



FY 2024 State and County Matching Funds (3921) Fact Sheet

The Sussex Conservation District administers funds from the State of Delaware and Sussex County to assist tax ditch organizations with costs associated with maintaining the county's tax ditch systems. The FY 2024 General Guidelines are approved by the SCD Board of Supervisors. **SCD Board of Supervisors reserve the right to adjust payment rates and caps based on funding availability and interest in the program.**

Practices

Type of practices eligible for cost-share funds are:

- Maintenance projects are 50% of **total cost** not to exceed \$15,000:
 - ❖ Clean out ditch channels and spread spoil
 - ❖ New pipes/pipe crossing repairs/replacements
 - ❖ Tree removal
 - ❖ Erosion repair
 - ❖ Beaver dam removal
- Mowing of tax ditch rights-of-way – \$40 per mile
- Weed Wiper Bar – 50% of total cost not to exceed \$8,000
- Hand Spraying – 50% of total cost not to exceed \$5,000
- Bonding of Secretary-Treasurer – 50% of the cost not to exceed \$150

**Please call the office to
apply for cost-share
assistance. We will take
your information over the
phone.**

All applications will be ranked based on severity of problem, actively maintained rights-of-way, invasive species, etc.

Application Process & Eligibility

Applications will be received at the Sussex Conservation District office located in the USDA Service Center at 21315 Berlin Road, Unit 4, Georgetown, Delaware from **June 12, 2023, through July 28, 2023**. **An estimate for proposed maintenance work is needed at time of application.** Once applications are received, they will be ranked and presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval. After approval, letters will be sent to every applicant notifying of approval or denial. If denied, the reason will be explained in the letter.

Requirements for eligibility:

- **An annual meeting or officer discussion had to take place within the previous 12 months, and the minutes must be submitted to the Div. of Watershed Stewardship – Drainage Section by June 30, 2023.**
- **An audited financial statement must be submitted to the Division of Watershed Stewardship – Drainage Section by JUNE 30, 2023. DEADLINE OF JUNE 30, 2023!**
- **Proof of bonding must be received by the Sussex Conservation District by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, July 28, 2023.**

Construction Process

Applicant has ten months to begin construction from the cost-share approval date with the possibility of one 30-day extension that must be granted by the District Coordinator. **Funds approved for projects not completed in 24 months will expire.**

CONTACT INFORMATION

For Cost Share Assistance:
Debbie Absher, Director of Ag Programs
Bryan Jones, Preservation Program Manager
(302) 856-3990 ext. 3

For Technical Assistance:
Wes Allen, Tax Ditch Project Mgr.
Cell (302) 535-5471