



ORANGE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

225 Dolson Avenue, Suite 103, Middletown, NY 10940

PHONE: (845) 343-1873

ocsoilny.org

kevin.sumner@ocsoil.org

Agricultural Conservation Project Financial Assistance Inquiry March, 2019

Orange County Soil and Water Conservation District periodically has opportunities to request funding, usually from the State of New York, for agricultural conservation projects. Potential applicants should keep the following guidance in mind.

- In most cases, to be eligible for funding assistance we must be able to show a water quality benefit resulting from the project.
- Our primary opportunity for ag project funding requires applications to be submitted by watershed. Projects in the Walkkill River watershed are more likely to be included in funding requests. The preparation of grant proposals for other watersheds in the County will depend on number and nature of project requests from that watershed and availability of staff resources.
- For most funding opportunities, the applicant must have an Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) plan in place before we submit the funding request to NYS. Interested applicants who do not have an AEM plan need to contact us well in advance of funding opportunity deadlines to allow time for AEM plan preparation. Contact our office if you don't know the status of AEM planning on your farm.
- Eligible applicants generally need to be commercial farmers or owners of commercial farmland.
- This is not a complete list of eligibility requirements.
- Contact our office at any time to discuss whether your proposed project appears to fit within eligibility requirements of funding opportunities available to us.

Typical Projects Which May Be Eligible for Funding Assistance

- Cover Crops (restrictions may apply for past recipients)
 - Other Cultural Conservation Practices for Row Crop Lands – Conservation Tillage, Residue Management, Contour/Strip Cropping (restrictions may apply for past recipients)
 - Structural Cropland Erosion Control Systems/Measures (diversions, grassed waterways, underground outlets, etc.)
 - Barnyard Runoff Control Measures (heavy use area protection, clean water exclusion, roof runoff collection, etc.)
 - Streambank Stabilization
 - Stream Crossings
 - Livestock Watering Systems (where system replaces watering practices that may threaten water quality)
 - Grazing Systems (including INTERIOR paddock fencing, but not perimeter fencing, improved travelways and watering systems)
 - Agri-chemical Mixing Facilities
 - Petroleum Bulk Storage Secondary Containment Systems
 - Other Projects Where a Water Quality Benefit can be Demonstrated
- (continued)

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394 Guymard Turnpike
Middletown, NY 10940

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Goshen, NY 10924

Paula DeBlock
133 Whitford Road
Westtown, NY 10998

John Wright
329 Kings Hwy.
Warwick, NY 10990

James Kulisek
26 Memorial Drive
Newburgh, NY 12550

-Flat land drainage projects are generally NOT eligible for funding, they are considered primarily a production practice. Drainage on sloping land that reduces erosion may be eligible.

-Limited funding opportunities are available for projects that mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and/or provide resilience against climate change.

-Funding is normally capped at 75% of total project costs. Participant 'in-kind' contributions (labor, machine time) can help satisfy the required participant 25% match.

-The next anticipated opportunity for ag project funding is Round 25 of the Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (ANPSACP). We anticipate submitting proposals for both the Walkill watershed and the Moodna watershed through this program this summer. Therefore, interested applicants need to contact our office as soon as possible, definitely no later than June 1st, 2019.

Potential funding applicants may complete the following form to initiate an eligibility review and be considered for funding opportunities.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ email _____

Date of Request _____

Brief Project Description:

You may submit this form by mail (USPS), email (see top of application form) or by calling our office and providing the requested information verbally. If you do not receive a call or other form of follow up from our office within a week of your submission of this form, please call the office and ask to speak with Kevin or Travis.

This form is available on our website.