-1037. You can also go to www.nrcs.usda.gov/getstarted

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Pennsylvania office is pleased to share a funding opportunity with landowners in the Yellow Breeches watershed.

CBF is currently offering funding for fish habitat and stream protection structures for eligible sites. Stream restoration and habitat improvements are great ways to attract fish and wildlife to a property, improving the land's appearance and increasing the quality of outdoor recreation. To be eligible for funding, a site must currently be used for agriculture, must have a stream on or adjacent to the parcel, and landowners must either have a riparian forested buffer planted since January 2012 or be willing to plant a new buffer along the stream. Enrollment in cost share programs such as CREP or EQIP for assistance with the buffers is highly encouraged. In turn, landowners will receive vouchers to use towards the construction of fish habitat and / or stream protection structures. CBF will also provide planning and design services for these projects. This work will be supported through a Pennsylvania DEP Growing Greener Watershed Protection Grant awarded to CBF. To view a map of the Yellow Breeches watershed please visit: <http://www.stormwaterpa.org/cumberland-yellow-breeches.html>

CBF is a non-profit organization which seeks to improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. This mission includes improving the local waters of Central Pennsylvania. If you are interested in the above referenced opportunity or would like additional information on forested riparian buffers or additional opportunities available from CBF in Cumberland County, please contact Kristen Hoke, Restoration Specialist at 717-514-9095 or khoke@cbf.org.



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