



CUMBERLAND COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

www.cumberlandcd.com

FALL 2018

2018 CONSERVATION AWARD WINNERS

FARMER OF THE YEAR - HARD EARNED ACRES (BOB & BARB KEEFER)

PRESENTED TO A FARMER DEMONSTRATING A CONCERN FOR THE SOIL & WATER QUALITY OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY BY IMPLEMENTING CONSERVATION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

CLEAN WATER AWARD - DIFFENBAUGH WADEL, INC.

PRESENTED TO A CONTRACTOR OR PLAN PREPARER WHO WORKS TO MINIMIZE ADVERSE IMPACTS TO WATER QUALITY IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY

CONSERVATION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR - JENNY PYERS & AMBER SIM

PRESENTED TO A TEACHER WHO HAS DEMONSTRATED A STRONG COMMITMENT TO CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

WATERSHED PROTECTION AWARD - CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVANCY

PRESENTED TO AN ORGANIZATION WHO PROMOTES THE PROTECTION OF A PARTICULAR WATERSHED THROUGH A COORDINATED LAND AND WATER RESOURCE APPROACH



L TO R: Barb & Bob Keefer, Mike Wadel & Eric Diffenbaugh, Jenny Pyers & Amber Sim
Not Present - Central PA Conservancy



EARTHMOVING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO BE IN COMPLIANCE

The excessively rainy summer resulted in our office receiving numerous complaints regarding sediment runoff and stormwater concerns. As a result, we thought it would be a good time to explain your responsibilities when planning any new earth moving or construction on your property. The first thing to remember is that all earth disturbances require the implementation of adequate erosion and sediment controls. This means either plan for the work to be done quickly and seed and straw mulch immediately, or ensure that some type of sediment filtering BMP (Best Management Practice) is provided downslope. Examples of BMP's are, a 50 ft grass strip, silt fence or compost filter sock.

Once you exceed 5,000 square feet of earth disturbance you are required to have a written erosion and sediment control plan. This written plan will outline the limits of earth disturbance and show the proposed grading. It will indicate the location of the receiving surface water and the flow path of water from the disturbance to that stream. Additionally, it will show the erosion and sediment BMP's proposed to ensure that uncontrolled sediment laden water does not leave your property or enter a surface water. Lastly, it will specify how the site will be stabilized at the end of the project. If you are adding any new impervious area, such as a new garage, you should contact your municipality to determine what is required for stormwater management.

At 1 acre or greater of earth disturbance you are required to get an NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit. This permit will evaluate both the erosion and sediment control and the stormwater management plans for the construction activity and is processed by our office. In most instances if you require a NPDES permit, consider contacting a design professional for preparing this permit application.

Chapter 102 and NPDES Phase II Requirements for Construction Activities			
Disturbed Area	Written E & S Plan	E & S Plan Approved	NPDES SW Construction Permit
0-5000 Sq. Ft	Not required unless next to High Quality or Exceptional Value Streams or other DEP permit requirement (i.e. Ch. 105)	Not required but may be required by others**	No
5000 Sq. Ft to <1 acre	Yes	Not required but may be required by others**	No
1 or more acres	Yes	Required	Yes

**Although E & S plan approval is not required under Chapter 102 for these activities, E & S approval may be required by municipal ordinance or if other DEP permits are required, i.e. Chapter 105 Joint Permit or GPs.

DIRT, GRAVEL & LOW VOLUME ROADS PROGRAM

Completed Work:

Current Dirt & Gravel work completed in Spring 2018, includes base material placement on Cold Springs Road in Dickinson Township. Shale was placed to create a proper base material and crown in the road. Proper crown will ensure that runoff will shed to the side of the road instead of creating a rut for the water to flow in the center of the road. The base material portion of the project is in preparation for the next phase of the project which will include Driving Surface Aggregate (DSA). This is a multi-phase project that replaced or installed a total of 43 shallow cross pipes on a 2.4 mile section of road.



Above: Dickinson Township, Cold Springs Road: Base Material placed Spring 2018 to create a crown (center slope on the road profile) showing a shallow cross pipe that was replaced in 2016.



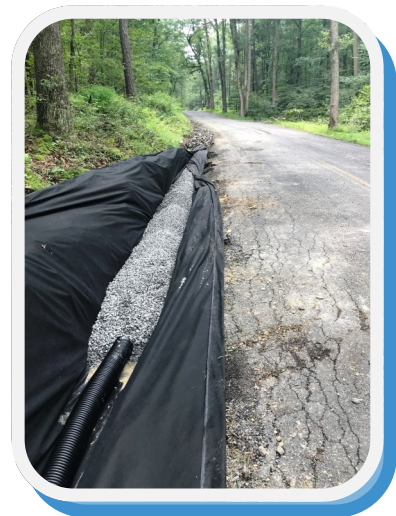
Above: Penn Township, Beetem Hollow Road: next stream culvert to be replaced with a 14 ft box culvert. Note the back water scour to the left of the inlet pipe. Construction is anticipated for Summer 2019.

Recently Approved Projects:

New June 2018 Grant Awardees include Dirt & Gravel Roads: Dickinson Township; and Low Volume Roads: Penn Township. Dickinson Township will continue work on Cold Springs Road with placement of Driving Surface Aggregate. Penn Township will install another box culvert to help prevent erosion scour and allow for aquatic organism passage through a properly sized culvert.

Under Construction:

Additional projects under construction right now include Beetem Hollow Road, LVR Project, in Penn Township, which is installing 1400 feet of underdrain to collect spring seeps and water from the road base along with installation of 6 new and replaced cross pipes. Pipeline Road, LVR Project, in Lower Mifflin Township will enlarge a culvert to allow for aquatic organism passage, and installation of 2 cross pipes to reduce surface flow into the creek and reshaping of a ditch.



Above: Penn Township, Beetem Hollow Road. Under drain installation to capture spring seep and dry out the road base.

ENVIROTHON

The 2019 Cumberland County Envirothon will be held at King's Gap on Tuesday, May 7, 2019. The Envirothon is a scholastic competition open to high school students in Cumberland County. Topics include Aquatics, a Current Environmental Issue (2019 Topic: Agriculture and the Environment: Knowledge and Technology to Feed the World), Forestry, Soils, and Wildlife. The winning team from Cumberland County will advance to the State Competition, which will be held at the University of Pittsburgh Johnstown on May 21 and 22, 2019.



Pictured Left:
The Green Salamanders from
Cumberland Valley High School
at the 2018 Pennsylvania State
Envirothon Competition at
Susquehanna University.

Pictured left to right:
Faith Kelly,
Marianne Colosimo,
Cassandra McKenzie,
Victoria Howell,
and Joshua Herbster.

The Green Salamanders placed
56th at the State Competition.

WATERSHED PROGRAM

Rain Barrels

Each Spring the Conservation District holds an Annual Rain Barrel Sale. Rain Barrels are a great way to store runoff to use at a later date to water your lawn, ornamental plants, and garden plants; which can reduce municipal water bills and give essential trace nutrients that plants need to thrive. Rain Barrels also help reduce the amount of stormwater runoff, which reduces nonpoint source pollution going to our local waterways. Remember, we all live downstream! To sign up for a rain barrel, please see details on our website!

Grant Work

We are looking for project work in the Middle Spring Creek, Mains Run, and Gum Run Watersheds, which are located around Shipensburg. If you would be interested in conservation work such as traditional Riparian Buffers, Multifunctional Riparian Buffers, Rain Gardens, and other Best Management Practices, please contact Lori Glace at 717-240-5358 or lglace@ccpa.net.



NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Revised Animal Weights:

Revised standard animal weights that take effect in 2019 could reclassify some livestock operations as Concentrated Animal Operations (CAOs) or Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), requiring those farms to adopt new levels of compliance with nutrient management laws. Pennsylvania's Nutrient Management Program regulations include a list of standard animal weights used to calculate whether a livestock operation qualifies as a CAO. The weights are periodically adjusted to reflect trends in contemporary production agriculture. The revised weights, approved in May 2017, take effect on October 1, 2019. They are detailed in Penn State Extension factsheet Agronomy Facts 54. Farmers have the option to use other average animal weights instead of the standard weights if there is sufficient documentation to support their use.

CAOs are operations that have more than 2,000 pounds of animal weight (Animal Equivalent Units or AEUs) per acre of ground available for manure application. CAFOs are operations that have greater than 1,000 AEUs, or CAOs with greater than 300 AEUs, or an operation that meets a specific head count as defined by the Environmental Protection Agency, regardless of the amount of acres available to spread manure.

Operations that become newly classified as CAOs or CAFOs due to the new standard animal weights must have their nutrient management plan approved by the Conservation District before October 1, 2019.

Current operations classified as CAOs or CAFOs must amend their nutrient management plans with the new standard animal weights within the three-year lifespan of their nutrient management plan. More information is available at Cumberland County Conservation District or with private consultants.



Manure Management Planning Workshops:

Farmers still needing manure management plans can receive assistance in developing their plan through the Cumberland County Conservation District. The District will be offering workshops devoted to the development of a Manure Management Plan for your farm. If you are interested in Manure Management Planning information to achieve compliance and possibly save on cost of fertilizer please contact Jared McIntire at 717-240-5360 or by email at jmcintire@ccpa.net.

CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM

Chesapeake Bay Agricultural Inspection Program Update

The Cumberland County Conservation District performed 99 inspections between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018 as part of the DEP Chesapeake Bay Agricultural Inspection Program. These inspections took place all across the county spanning several townships. Inspections are taking place again this year focusing in the following townships: South Newton, North Middleton, Cooke, Upper Frankford, and Dickinson. If you would like to volunteer for the inspection please call Brady Seeley at 717-240-5357 or email bseeley@ccpa.net.

Completed Chesapeake Bay Ag Inspections for Fiscal Year 17-18

- Total of 8,805.13 acres inspected
- 24 farms (24%) were found to be in full compliance with plans
- 27 farms (27%) were found to be out of compliance needing both MMP and Ag E&S Plans
- 19 farms (19%) were found to be out of compliance needing only Ag E&S Plan
- 29 farms (29%) were found to be out of compliance needing only MMP
- 35 farms (35%) were brought into full compliance before June 30, 2017
- 59 farms (59%) of total farms inspected this year were in compliance by June 30, 2018
- 18 MMPs written by District Staff



MMP – Manure Management Plan

Ag E&S Plan – Agricultural Erosion and Sediment Control Plan

An Agricultural Operation (**farm**) under the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the Chesapeake Bay Agricultural Inspection Program is defined as including all lands (tract or parcels) that are contiguous and are under the same ownership or management control.

Cover Crop Incentive Program for Crop Year 2018-2019



The Cumberland County Conservation District is once again offering their Cover Crop Incentive Program for crop year 2018-2019. Only winter cover crops planted after corn or soybeans in the fall of 2018 are eligible. The District will pay \$20 per acre for minimum tillage and \$30 per acre for no-till. Cover crops must be maintained until April 1, 2019 and are required to meet 25% soil cover. Signup deadline for this program is December 1, 2018.

Please contact Brady Seeley at bseeley@ccpa.net or call 717-240-5357 if you have any questions or would like to sign up for this program.

AGRICULTURAL PLANNING REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

How the Program Benefits Farmers:

Agricultural operators/landowners are reimbursed for fees they have paid to consultants to develop manure management plans, nutrient management plans, and agricultural erosion and sediment control plans.



Implementation of these plans brings numerous benefits to agricultural operators/landowners; such as cost-effective use of farm resources and long-term farm sustainability, as well as improved herd and soil health.

Plans Covered:

One or more of the following plans developed after January 1, 2017 are eligible for reimbursement:

- ◆ Manure Management Plans and Agriculture Erosion and Sediment Control Plans (Ag E&S Plans) that are required by and meet Pennsylvania's Chapter 91 and Chapter 102 regulations.
- ◆ Act 38 Nutrient Management Plans (required if the operation meets certain animal density and/or animal number thresholds).
- ◆ Conservation Plans that are used in place of Ag E&S Plans (only if the Conservation Plans also meet the State requirements outlined in Chapter 102).

Plans developed by NRCS, using NRCS funding, or for REAP tax credit, are not eligible for assistance under this program.

Plans developed for acres previously reimbursed under this program are not eligible for assistance.

Note: Agricultural operators/landowners may qualify for reimbursement for more than one plan up to a maximum amount of \$6,000 per operator/landowner.

Please use the website below to find the forms for this program or call Brady Seeley at 717-240-5357

Go to www.dep.pa.gov, under the 'Businesses' tab at the top of the page select 'Water'. On the right side, select 'Pennsylvania's Chesapeake Bay Program Office', select 'Agriculture' on the right side, and lastly select 'Funding Programs' on right side. Downloadable forms are available here.

Registration deadline for this program is April 1, 2019.



Cumberland County Conservation District
310 Allen Road, Suite 301, Carlisle, PA 17013-9101
717-240-7812
www.cumberlandcd.com

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