

**AGENDA**  
**SUSSEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**August 22, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.**  
**23818 Shortly Road, Georgetown, DE**

I Call to Order

II Agenda Modifications

III Approval of Agenda

IV Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

V Recognition of Visitors

VI Correspondence

VII Reports:

- District Accountant's Report – Dan Lee (P 2)
- Equipment Manager's Report – Stephen Gissy (P 5)
- District Conservationist's Report – Ziggy Savage (P 6)
- Sediment & Stormwater Manager's Report – Jessica Watson (P 7)
- DNREC Conservation Program's Report – Tyler Brown (P 8)
- DACD Executive Director's Report – Jen Nelson (P 11)
- Agricultural Program Report – Debbie Absher (P 12)
- District Coordinator's Report – David Baird (P 14)

VIII Items Requiring Board Action

1. Cost Share Payments
  - a. Large Animal Mortality
  - b. Special Projects
2. FY 23 Cost Share Programs
  - a. 3921 Tax Ditch Guidelines, Budget & Applications for Funding
  - b. Conservation Cost Share Guidelines, Budget & Applications for Funding

IX Adjournment

*Pursuant to 29 Del. C. § 10004 (e) (2), the Agenda items as listed may not be considered in sequence. This Agenda is subject to change to include additional items, including Executive Sessions, which arise at the time of the meeting.*

Sussex Conservation District  
Cash Report  
July 2023

<b><i>Fulton Bank - Checking</i></b>	
Bank Balance Per Statement	\$1,241,594.12
Add: Deposits in Transit	\$0.00
Less: Outstanding Checks	(\$21,626.54)
Balance in G/L - End of Month	\$1,219,967.58
Beginning G/L Balance	\$1,164,582.86
Add: Cash Receipts	\$766,175.07
Less: Cash Disbursements	(\$710,790.35)
Ending G/L Balance	\$1,219,967.58
<b><i>Fulton Bank - Payroll</i></b>	
Beginning G/L Balance	\$0.00
Add: Cash Receipts	\$203,467.71
Less: Cash Disbursements	(\$203,467.71)
Ending G/L Balance	\$0.00
<b><i>Citizens Bank - Checking</i></b>	
Beginning G/L Balance	\$1,931,226.26
Add: Cash Receipts	\$0.00
Less: Cash Disbursements	(\$50.00)
Ending G/L Balance	\$1,931,176.26
<b><i>Citizens Bank - Money Market</i></b>	
Beginning G/L Balance	\$2,214,816.19
Add: Cash Receipts	\$23,556.22
Less: Cash Disbursements	\$0.00
Ending G/L Balance	\$2,238,372.41
<b><i>Fulton Bank - Merchant</i></b>	
Beginning G/L Balance	\$18,961.41
Add: Cash Receipts	\$4,874.00
Less: Cash Disbursements	(\$194.83)
Ending G/L Balance	\$23,640.58
<b><i>Artisans Bank - Certificate of Deposit - 11/01/23</i></b>	<b>\$249,748.59</b>
<b><i>Bank of Delmarva - Certificate of Deposit - 2/28/24</i></b>	<b>\$249,679.56</b>
<b><i>County Bank - Certificate of Deposit - 01/28/24</i></b>	<b>\$248,304.03</b>
<b><i>Community Bank - Certificate of Deposit - 06/12/24</i></b>	<b>\$248,959.00</b>
<b><i>Del-One - Certificate of Deposit - 4/19/24</i></b>	<b>\$490,443.27</b>
<b><i>Hebron Savings Bank - Certificate of Deposit - 04/04/24</i></b>	<b>\$249,138.13</b>
<b><i>Fulton ICS MM Accounts</i></b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b><i>WTC Investments</i></b>	<b>\$3,631,073.00</b>
<b><i>Petty Cash</i></b>	<b>\$193.10</b>
<b><i>Total All Bank Accounts</i></b>	<b>\$10,780,695.51</b>

Sussex Conservation District  
Cash Report  
July 2023

<b>2023</b>	<b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>			
	Sussex Conservation District Funds		<u>\$3,206,322.67</u>	\$3,206,322.67
	<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>			
	Stormwater Management Funds	restricted	\$4,202,022.34	
	Stormwater Cash Bonds Held	Liability	\$1,928,726.26	
	Cost Share Funding	deferred	\$730,058.38	
	3921 Funding	deferred	\$336,617.76	
	Sussex County Drainage Funding	deferred	\$30,758.10	
	Stormwater Management Funds	deferred	\$7,500.00	
	Prothonotary Items	deferred	\$7,270.00	
	Various projects - 2	deferred	<u>\$331,420.00</u>	
				\$7,574,372.84
	<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS ALL ACCOUNTS @ MONTH END</b>			<b>\$10,780,695.51</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>			
	Sussex Conservation District Funds		<u>\$3,075,924.44</u>	\$3,075,924.44
	<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>			
	Stormwater Management Funds	restricted	\$3,434,714.52	
	Stormwater Cash Bonds Held	Liability	\$1,928,726.26	
	Cost Share Funding	deferred	\$994,708.81	
	3921 Funding	deferred	\$100,112.09	
	Sussex County Drainage Funding	deferred	\$54,789.72	
	Stormwater Management Funds	deferred	\$7,500.00	
	Prothonotary Items	deferred	\$5,315.00	
	Various projects	deferred	<u>\$417,100.00</u>	
				\$6,942,966.40
	<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS ALL ACCOUNTS @ MONTH END</b>			<b>\$10,018,890.84</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS ALL ACCOUNTS @ MONTH END</b>			<b>\$ 7,866,589.65</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS ALL ACCOUNTS @ MONTH END</b>			<b>\$ 6,858,806.77</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS ALL ACCOUNTS @ MONTH END</b>			<b>\$ 8,705,355.56</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS ALL ACCOUNTS @ MONTH END</b>			<b>\$ 8,843,411.54</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS ALL ACCOUNTS @ MONTH END</b>			<b>\$ 9,391,689.09</b>

## SUSSEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS FOR JULY 2023

July had a net profit (loss) of (\$44,463) compared to a net profit (loss) of (\$46,415) for the same period in 2022. Year to date, the District has a net profit (loss) of \$967,464 compared to a net profit (loss) of \$231,808 for 2022. The following is a net profit (loss) summary by department:

Department	July		Year To Date	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Equipment	\$14,356	\$324	\$166,586	\$70,914
Agriculture	(\$52,701)	(\$45,660)	(\$65,808)	\$112,283
Stormwater	\$42,464	\$25,222	\$450,923	\$551,740
Administrative	(\$50,155)	(\$33,737)	\$114,365	\$79,959
Project Design	\$1,573	\$7,436	\$526	\$11,380
<b>Operating Profit (Loss)</b>	<b>(\$44,463)</b>	<b>(\$46,415)</b>	<b>\$666,592</b>	<b>\$826,276</b>
Investments	\$0	\$0	\$300,872	(\$594,468)
<b>Net Profit (Loss)</b>	<b>(\$44,463)</b>	<b>(\$46,415)</b>	<b>\$967,464*</b>	<b>\$231,808</b>

(\*) Year to Date Net Income:

Total Revenue	\$ 9,853,604
Cost of Sales	<u>\$ 1,726,703</u>
Gross Profit	\$ 8,126,901
Expenses	<u>\$ 7,159,437</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 967,464*

## COST SHARE DOLLARS

Department	Paid Out July		Paid Out Year to Date	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
General Cost Share	\$11,171	\$7,783	\$4,201,333	\$2,814,805
3921 Funds	\$17,700	\$19,384	\$200,680	\$160,949
County Drainage	\$13,627	\$12,152	\$85,988	\$56,462
<b>Total Cost Share Dollars</b>	<b>\$42,498</b>	<b>\$39,319</b>	<b>\$4,488,001</b>	<b>\$3,032,216</b>

Department	Cash Balance	
	2023	2022
General Cost Share	\$738,330	\$1,071,709
3921 Funds	\$330,435	\$100,112
County Drainage	\$45,256	\$54,790
<b>Total Cost Share Dollars</b>	<b>\$1,114,021</b>	<b>\$1,240,205</b>

**SUSSEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
EQUIPMENT PROGRAM REPORT  
July 2023**

Over the past month, the equipment program has completed various projects. Work continues on (2) large RC&D projects in Sussex County that use most of our workforce and machines; Holly Ridge Terrace in Ocean View and the Town of Frankford, a large pipe project with Catch Basins and Inlets draining approx. 12 landowners and town streets. We are also working on some smaller private drainage projects. Charles Duvall will start on August 22<sup>nd</sup> as an Operator/CDL driver.

Total Estimates for 2023: 231

Total Estimates for July: 51

**Recently Completed Projects:**

- City of Seaford- Mowing
- Marvin Hill- Pipe Replacement
- Bee Branch- Blockage Removal
- Bridgeville Branch- Blockage Removal
- Kensington Park- Drainage Improvements
- Paynter's Mill- Drainage Improvements
- Jimmy Vanderwende- Erosion Repair
- Millville By the Sea- Ditch Cleanout

**Recently started or Projects starting soon:**

- Holly Ridge- Drainage Improvements- WIP
- Jones Branch- Erosion Repair- WIP
- Town of Frankford- Drainage Improvements- WIP
- Twin Maple Farms- Pond Cleanout
- Union Cemetery- Grading
- Blackpool Rd- Drainage Improvements
- Seward Circle- Basin Installation
- DE Coastal Airpark- Mowing
- Weed Wiping- Various Tax Ditches

**SUSSEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST REPORT**

June 22, 2023 – August 17, 2023

EQIP

- NRCS is working on program and guidance for FY-24
- Funding level to remain at FY-23 allotment of \$3.4M.
- We are accepting applications for FY-24

EQIP/CIC

- These are 5-year contracts. Applications are being accepted.

EQIP/IRA (Inflation Reduction Act)

- Funds are targeted towards Climate Smart Ag. Practices. The categories are Soil Health, Nitrogen Mgt., Livestock Partnership, Grazing & Pasture, Agroforestry, Forest and Upland Wildlife habitat, Energy, and Wetlands. The funding level for FY-24 is expected to be \$4.9M.

AMA/RMA

- Unsure of this program's funding level, but I expect it to remain at past levels of approximately \$92K -\$100K.
- Accepting applications for FY-24

CSP/IRA

- Like EQIP/IRA, but it is for participants that sign up through CSP for the same targeted Climate Smart Ag. Practice categories.
- We are accepting applications for FY-24.

CSP

- NRCS is currently reviewing existing contracts for calendar year adjustments and payments.
- 1 new contract was developed for FY-23.
- We are accepting applications for FY-24. We will also be working with producers to renew expiring contracts.

WRE

- We are accepting applications for FY-24.

RCPP

- The Delaware Bay/ Inland Bay project for cover crops. District planners developed contracts for all applicants that wanted to move forward. 11 contracts were developed totaling \$323,261.00.

**1. Inspections and Site Visits**

- **Conservation Practice Installation and Completion Inspections:**  
Reed and Korey are completing project installation inspections for past/present contracts.

**2. Surveys/Designs**

- Reed and Korey are completing new, outstanding surveys and designs for FY-23 projects.

**3. Other Business**

- Planners continue reviewing prior year management practice records for payment and reporting progress.
- Reviews/management of current contracts are taking place to ensure contract compliance.
- Planners will be receiving a host of training during August and September.
- State Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for September 7, 2023.
- There are a variety of jobs being advertised for Delaware NRCS positions. District Conservationist and Soil Conservationist (Dover/ New Castle F.O.), Program Specialist and Outreach Coordinator (Dover S.O.).

**SUSSEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
SEDIMENT AND STORMWATER REPORT  
JULY & AUGUST 2023**

**Detailed Plan Review/Approval:**

Staff continues to process plan submittals, pre-app/engineering meetings, and technical support. Staff reviewed 53 plans and approved 12 for the month. We also Staff had 6 pre-application meetings.

**Standard Plan Review/Approval:16 Total**

- 10 Non-Residential
- 4 Minor Linear
- 2 Agriculture

**As-Built Plan Review:**

Staff reviewed 5 as-built surveys.

**Inspection: - 380 Inspections**

Field staff continues to be busy in the field. New projects continue to contact us for pre-construction meetings. Pre-construction meetings – 27

**Maintenance Inspection – 99**

Closed-out stormwater projects are inspected, and reports that provide routine/preventive maintenance information are generated. The goal is to ensure the continued function of the stormwater facility. Buddy Griffith provides compliance inspection on single-family lot construction. He works with builders on the requirements under the Residential Standard Plan (silt fence and stone construction entrances). He and Faith work together on home construction complaints and contacting non-compliant builders.

**Drainage/Construction Complaints: - 49**

**Other News:**

- Attended a meeting with DNREC, KCD, and SCD to discuss the expedited review pilot project. SCD and KCD will have two projects participate in the pilot.
- Provided Stormwater Presentation for the Sussex Preservation Coalition
- Upcoming Stormwater Workshop Series Sept – Nov – on various topics at SCD.

# DNREC – CONSERVATION PROGRAMS REPORT

## August 2023

### Program Updates and News

#### District Operations

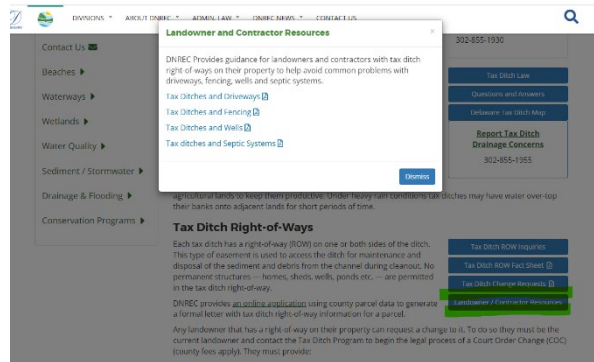
- Over the next several weeks the Districts can expect multiple Project Agreements for review and signature.
- DNREC's Fiscal Management is extremely short staffed, payment processing could be delayed.

#### Tax Ditch and Drainage Programs

- The Tax Ditch Program will be working to process the POs for tax ditch cost share and supplemental funding for each District by mid-August. As well as Contractual Staff salaries as applicable.

#### New Resources:

- The Tax Ditch Program [webpage was updated with](#) new resources for landowners and contractors. The webpage now has a Landowner/Contractor Resources “button” that when selected, factsheets for considerations when installing a fence, driveway, septic, and well pop up. The respective handouts will be distributed to County and Municipal permitting agencies as appropriate and have already been shared with the DNREC Septics and Wells section for their use and distribution.



#### Staffing Updates

- Public Ditch Program Manager II – Posting closed and will be scheduling interviews soon.

#### Sediment & Stormwater Program

- The 2023 Certified Construction Reviewer (CCR) Recertification training has been scheduled for October 4 & 11 from 8 am – 12 noon. The training will be conducted virtually via MS Teams. Individuals eligible to recertify will be notified by email with registration information in August 2023. CCRs who have not previously provided their email address, or whose email addresses have changed since they were certified, should



send their name, email address, CCR number, and phone number to [DNREC.Stormwater@delaware.gov](mailto:DNREC.Stormwater@delaware.gov).

- The Sediment and Stormwater Program is beginning preparations for the 2026 Construction General Permit (CGP) reauthorization. To ensure the concerns of the regulated community are considered, the program would like to extend an invitation to get involved in the process. Anyone interested in participating in discussions related to the reauthorization of the Delaware CGP should complete the survey at the following link: <https://forms.gle/HiPxZMNGH5SJCQb57> . The 2021 Delaware CGP is accessible online at [de.gov/cgp](http://de.gov/cgp) for reference.

### **Staffing Updates**

- Vacancy (posted) - [Stormwater Engineer I](#) - This position is responsible for reviewing sediment and stormwater plans for state and federal projects, providing guidance to the Delegated Agencies, consultants, the regulated community, and public and private agencies, organizations, or individuals. This position will remain open until posted.
- Sediment and Stormwater Program Manager II – Posting is closed interviews will be scheduled soon.

### **Nonpoint Source and Chesapeake Implementation Programs**

- Tentatively, the NPS Program should receive the remaining FY23 Nonpoint Source Section 319 grant funds at the end of August. EPA has to process some remaining documents, so it is based on their completion timeline. FY24 grant application was submitted months ago and Delaware will be receiving a partial award as of 10/1/23.
- The NPS Program is working with DNREC Parks and Recreation to do a larger scale reforestation project in the Nanticoke River watershed (approximately 39 acres).
- Chesapeake Implementation Program (CIP) is currently working on finalizing purchase order for the remaining Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant (CBIG) federal FY22 grant awards.
- CIP is also working with EPA grant managers to finalize federal FY23 grant work plans and budget documents for CBIG and USFS grants to support project implementation in calendar year 2024. Grant funds from upcoming USFS grant funding will help to support the Riparian Forest Buffer Incentive Program and Delaware Community Conservation Assistance Program (DeCAP).

### **Staffing Updates**

- Planner IV position (Chesapeake Implementation Program) has closed, and interviews are currently being schedule.

## Debris Pit Program

- This month the Debris Pit Program completed a multiple property project that consisted of removing 162 tons of buried tree debris. The project located on Renee Lane in Newark was approximately 160' feet long x 65' feet wide x 22' feet deep. It took DNREC's remediation contractor Brightfields environmental almost two months to complete.



## Spotlight

- During the week of the Delaware State Fair staff members of CPS presented a freshwater mussel exhibit showcasing methods used during mussel surveys. The exhibit was included in the job fair portion of the DNREC building. The exhibit gave attendees an opportunity to try the equipment used by DNREC's Environmental Scientists. Over 700 people visited the exhibit!



**SUSSEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
DACD EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT  
August 2023**

**Updates:**

- **DACD Executive Committee** was held on July 25 at the Delaware State Fair Administrative Building. DACD’s Executive Committee and partners reviewed DACD’s single audit. They discussed plans and funding options for the Delaware Envirothon and potential legislation regarding expedited permit reviews and riparian buffer requirements before the next legislative session.  
**Question for boards: Would you consider supporting Envirothon with a \$5,000 annual contribution?**
- **USDA 2501 Grant Proposal-** MASCD submitted a proposal to provide outreach and education to underserved and veteran farmers in Delaware and Maryland. The proposal includes partnering with the First State African American Farmers Association, University of Maryland Extension, contracting with four field liaisons to assist with funding and grant-writing, career recruitment at Delaware State University and University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and development of a network of organizations that provide technical and financial assistance to underserved farmers.
- **NFWF Grant, “Accelerating Implementation of Nature-Based Structural Practices on Delmarva,”** has received final approval. Chelsea Gebbia will begin to reach out to DNREC and conservation districts to discuss project implementation, which includes \$750,000 in implementation funding, \$75,000 in incentive funding for tax ditch organizations, and outreach (field tours, presentations, and exhibit at Delaware Ag Week).
- **NACD Summer Meeting in Bismarck, ND, was held from July 15-19.** The meeting included two workshops focused on the Ecosystem Services Market Consortium and Equitable Pathways to Market. This year’s conference included multiple tours of nearby farming operations. Jen also represented Delaware for the Northeast Region Meeting.
- **SWCS Meeting in Des Moines, IA-** The Soil and Water Conservation Society held their annual conference from August 5-9. The meeting included sessions on providing training and professional development opportunities for new conservation professionals. There were also sessions about innovative solutions for providing technical assistance, such as shared “conservation agronomy” positions between ag retailers and conservation organizations and a “batch & build” model for accelerating the implementation of conservation projects.

**Important Dates:**

<i>DATE</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
<i>September 17 - 20</i>	NACD Northeast Region Meeting, Portland, ME
<i>Feb 10 – 14, 2024</i>	NACD Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA

**SUSSEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
 AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM REPORT  
 August 22, 2023**

**Grants**

- SCD billed the following grants \$253,222.71 this quarter (April – June):

April - June 2023	Purpose	Agreement Award	Amount Invoiced
DNREC -NPS Conservation Planners	Planner Salaries	\$ 336,586.00	\$ 79,483.71
DNREC CBRAP II	Technical Assistance	\$ 493,540.00	\$ 37,500.00
NRCS - Contribution Agreement - DACD	Program Support & CC	\$ 489,250.00	\$ 59,375.00
NRCS - Contributon Agreement - 2018 Competitive	Technical Assistance	\$ 285,850.00	\$ 3,990.00
NRCS - Contribution Agreement - 2019 Competitive	Technical Assistance	\$ 285,350.00	\$ 21,340.00
NRCS - Contribution Agreement - 2020 Competitive	Technical Assistance	\$ 152,355.00	\$ -
NRCS - RCPP DE Bay & Inland Bays Cover Crops	Technical Assistance	\$ 199,520.00	\$ 18,589.00
NACD TA	Technical Assistance	\$ 131,780.00	\$ 32,945.00
		<b>\$2,374,231.00</b>	<b>\$ 253,222.71</b>

- SCD requested two no-cost extensions for two NRCS Contribution Agreements. The first is for the RCPP Project – Protecting the Delaware Bay and Inland Bays with Cover Crops, and the second is for – Coastal Migration. An extension has been requested on the RCPP so that we can bill for technical assistance for contract follow-up and planting and destruction inspections. All contracts will be written and obligated for planting in the fall this summer. The second agreement is for Coastal Migration Plans. We are in the final year of this agreement and requested a no-cost extension to allow for more time to finalize the 1,000 acres of coastal migration plans. We are still waiting for final approval on both extensions.
- SCD submitted a grant proposal for the next round of NACD TA funds on August 4, 2023. The proposal requested funding for two conservation planners and half of the communication and outreach specialists. The total amount requested in the proposal was \$164,912. If approved, this funding should kick in around January- February 2024.

**Cost-Share**

- Cover Crop sign-ups ended July 28, 2023. We had another record sign-up with a slight increase of 2,520.4 acres over last year’s enrollment, with 14 new participants. Here is a breakdown of enrolled acres by watershed:

Watershed	Acres	C/S Requested
Chesapeake Bay	113,255.2	\$ 5,265,846.00
Delaware Bay	43,898.4	\$ 1,842,054.00
Inland Bays	28,155.0	\$ 1,302,474.00
Totals	185,308.6	\$ 8,410,374.00

- The Cost-Share budget and guidelines and the applications will be presented later under items requiring board action.
- Approval letters will be mailed out to cover crop participants on August 24, 2023.

### **3921 Funds**

- Sign-up for the FY 2024 State and County Matching Funds (3921) also ended July 28, 2023. Applications (257) were up over last year (210); however, the number of tax ditches dropped slightly from 85 in FY 2023 to 79 in FY 2024. We are fortunate to receive additional funds this year to help the tax ditches with maintenance, weed wiping, mowing, and bonding.
- The 3921 Fund budget and guidelines and the applications will be presented later under items requiring board action.
- Approval letters will be mailed to tax ditches on August 24, 2023.

### **Soil Health**

- We held a soil health workshop Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Bridgeville Fire Hall. There were 83 people in attendance. We would have liked more farmers in the room, but there seemed to be an uptick in ag service providers. That was okay because these people shared the information they learned with our farmers. We had a great line-up of speakers featuring NACD Soil Health Champion from Alabama, Annie Dee; Phil King – DE Soil Scientist with NRCS; Jayme Arthurs with NRCS; and Victoria Ackroyd, with USDA, Agricultural Research Service (ARS). Beth Johnson, Amanda Fabi, and Rachel Driscoll with SCD's Ag Program gave an excellent presentation on soil health evaluations and how they are conducted in the field.
- Planning continues with the Delmarva Soil Summit scheduled for February 6-7, 2024, at the Wicomico Youth & Civic Center in Salisbury. Heather Darby and Russell Hedrick have been confirmed as the plenary speakers at the summit. Planning is still underway for the breakout sessions.

### **Miscellaneous**

- After nearly six weeks without an operable postage meter and four months without our printer, we finally got access to them after being blocked by USDA's IT.
- Lyndsie Mikkelsen of Milford has accepted the position of agricultural conservation planner starting September 1, 2023. Lyndsie lives in Milford and comes to us from the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension as a nutrient management advisor. We are excited to have Lyndsie join our team!
- SCD planners will be busy over the next month with several mandatory training courses by NRCS. They include Ag Chemical Building training, a 2-day new employee orientation (for employees under five years), wetlands training, organic management training, field operations training (fundamentals of conservation planning), and an optional FSA producer report training.

**SUSSEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
DISTRICT COORDINATOR'S REPORT  
August 22, 2023**

**Frankford Drainage Improvements**

SCD's Equipment Program continues progressing on a drainage project to provide an outlet and improve the area between Green Street by the Frankford Library and Delaware Avenue. This project has been a few years in the making and was made possible with funding from DNREC's RC&D Program, Senator Hocker, and Representative Collins.

**Stormwater Expedited Review Process**

Jessica Watson met with representatives from DNREC and KCD to discuss DNREC's approach to the pilot program and for each District to share thoughts and ideas on how the expedited review process could work in each County. DNREC has given much thought and consideration to the projects that would and would not be eligible for an expedited review. Many of these criteria would be based on current conditions and known drainage issues in and around the site proposed for development. This will be presented to our stormwater advisory committee when it meets to discuss this issue in mid-September.

**SCD Outreach Hits the Air**

You may notice a new conservation commercial when watching local TV in the coming weeks. As part of our agreement with NRCS, [SCD developed a TV commercial focused on Climate Smart Practices](#). There are two reasons I wanted to share this with you.....First, I wanted to share with you the caliber of work put out by the District under Siobhan's efforts, and second, to let everyone know that Climate Smart Practices are and will continue to be a key priority for USDA and NRCS through funding made available in the Inflation Reduction Act.

**NRCS Lease Options**

Discussions have continued with NRCS regarding the proposed office building and lease for SCD. During our most recent meeting, we learned that once USDA has secured a lease, SCD can negotiate its lease and tenant fit-out needs and costs with the landlord. All of these negotiations would be completed pre-construction phase. If, for some reason, we could not reach an agreement, SCD could walk away and find its location. More details will be available for discussion at the August Board meeting.

**Delaware Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program**

Following its passage in May 2022 and the adoption of regulations in July 2023, the details surrounding Delaware's Paid Family and Medical Leave Act are starting to be shared with employers around the state. Under this new program, employers must participate in the state's insurance program unless they had a comparable plan when the legislation was passed. SCD does not have paid Family or Medical Leave Plan in place. Additional information can be found on the [Delaware Paid Family and Medical Leave website](#).

**Upcoming Events:**

- The next board meeting will be held Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 7 p.m., at 23818 Shortly Road, Georgetown, DE.

**SUSSEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**

ITEM: Cost-Share Payments—Large Animal Mortality

ITEM NO: 1a

DATE: August 22, 2023

PRESENTER: David Baird

DESCRIPTION: Cost-Share payment for Large Animal Mortality to John Kohout.

June

Total Cost- \$5,985

Cows: 7

SCD Cost- \$5,985

Horses: 7

SCD Admin- \$1,380

July

Total Cost- \$8,215

Cows: 14

SCD Cost- \$8,215

Horses: 8

SCD Admin- \$960

RECOMMENDATION: Approve cost-share for payments for Animal Mortality.

MOTION: Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, to approve cost-share payments to John Kohout. Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

**SUSSEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**

ITEM: Special Projects Cost Share

ITEM NO: 1b

DATE: August 22, 2023

PRESENTER: David Baird

BACKGROUND: Received the following applications for Special Projects Cost-Share:

**Lem Hudson – Wildlife Planting**

21 acres planted into native warm season grass seed mix for wildlife habitat near Whaley’s Road and Laurel Road (Rt. 24).

Total Cost - \$9,500  
SCD Cost - \$7,125  
Landowner Cost - \$2,375

**Lem Hudson - Field Windbreak/Hedgerow**

670 switchgrass plugs planted along the field edge. Double row.

Total Cost - \$3,350.00  
SCD Cost - \$2,512.50  
Landowner Cost - \$ 837.50

RECOMMENDATION: Approve Cost Share for Special Projects as presented.

MOTION: Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the SCD requests for Special Payments Cost Share assistance to Lem Hudson for Wildlife Planting in the amount of \$7,125 and for Field Windbreak/Hedgerow in the amount of \$2,512.50. Motion \_\_\_\_\_.



**SUSSEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**

ITEM: 3921 Tax Ditch Guidelines, Budget & Applications for Funding

ITEM NO: 2a

DATE: August 22, 2023

PRESENTER: David Baird/Debbie Absher

BACKGROUND: The annual 3921 Tax Ditch Cost-Share Program Guidelines are proposed with two significant changes from previous years. First, cost-share funding for maintenance projects will increase 60% of the cost (not exceeding \$18,000) from 50% (not exceeding \$15,000). Second, the mowing rate will increase to 75% of the project's cost, not to exceed \$225/ mile. These changes are possible with the increased tax ditch funding of \$604,700 (\$1 million statewide) for SCD's program. These changes will allow us to fund 100% of the applications received and maintain a budget of \$5,709 for emergency repairs that may arise, knowing that there will be funding left over from the weed wiper bar approvals. A third change is proposed to have cost-share funds expire on July 1, 2024, instead of July 1, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the 3921-Tax Ditch Cost Share Guidelines, Budget, and Cost Share Applications as presented.

MOTION: Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the 3921-Tax Ditch Cost Share Guidelines and Budget and Cost Share Applications as presented. Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

\*Separate motions are needed for Board members to have applications considered for approval.

**FY 2023 - 3921 Funds Budget  
Payment Rate Scenarios  
August 3, 2023**

<b>Bank Balance as of 6/30/2023</b>	<b>\$ 336,618.00</b>	
Less Outstanding July Payments	\$ (800.00)	(Bridgeville Branch & Bee Branch per Wes)
Less Leftover WWB to Conservation CS	<u>\$ (18,483.40)</u>	
Estimated Bank Balance as of 7/31/2023	<b>\$ 317,334.60</b>	

<b>FY 2024 Income</b>	
Sussex County	\$ 125,000.00
State of Delaware	\$ 75,000.00
Bond Bill Funds	\$ 604,700.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>\$ 804,700.00</u></b>

<b>Total FY 2023 Income Available</b>	
less 10% Admin (\$80,470)	<b>\$ 724,230.00</b>
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>\$ 1,041,564.60</b>

<b>Previous Years Obligations</b>	
Less FY 2023	\$ (219,709.58)
<b>Total Funds Obligated</b>	<b><u>\$ (219,709.58)</u></b>

<b>Total Funds Available for FY 2024</b>	<b>\$ 821,855.02</b>
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FY 2024 Funding Requests	Current Rate
Maintenance (50% - \$15K cap)	\$ 415,550.35
WWB/HS (50% - \$8K cap)	\$ 67,743.35
Mowing (\$40/mile)	\$ 33,920.00
Bonding (50% - \$150/\$450 cap)	\$ 14,850.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 532,063.70</b>

**FY 2024 3921 Fund Rate Adjustment Scenarios for Consideration**

Rate Increase Scenario 1 WWB (75%) & Mowing (\$225/mile)	
Maintenance (50% - \$15K cap)	\$ 415,550.35
WWB/HS (75% - \$8K cap)	\$ 101,615.03
Mowing (\$225/mile)	\$ 190,800.00
Bonding (50% - \$150/\$450 cap)	\$ 15,000.00
<b>Total Requests</b>	<b>\$ 722,965.38</b>
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>\$ 821,855.02</b>
<b>Available for Emergency or Other</b>	<b>\$ 98,889.65</b>

Rate Increase Scenario 2 WWB (75%) & Mowing (\$300/mile)	
Maintenance (50% - \$15K cap)	\$ 415,550.35
WWB/HS (75% - \$8K cap)	\$ 101,615.03
Mowing (\$300/mile)	\$ 254,400.00
Bonding (50% - \$150/\$450 cap)	\$ 15,000.00
<b>Total Requests</b>	<b>\$ 786,565.38</b>
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>\$ 821,855.02</b>
<b>Available for Emergency or Other</b>	<b>\$ 35,289.65</b>

Rate Increase Scenario 3 Maintenance (60%) & Mowing (\$200/mile)	
Maintenance (60% - \$18K cap)	\$ 498,660.42
WWB/HS (50% - \$8K cap)	\$ 67,743.35
Mowing (\$200/mile)	\$ 169,600.00
Bonding (50% - \$150/\$450 cap)	\$ 15,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 751,003.77</b>
FY2023 60% Obligation Overage	\$43,942
<b>Total Request</b>	<b>\$ 794,945.77</b>
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>\$ 821,855.02</b>
<b>Available for Emergency or Other</b>	<b>\$ 26,909.25</b>

Recommended Rate Increase Scenario 4 Maintenance (60%)/Mowing (\$225/mi.)	
Maintenance (60% - \$18K cap)	\$ 498,660.42
WWB/HS (50% - \$8K cap)	\$ 67,743.35
Mowing (\$225/mile)	\$ 190,800.00
Bonding (50% - \$150/\$450 cap)	\$ 15,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 772,203.77</b>
FY2023 60% Obligation Overage	\$43,942
<b>Total Request</b>	<b>\$ 816,145.77</b>
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>\$ 821,855.02</b>
<b>Available for Emergency or Other</b>	<b>\$ 5,709.25</b>



## Sussex Conservation District 2024 State & County Matching Fund (3921) Cost-Share Program

The Sussex Conservation District has developed the annual objectives and priorities for using the state & county matching cost-share funds. Recommendations are based upon the District's long-range plan and response to current drainage needs in the rural, suburban, and urban areas of Sussex County. Final objectives and priorities of the program are determined and approved by the District Board of Supervisors based upon the committee recommendations and on advice from the Division of Watershed Stewardship. The objectives and priorities of the program will be as follows:

<i>Funds Available - \$902,325</i>			
<b>Objective</b>		<b>Percent</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Maintenance of Existing Ditches</b>	Cleanout & Spread Spoil	55.3%	<b>\$ 498,661</b>
<b>Tax Ditches</b>	Pipe Crossings Replacements		
	New Pipe Crossings		
	Beaver Dam Removal		
	Bank Stabilization		
	Mowing	21.1%	
	Weed Wiper Bar & Hand Spraying	7.5%	
	Bonding	1.7%	<b>\$ 15,000</b>
<b>Construction of New Ditches</b>	Construction of New Tax Ditches and Court Order Changes	0.0%	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>FY 2023 Obligation Increase</b>		4.9%	<b>\$ 43,942</b>
<b>Special Projects/ Emergency Repairs</b>		0.6%	<b>\$ 5,709</b>
<b>Technical Assistance</b>	Direct	0.0%	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Administrative</b>		8.9%	<b>\$ 80,470</b>
<b>Total</b>		100.0%	<b>\$ 902,325</b>

The program will be publicized through the standard District means as well as through direct mailings, newsletters, and newspapers. Applications will be received and evaluated based on ranking criteria established and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

The Sussex Board of Supervisors in conjunction with the Program Administrator or his designee of the Division of Watershed Stewardship, Drainage Section will determine the following variables:

**a. Cost-share percentage**

The percent cost-shared will be determined based on the following considerations: the type of project, other available assistance, i.e., Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) or Community Transportation Funds (CTF), or other, and the necessary incentives to get work

implemented, and the identifiable demand. The Sussex Conservation District reserves the right to adjust cost-share rates and caps based upon funding availability and interest in the program. (See Appendix I)

**b. Cut-off dates for applications**

High interest construction practices will receive shorter application periods (i.e. 3 months). Funds for other practices may be held longer (i.e. 9 months). Although deadlines will be established for the purpose of getting the work performed, applications will be accepted until all funds are allocated.

**c. Allocation**

All available funds must be committed by the end of the fiscal year. An existing contract to perform the work will be considered a commitment of funds.

**d. Program Adjustments**

The proposed program may be adjusted during the year to ensure that the entire year's allocation is committed within the fiscal year.

**e. Evaluation of Applications**

The evaluation of the applications will take the following items into consideration.

- Severity of the problem
- Need for financial assistance considering other funding sources
- Cost of the project
- Applicant's financial standing with the Sussex Conservation District
- Implementation incentives necessary to get the projects completed

A priority ranking tool has been established to prioritize applications when SCD received more requests than funds available. Technical evaluation will be performed by the Sussex Conservation District and Division of Watershed Stewardship, Drainage Section. Applicant's financial standing may affect program eligibility.

**Awarding of Funds**

A cooperator's agreement and contract will be developed for each funded application. It will include technical specifications and necessary designs, time schedules, and requirements for applicant contributions.

**Program Reporting and Adjustment Schedule**

**July - August 2023:** Proposed program for the current fiscal year outlining objectives and priorities for review and approval.

**July 2024:** A report of the number of contracts awarded and expenditures, a summary of the program effort, and revisions if needed.

**December 2024:** Final report of the cost-share money for FY 2024. This report should include a full accounting of the expenditures of the funds, a description, by category, of the projects completed, and an estimate of the total value of the projects that have been completed. This estimate should include the amount of district and other cost-share dollars as well as the dollar value of the cooperators/tax ditch contribution to the project.

### **Program Approval**

Approval of the proposed program is requested by early August in order to utilize the fall and winter construction season.

### **Policies**

1. All practices must meet NRCS and/or Division of Watershed Stewardship or Delaware Department of Agriculture standards.
2. Requests, including an estimate must be submitted to the Sussex Conservation District prior to approval of work to be done, whether work is done by the District or an independent contractor.
3. Each Tax Ditch organization approved for cost-share assistance must have had an annual meeting and have an audited financial statement pursuant to Title 7, Chapter 41, §4163 of the Delaware Code (See Appendix II). Meeting minutes and financial statements must be submitted to the Division of Watershed Stewardship, Drainage Section.
4. **The Tax Ditch Secretary-Treasurer must be bonded to be eligible for cost-share assistance pursuant to Title 7, Chapter 41, §4164 of the Delaware Code (See Appendix II).**
5. All practices will be inspected by the District or Division of Watershed Stewardship to assure compliance with engineering designs and policies before funds are disbursed.
6. The District, with the approval of the Director, Division of Watershed Stewardship, reserves the right to change any yearly program practices or priorities as necessary to implement important conservation needs or to assure that the funds are allocated within the existing fiscal year.
7. The Board of Supervisors will determine cost-share percentage rates, caps, and allowable projects on a case-by-case basis.
8. Mowing and bonding are annual practices. Payment requests for mowing and bonding must be submitted by July 1 following the mowing and/or bonding invoice date. Failure to do so will result in loss of cost-share funding. Reminder letters will be mailed to officers in March of each year.

9. Construction must begin on all jobs within 10 months. One 30-day extension to the start date may be granted by the Director of Ag Programs. All other extensions must be authorized by the Board of Supervisors. Funds approved for projects not completed by **July 1, 2024**, will expire.
10. Exceptions to these guidelines require the approval of the District Coordinator or Administrator, Division of Watershed Stewardship, Drainage Section, or their designee.

## APPENDIX - I

### 2024 Sussex Conservation District State & County Matching Fund Cost-Share Program

**MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING DITCHES** - *The Sussex Conservation District reserves the right to adjust cost-share rates and caps based upon funding availability and interest in the program.*

1. Clean out and spreading spoil
  - a. Purpose is to reestablish drainage flows to the original design of the tax ditch system for adequate drainage and flood protection.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Dip out and leveling of the spoil.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 60% of the actual cost of the project, not to exceed \$18,000.
  
2. Pipe Crossing Replacements
  - a. Purpose is to repair or replace degraded or damaged pipes to provide access to properties across tax ditches.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Pipes (crossing, control inlet, maintenance, etc.), dirt, rip rap, filter fabric, and cost of installation. A maximum top width of 40 feet will be cost-shared.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 60% of actual cost of the project, not to exceed \$18,000.
  
3. New Pipe Crossings on Existing Ditches
  - a. Purpose is to provide access to properties across tax ditches. Cost-share for only one pipe crossing per landowner is permitted. Cost-share for pipe crossings for subdivisions is not allowed.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Pipes (crossing, control inlet, maintenance, etc.), dirt, rip rap, filter fabric, and cost of installation. A maximum top width of 40 feet will be cost-shared.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 60% of actual cost of the project, not to exceed \$18,000.
  
4. Removal of Beaver Dams
  - a. Purpose is to remove beaver dams established in tax ditches to improve the water flow to the original design of the drainageway. An attempt should be made to remove the beavers before removal of dams.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Beaver dam removal and related damages.
    - ii. Beaver trapping and removal
  - c. Cost-share rate: 60% of actual cost of the project, not to exceed \$18,000.

5. Removal of Trees
  - a. Purpose is to remove trees in the tax ditch rights-of-way.
  - b. Cost-Share for the following components:
    - i. Hand labor to cut and remove trees.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 60% of actual cost of the project, not to exceed \$18,000.
  
6. Mowing of Tax Ditches
  - a. Purpose is to maintain the tax ditch right-of-way by mowing the vegetation along ditch banks.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Mower costs
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of the actual cost of the project, not to exceed \$225 per mile of tax ditch
  
7. Weed Wiper Bar
  - a. Purpose is to control woody vegetation along tax ditches while maintaining grasses for wildlife habitat and erosion control.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Chemicals and application.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 50% of actual cost of the project, not to exceed \$8,000.
  
8. Hand Spraying or treatment of Noxious Weeds/Invasive Species
  - a. Purpose is to control noxious and invasive species along tax ditches where conventional methods such as the Weed Wiper Bar cannot access.
  - b. Cost-share for the following components:
    - i. Chemicals and application
  - c. Cost-share rate: 50% of actual cost of the project, not to exceed \$5,000.
  
9. Bank Stabilization
  - a. Purpose is for erosion control to prevent loss of land, damage to land uses, and to reduce/prevent nutrient and sediments losses.
  - b. Cost-share for the following components:
    - i. Earthwork to stabilize and level ditch bank, coir logs and other bioengineering technologies, and rip rap
  - c. Cost-share rate: To be determined by the Sussex Conservation District Board of Supervisors on a project-by-project basis.

### **CONSTRUCTION OF NEW DITCHES**

1. New Construction of Tax Ditches and Court Order Changes
  - a. Purpose is to provide adequate drainage and flood control to surrounding property owners.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:



- i. Clearing, digging, leveling, installation of pipes (crossing, control inlet, maintenance, etc.), and rip rap
- c. Cost-share rate: **To be determined by the Sussex Conservation District Board of Supervisors on a project-by-project basis.**

### **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

- 1. Special Projects
  - a. Purpose is to improve or enhance the drainage, water quality, and/or flood control system for tax ditches.
  - b. Cost-share for the following components:
    - i. To be determined by the Sussex Conservation District Board of Supervisors on a project-by-project basis.
  - c. Cost-share rate: To be determined by the Sussex Conservation District Board of Supervisors on a project-by-project basis.

### **BONDING OF TAX DITCH SECRETARY-TREASURERS**

- 1. Bonding of Secretary-Treasurers
  - a. Purpose is to ensure safekeeping of tax ditch funds which are placed in the secretary-treasurers custody.
  - b. Cost-share for the following components:
    - i. The cost of a surety bond in an amount based on available funds in the care of the secretary-treasurer.
  - c. Cost-Share rate: 50% of the cost of the bond premium, not to exceed \$150 for a one-year bond. **For three-year bonds, the cost-share rate remains at 50% cost of the bonding premium, not exceed \$450. Tax ditches receiving funding for three-year bonds will not be eligible for cost-share assistance until the next policy renewal.**

**APPENDIX - II**  
**Title 7, Chapter 41, § IV Powers of Tax Ditches**  
**Delaware Code**  
**Drainage of Lands and Management of Waters; Tax Ditches**

**§ 4163. Duties of secretary-treasurer of tax ditch.**

In addition to any powers and duties set forth elsewhere in this chapter, the secretary-treasurer of the tax ditch shall:

- (1) Keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the ditch managers and taxables, and such minutes shall be a part of the permanent records of the tax ditch;
- (2) Prepare a complete financial statement at the end of each calendar year, including therein an itemized report of all funds received, all funds expended, all funds due from taxes not yet collected and all sums due and owing by the tax ditch, and this statement and the records of the secretary-treasurer shall be audited annually by 2 qualified persons and shall become part of the permanent records of the tax ditch;
- (3) Provide for the safekeeping of any funds of the tax ditch which are placed in his or her custody;
- (4) Attend all meetings of the ditch managers and taxables. (48 Del. Laws, c. 151, § 52; 7 Del. C. 1953, § 4163; 70 Del. Laws, c. 186, § 1.)

**§ 4164 Bond of secretary-treasurer.**

The secretary-treasurer shall, before assuming the duties of his or her office and within 15 days after his or her election, furnish a bond in favor of the tax ditch, in an amount satisfactory to the ditch managers and with a surety to be approved by the ditch managers, conditioned for the faithful performance of his or her duties and for the payment to his or her successor of all tax ditch funds. If any person elected secretary-treasurer neglects or refuses to give bond as aforesaid within the time specified, his or her right to hold such office shall be terminated, and the ditch managers shall call a special meeting of the taxables to elect a new secretary-treasurer who shall give bond and security as provided in this section.

48 Del. Laws, c. 151, § 53; 7 Del. C. 1953, § 4164; 58 Del. Laws, c. 240, § 4;

This Cost-Share Program Guidelines and budget were approved by the Sussex Conservation District on August 22, 2023.

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Chairman

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Director, Division of Watershed Stewardship

**Sussex Conservation District  
Requests for FY 2024 3921 Fund Assistance**

Tax Ditch Name	Watershed	Practice(s)	Total Estimate	SCD Amt	Tax Ditch Amt	Miles/Notes
Adamsville	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Adamsville	CB	Mowing		\$ 825.75		3.67
Agriculture	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Agriculture	IB	Mowing		\$ 3,753.00		16.68
Agriculture	IB	CO,SS	\$ 7,050.00	\$ 4,230.00	\$ 2,820.00	
Atlanta Devonshire	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Atlanta Devonshire	CB	Mowing		\$ 405.00		1.80
Atlanta Devonshire	CB	WWB	\$ 800.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	
Bacon & Kenney	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Bacon & Kenney	CB	CO,SS,NP,TR	\$ 9,593.00	\$ 5,755.80	\$ 3,837.20	
Bacon & Kenney	CB	WWB	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00	
Banks	IB	HS	\$ 2,576.84	\$ 1,288.42	\$ 1,288.42	
Banks	IB	TR	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 3,200.00	
Banks Bennett	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Banks Bennett	IB	CO,SS,ER	\$ 7,285.00	\$ 4,371.00	\$ 2,914.00	
Banks Bennett	IB	Mowing		\$ 528.75		2.35
Bear Hole	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Bear Hole	IB	CO,SS,ER,TR	\$ 5,434.00	\$ 3,260.40	\$ 2,173.60	
Bear Hole	IB	HS	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 2,050.00	
Bear Hole	IB	Mowing		\$ 6,725.25		29.89
Beaverdam Canal	IB	CO,SS	\$ 22,962.00	\$ 13,777.20	\$ 9,184.80	
Beaverdam Canal	IB	Mowing		\$ 4,191.75		18.63
Bee Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 450.00		3 yr bond
Bee Branch	CB	CO,SS,NP,TR	\$ 6,200.00	\$ 3,720.00	\$ 2,480.00	
Bee Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 6,057.00		26.92
Bee Branch	CB	WWB	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00	
Blackwater	IB	CO,SS	\$ 10,275.00	\$ 6,165.00	\$ 4,110.00	
Bridgeville Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		3 yr - pays annually
Bridgeville Branch	CB	CO,SS,NP,ER,TR	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 2,820.00	\$ 1,880.00	
Bridgeville Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 5,253.75		23.35
Bridgeville Branch	CB	WWB	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 2,350.00	\$ 2,350.00	
Bucks Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Bucks Branch	CB	CO,SS,NP,TR	\$ 8,550.10	\$ 5,130.06	\$ 3,420.04	
Bucks Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 4,491.00		19.96
Bucks Branch	CB	WWB	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	
Bunting	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Bunting	IB	Mowing		\$ 3,674.25		16.33
Bunting	IB	WWB	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00	
Carsyljan Acres	DB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Carsyljan Acres	DB	CO	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	

Tax Ditch Name	Water-shed	Practice(s)	Total Estimate	SCD Amt	Tax Ditch Amt	Miles/Notes
Carsyljan Acres	DB	HS	\$ 1,044.00	\$ 522.00	\$ 522.00	
Carsyljan Acres	DB	Mowing		\$ 173.25		0.77
Cart Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		3 yr bond
Cart Branch	CB	CO,SS,NP,ER,TR	\$ 25,615.00	\$ 15,369.00	\$ 10,246.00	
Cart Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 2,985.75		13.27
Cart Branch	CB	WWB	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,750.00	
Cool Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 2,549.25		11.33
Cool Branch	CB	TR,NP	\$ 23,998.60	\$ 14,399.16	\$ 9,599.44	
Deep Creek	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Deep Creek	CB	CO	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	
Deep Creek	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,581.75		7.03
Deep Hole	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Deep Hole	IB	CO,SS,NP,TR	\$ 20,210.00	\$ 12,126.00	\$ 8,084.00	
Deep Hole	IB	HS	\$ 1,854.00	\$ 927.00	\$ 927.00	
Derrickson Canal	IB	CO,SS,NP,TR	\$ 8,717.90	\$ 5,230.74	\$ 3,487.16	
Double Fork	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Double Fork	CB	CO,SS	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	
Double Fork	CB	Mowing		\$ 4,763.25		21.17
Draper Bennett	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Draper Bennett	IB	Mowing		\$ 1,543.50		6.86
Draper Bennett	IB	WWB	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00	
Eli Walls	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Eli Walls	IB	CO,SS,TR	\$ 10,150.00	\$ 6,090.00	\$ 4,060.00	
Georgetown-Vaughn	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Georgetown-Vaughn	CB	Mowing		\$ 2,043.00		9.08
Georgetown-Vaughn	CB	WWB	\$ 2,750.00	\$ 1,375.00	\$ 1,375.00	
Gordon Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Gordon Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,068.75		4.75
Gordon Branch	CB	TR	\$ 775.00	\$ 465.00	\$ 310.00	
Green Branch	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Green Branch	IB	CO,SS,NP	\$ 9,576.00	\$ 5,745.60	\$ 3,830.40	
Green Branch	IB	Mowing		\$ 2,623.50		11.66
Gum Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Gum Branch	CB	CO,SS	\$ 53,233.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 35,233.00	
Gum Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 3,741.75		16.63
Gum Branch	CB	WWB	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00	
Herring Branch	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Herring Branch	IB	CO,SS,TR	\$ 23,300.00	\$ 13,980.00	\$ 9,320.00	
Herring Branch	IB	Mowing		\$ 1,980.00		8.80
Herring Run	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Herring Run	CB	Mowing		\$ 850.50		3.78
Herring Run	CB	WWB	\$ 800.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	
Highland Acres	DB	Bonding		\$ 450.00		3 yr bond

Tax Ditch Name	Water-shed	Practice(s)	Total Estimate	SCD Amt	Tax Ditch Amt	Miles/Notes
Highland Acres	DB	CO,ER	\$ 12,235.00	\$ 7,341.00	\$ 4,894.00	
Highland Acres	DB	HS	\$ 1,044.00	\$ 522.00	\$ 522.00	
Highland Acres	DB	Mowing		\$ 346.50		1.54
Holly Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Holly Branch	CB	CO,SS	\$ 14,350.00	\$ 8,610.00	\$ 5,740.00	
Holly Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 2,495.25		11.09
Horse Pound	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Horse Pound	IB	Mowing		\$ 1,109.25		4.93
Horse Pound	IB	TR,NP	\$ 11,576.10	\$ 6,945.66	\$ 4,630.44	
Horse Pound	IB	WWB	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	
Houston Thoroughgood	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Houston Thoroughgood	IB	Mowing		\$ 4,137.75		18.39
Houston Thoroughgood	IB	WWB	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00	
Indian Drain	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Indian Drain	IB	CO,SS	\$ 2,710.00	\$ 1,626.00	\$ 1,084.00	
Indian Drain	IB	HS	\$ 647.00	\$ 323.50	\$ 323.50	
Indian Drain	IB	Mowing		\$ 902.25		4.01
Iron Mine	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Iron Mine	CB	CO,SS,TR	\$ 11,200.00	\$ 6,720.00	\$ 4,480.00	
Iron Mine	CB	Mowing		\$ 2,121.75		9.43
Jackson Branch	DB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Jackson Branch	DB	CO,SS,ER,TR	\$ 8,025.00	\$ 4,815.00	\$ 3,210.00	
Jackson Branch	DB	HS	\$ 1,054.60	\$ 527.30	\$ 527.30	
Jackson Branch	DB	Mowing		\$ 177.75		0.79
Jones Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Jones Branch	CB	CO,SS,NP,ER,TR	\$ 11,378.90	\$ 6,827.34	\$ 4,551.56	
Jones Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 2,038.50		9.06
Jones Branch	CB	WWB	\$ 4,400.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00	
Jones Mill Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Jones Mill Branch	CB	CO,SS,NP,ER,TR	\$ 24,770.00	\$ 14,862.00	\$ 9,908.00	
Jones Mill Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,917.00		8.52
Jones Mill Branch	CB	WWB	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 2,050.00	
Keoppel-Robinson	DB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Koeppel-Robinson	DB	CO,SSNP	\$ 15,652.70	\$ 9,391.62	\$ 6,261.08	
Koeppel-Robinson	DB	Mowing		\$ 1,003.50		4.46
Koeppel-Robinson	DB	WWB	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	
L&T	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
L&T	IB	Mowing		\$ 699.75		3.11
Layton Vaughn	CB	Bonding		\$ 450.00		3 yr bond
Layton Vaughn	CB	Mowing		\$ 2,790.00		12.40
Layton Vaughn	CB	WWB	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	
Lingo	DB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Lingo	DB	Mowing		\$ 150.75		0.67

Tax Ditch Name	Water-shed	Practice(s)	Total Estimate	SCD Amt	Tax Ditch Amt	Miles/Notes
Little Bay	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Little Bay	IB	CO,ER,TR	\$ 13,246.00	\$ 7,947.60	\$ 5,298.40	
Little Bay	IB	HS	\$ 1,910.00	\$ 955.00	\$ 955.00	
Maple Marsh	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Maple Marsh	CB	CO,SS,ER,TR	\$ 22,090.00	\$ 13,254.00	\$ 8,836.00	
Maple Marsh	CB	Mowing		\$ 4,758.75		21.15
Maple Marsh	CB	WWB	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 1,900.00	
McCabe	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
McCabe	IB	CO,TR	\$ 4,360.00	\$ 2,616.00	\$ 1,744.00	
McCabe	IB	HS	\$ 1,447.66	\$ 723.83	\$ 723.83	
McGee	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
McGee	IB	HS	\$ 1,488.80	\$ 744.40	\$ 744.40	
McGee	IB	Mowing		\$ 1,775.25		7.89
McGee	IB	CO,SS,NP,TR	\$ 12,850.00	\$ 7,710.00	\$ 5,140.00	
Meadow Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Meadow Branch	CB	CO,SS,NP,ER,TR	\$ 29,070.00	\$ 17,442.00	\$ 11,628.00	
Meadow Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 5,622.75		24.99
Meadow Branch	CB	WWB	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,100.00	
Middleford	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Middleford	CB	CO,SS	\$ 5,050.00	\$ 3,030.00	\$ 2,020.00	
Middleford	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,487.25		6.61
Middleford	CB	WWB	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	
Mifflin	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Mifflin	CB	CO,SS,NP,TR	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 8,400.00	\$ 5,600.00	
Mifflin	CB	Mowing		\$ 3,008.25		13.37
Mifflin	CB	WWB	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00	
Mirey Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		3 yr - pays annually
Mirey Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,188.00		5.28
Mirey Branch	CB	TR	\$ 11,650.00	\$ 6,990.00	\$ 4,660.00	
Mt. Zion	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Mt. Zion	CB	Mowing		\$ 5,847.75		25.99
New Ditch	CB	Bonding		\$ 450.00		3 yr bond
New Ditch	CB	CO, PR	\$ 68,700.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 50,700.00	
New Ditch	CB	Mowing		\$ 6,619.50		29.42
New Ditch	CB	WWB	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 2,350.00	\$ 2,350.00	
North Prong	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
North Prong	IB	Mowing		\$ 3,102.75		13.79
North Prong	IB	TR	\$ 6,330.00	\$ 3,798.00	\$ 2,532.00	
Oak Grove	CB	Bonding		\$ 450.00		3 yr bond
Oak Grove	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,235.25		5.49
Oak Grove	CB	TR	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 1,920.00	\$ 1,280.00	
Oak Grove	CB	WWB	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00	
Oakley Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 300.00		3 yr bond

Tax Ditch Name	Water-shed	Practice(s)	Total Estimate	SCD Amt	Tax Ditch Amt	Miles/Notes
Oakley Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 4,500.00		20.00
Oakley Branch	CB	WWB	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00	
Owens	CB	Bonding		\$ 450.00		3 yr bond
Owens	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,302.75		5.79
Owens	CB	NP	\$ 12,238.20	\$ 7,342.92	\$ 4,895.28	
Owens	CB	WWB	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	
Pepper Creek	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Pepper Creek	IB	CO,SS,ER,TR	\$ 19,898.00	\$ 11,938.80	\$ 7,959.20	
Pepper Creek	IB	HS	\$ 1,913.80	\$ 956.90	\$ 956.90	
Pepper Creek	IB	Mowing		\$ 10,230.75		45.47
Pepper Creek	IB	WWB	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	
Phillips	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Phillips	IB	Mowing		\$ 1,788.75		7.95
Phillips Hill 1	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Phillips Hill 1	IB	Mowing		\$ 65.25		0.29
Phillips Hill 1	IB	HS	\$ 562.00	\$ 281.00	\$ 281.00	
Phipps	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Phipps	CB	TR	\$ 15,950.00	\$ 9,570.00	\$ 6,380.00	
Pocomoke	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Pocomoke	IB	CO,TR	\$ 26,200.00	\$ 15,720.00	\$ 10,480.00	
Pocomoke	IB	Mowing		\$ 3,579.75		15.91
Pocomoke	IB	WWB	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 1,900.00	
Raccoon	CB	Bonding		\$ 450.00		3 yr bond
Raccoon	CB	CO,SS,NP,PR	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,020.00	\$ 680.00	
Raccoon	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,156.50		5.14
Robbins	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Robbins	CB	Mowing		\$ 2,808.00		12.48
Robbins	CB	WWB	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 3,250.00	
Rossakatum	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Rossakatum	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,867.50		8.30
Sandy Landing	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Sandy Landing	IB	CO,SS	\$ 29,200.00	\$ 17,520.00	\$ 11,680.00	
Shelah Branch	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Shelah Branch	IB	CO,SS	\$ 12,640.20	\$ 7,584.12	\$ 5,056.08	
Short and Hall	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Short and Hall	CB	CO,SS,NP,ER	\$ 26,560.00	\$ 15,936.00	\$ 10,624.00	
Short and Hall	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,831.50		8.14
Short and Hall	CB	WWB	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	
St. Georges	IB	Mowing		\$ 1,500.75		6.67
St. Georges	IB	WWB	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00	
Stafford	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Stafford	CB	CO,SS,TR	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,020.00	\$ 680.00	
Stafford	CB	WWB	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 1,900.00	



Tax Ditch Name	Water-shed	Practice(s)	Total Estimate	SCD Amt	Tax Ditch Amt	Miles/Notes
Susan Beach Corner	CB	Bonding		\$ 450.00		3 yr bond
Tull Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Tull Branch	CB	CO,SS	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 2,820.00	\$ 1,880.00	
Tull Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,370.25		6.09
Tussocky	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Tussocky	CB	Mowing		\$ 5,150.25		22.89
Tussocky	CB	WWB	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 2,350.00	\$ 2,350.00	
Tyndall Branch	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Tyndall Branch	CB	CO,SS	\$ 5,050.00	\$ 3,030.00	\$ 2,020.00	
Tyndall Branch	CB	Mowing		\$ 9,387.00		41.72
Tyndall Branch	CB	WWB	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 2,050.00	
Ward-Cordrey	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Ward-Cordrey	CB	HS	\$ 894.00	\$ 447.00	\$ 447.00	
Ward-Cordrey	CB	Mowing		\$ 2,160.00		9.60
Ward-Cordrey	CB	WWB	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00	
Warren	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Warren	CB	CO,CC,NP,TR	\$ 14,768.00	\$ 8,860.80	\$ 5,907.20	
Warren	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,302.75		5.79
Whartons Branch	IB	CO,SS,NP	\$ 9,700.00	\$ 5,820.00	\$ 3,880.00	
Whartons Branch	IB	Mowing		\$ 6,837.75		30.39
Wharton's Branch	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
White Marsh	CB	Bonding		\$ 450.00		3 yr bond
White Marsh	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,125.00		5.00
White Oak Swamp	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
White Oak Swamp	IB	Mowing		\$ 279.00		1.24
Willey Canal	IB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Willey Canal	IB	CO,SS,NP,ER, TR	\$ 11,008.00	\$ 6,604.80	\$ 4,403.20	
Willey Canal	IB	Mowing		\$ 1,365.75		6.07
Willey Canal	IB	WWB	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00	
Woodenhawk	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Woodenhawk	CB	CO,TR	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 1,920.00	\$ 1,280.00	
Woodenhawk	CB	Mowing		\$ 3,051.00		13.56
Young Paterson	DB	Mowing		\$ 1,719.00		7.64
Young Patterson	DB	BD	\$ 10,577.90	\$ 6,346.74	\$ 4,231.16	
Young Patterson	DB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
Young Patterson	DB	CO,SS,NP,TR	\$ 9,875.10	\$ 5,925.06	\$ 3,950.04	
Young Patterson	DB	WWB	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00	
<b>Totals</b>			<b>\$ 957,420.40</b>	<b>\$ 719,528.27</b>	<b>\$ 432,566.63</b>	

Motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the Sussex Conservation District requests for State and County Matching Fund assistance. Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

Tax Ditch Name	Water-shed	Practice(s)	Total Estimate	SCD Amt	Tax Ditch Amt	Miles/Notes
Nanticoke River	CB	Bonding		\$ 450.00		3 yr bond
Nanticoke River	CB	Mowing		\$ 1,662.75		7.39
Nanticoke River	CB	WWB	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 1,900.00	
St. Johnstown	CB	Bonding		\$ 450.00		3 yr bond
St. Johnstown	CB	Mowing		\$ 6,324.75		28.11
St. Johnstown	CB	WWB	\$ 6,200.00	\$ 3,100.00	\$ 3,100.00	
St. Johnstown	CB	CO,SS,NP,PR	\$ 31,210.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 13,210.00	
<b>Totals</b>			<b>\$ 41,210.00</b>	<b>\$ 31,887.50</b>	<b>\$ 18,210.00</b>	

Motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the Sussex Conservation District requests for State and County Matching Fund assistance. Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

Tax Ditch Name	Water-shed	Practice(s)	Total Estimate	SCD Amt	Tax Ditch Amt	Miles/Notes
Cowhouse-Hill Savannah	CB	WWB	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00	
Cowhouse-Hill Savannah	CB	CO,SS	\$ 50,080.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 32,080.00	
Cowhouse-Hill Savannah	CB	Mowing		\$ 2,088.00		9.28
Cowhouse-Hill Savannah	CB	Bonding		\$ 150.00		
<b>Totals</b>			<b>\$ 51,180.00</b>	<b>\$ 20,788.00</b>	<b>\$ 32,630.00</b>	

Motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the Sussex Conservation District requests for State and County Matching Fund assistance. Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 772,203.77</b>
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**SUSSEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**

ITEM: Conservation Cost Share Guidelines, Budget & Applications for Funding

ITEM NO: 2b

DATE: August 22, 2023

PRESENTER: David Baird/Debbie Absher

BACKGROUND: The Conservation Cost-Share Program Guidelines, Budget, and Cost-Share applications have been compiled, and this year’s program includes a \$5 million budget. Cover crops remain the most significant part of the program, with Sussex County farmers enrolling 185,308.6 acres at a total financial request of over \$8.4 million. Based on the historical number of acres of cover crops planted and the caps, staff recommends a budget of \$4.44 million. Also included in the guidelines is allocating \$75,000 for a new oyster aquaculture pilot program for oyster farmers in the Inland Bays Watershed, as well as including the Refer a Friend pilot program to incentivize farmers to talk to their neighbors that don’t traditionally plant cover crops to adopt the practice.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Cost Share Guidelines, Budget, and Cost Share Applications as presented.

MOTION #1 Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the Conservation Cost Share Guidelines and Budget as presented.  
Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

MOTION #2\* Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the Conservation Cost Share applications for Cover Crops.  
Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

MOTION #3\* Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the Conservation Cost Share Refer a Friend applications.  
Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

\*Separate motions are needed for Board members to have applications considered for approval.

**Sussex Conservation District  
FY 2024 Cost-Share Budget Worksheet**

8/15/2023

**FY 2024 Funding Sources**

Funding Source	Earmark	Amount	Admin**	Total Available
DNREC-DWS (Bond Bill)	Countywide BMPS	\$ 736,600	\$ 73,660	\$ 662,940
DNREC - DWS NPS*	Cover Crops (IB/BK/CB)	\$ 100,000	\$ 9,091	\$ 90,909
DNREC-DWS CB Program - MEB	Cover Crops (CB)	\$ 364,540	\$ 33,140	\$ 331,400
DNREC-DWS CB Program	Cover Crops (CB)	\$ 150,000	\$ 13,636	\$ 136,364
Sussex County Council	Cover Crops	\$ 100,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 90,000
DDA	Cover Crops	\$ 3,114,000	\$ 311,400	\$ 2,802,600
NRCS Contribution Agr.	Cover Crops (CB)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
DHSS/DNREC-DWSRF	Cover Crops			\$ -
Carryover		\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$ 5,065,140</b>	<b>\$ 450,927</b>	<b>\$ 4,614,213</b>

\*\* 10% Admin is calculated based on total expenses for specific contract agreements (CBIG, NPS, DWSRF)

**FY 2024 Cost-Share Budget**

Funding Source	Practices	Potential Amount
All Funding	Cover Crops (All)	\$ 4,441,713
	Poultry HQ BMPs	
	Large Animal Mortality	\$ 70,000
	Water Control Structures	\$ -
	Weed Wiper Bar	\$ -
	PSNT Testing/Soil Samples	\$ 6,000
	Oyster Aquaculture	\$ 75,000
	Spec. Projects	\$ -
	Technical Assistance	\$ 20,000
	Air Seeder Operation Costs	\$ 1,500
	Admin	\$ 450,927
		<b>\$ 5,065,140</b>

**Other Funding Sources Separate/Not Included in SCD Cost-Share Program**

Funding Source	Earmark	Amount	Amount Obligated	Contract Acres
RCPP - Protecting DE/IB Bays**	Cover Crops (IB/DB only)	\$ 504,000	\$ 323,310.00	4,271.1
NRCS - EQIP	Cover Crops - Preliminary Allocation		\$ -	-
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$ 504,000</b>	<b>\$ 323,310.00</b>	<b>4,271.1</b>



# Sussex Conservation District

## 2024 Conservation Cost-Share Program

The Sussex Conservation District has developed the annual objectives and priorities for using the state conservation cost-share funds. Recommendations are based upon the District's long range plan and response to current conservation needs in the rural, suburban, and urban areas of Sussex County. Final objectives and priorities of the program are determined and approved by the District Board of Supervisors based upon committee recommendations and on advice from the Natural Resources Conservation Service through the District Conservationist. The objectives and priorities of the program will be as follows:

<b>FY 2024 Funding Sources</b>				
<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Earmark</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Admin**</b>	<b>Total Available</b>
DNREC-DWS (Bond Bill)	Countywide BMPS	\$ 736,600	\$ 73,660	\$ 662,940
DNREC - DWS NPS*	Cover Crops (IB/BK/CB)	\$ 100,000	\$ 9,091	\$ 90,909
DNREC-DWS CB Program - MEB	Cover Crops (CB)	\$ 364,540	\$ 33,140	\$ 331,400
DNREC-DWS CB Program	Cover Crops (CB)	\$ 150,000	\$ 13,636	\$ 136,364
Sussex County Council	Cover Crops	\$ 100,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 90,000
DDA	Cover Crops	\$ 3,114,000	\$ 311,400	\$ 2,802,600
NRCS Contribution Agr.	Cover Crops (CB)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
DHSS/DNREC-DWSRF	Cover Crops			\$ -
Carryover		\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$ 5,065,140</b>	<b>\$ 450,927</b>	<b>\$ 4,614,213</b>

\*\* 10% Admin is calculated based on total expenses for specific contract agreements (CBIG, NPS, DWSRF)

### **FY 2024 Cost-Share Budget**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Practices</b>	<b>Potential Amount</b>
All Funding	Cover Crops (All)	\$ 4,441,713
	Poultry HQ BMPs	
	Large Animal Mortality	\$ 70,000
	Water Control Structures	\$ -
	Weed Wiper Bar	\$ -
	PSNT Testing/Soil Samples	\$ 6,000
	Oyster Aquaculture	\$ 75,000
	Spec. Projects	\$ -
	Technical Assistance	\$ 20,000
	Air Seeder Operation Costs	\$ 1,500
	Admin	\$ 450,927
		<b>\$ 5,065,140</b>

The program will be publicized through the standard District means as well as through direct mailings, newsletters, and newspapers. Applications will be received and evaluated based on ranking criteria established and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

The Sussex Board of Supervisors in conjunction with the District Conservationist will determine the following variables:

**a. Cost-share percentage**

The percent cost-shared will be determined based on the following considerations: the expense of the practice, other available assistance, i.e., FSA, NRCS, or others, and the necessary incentives to get conservation work implemented, and the identifiable demand. (See Appendix I)

**b. Cut-off dates for applications**

High interest practices will receive shorter application periods (i.e., 3 months). Funds for other practices may be held longer (i.e., 9 months). Although deadlines will be established for the purpose of getting the work performed, applications will be accepted until all funds are allocated.

**c. Allocation**

All available funds must be committed by the end of the fiscal year. An existing contract to perform the work will be considered a commitment of funds.

**d. Program Adjustments**

The proposed program may be adjusted during the year to ensure that the entire year's allocation is committed within the fiscal year.

**e. Evaluation of Applications**

The evaluation of the applications will take the following items into consideration.

- Severity of the problem
- Need for financial assistance considering other funding sources
- Cost of the practice
- Implementation incentives necessary to get the projects completed
- Applicant's financial standing with the Sussex Conservation District.

Technical evaluation will be performed by the District and/or the Natural Resources Conservation Service. (All cost-shared practices will have a specific lifespan, which will be determined based on the type of practice, in consultation with NRCS and the Division.) Applicant's financial standing with the District may affect cost-share eligibility.

**Awarding of Funds**

A cooperator's agreement and contract will be developed for each funded application. It will include technical specifications and necessary designs, time schedules, and requirements for applicant contributions.

**Program Reporting and Adjustment Schedule**

**July - August 2023:** Proposed program for the current fiscal year outlining objectives and priorities for review and approval.

**July 2024:** A report of the number of contracts awarded and expenditures, a summary of the program effort, and revisions if needed.

**December 2024:** Final report of the cost-share money for FY 2024. This report should include a full accounting of the expenditures of the funds, a description, by category, of the practices installed, and an

**General Guidelines**

estimate of the total value of the practices that have been installed. This estimate should include the amount of district and federal cost-share dollars as well as the dollar value of the cooperator's contribution to the practice.

**Program Approval**

Approval of the proposed program is requested by early August in order to utilize the fall construction/planting season.

**Policies**

1. All practices must meet NRCS or Division of Watershed Stewardship, or Delaware Department of Agriculture standards.
2. The applicant must agree that any misuse of funds or services will terminate funding and funds previously received will be returned. Failure to properly utilize the cost-shared practice during its lifespan may, at the Board's discretion, affect future cost-share eligibility.
3. All practices will be inspected by the District or NRCS to assure compliance with engineering designs and policies before funds are disbursed.
4. All contracts will have a specified lifespan, which will be detailed on the cooperators request for assistance and payment form (SCD 311, and 312, and their variations), and will include adequate maintenance as outlined in the contract with the cooperator. Contracts will include both cost-shared practices and noncost-shared practices necessary to ensure proper function of the system.
5. The District, with the approval of the Director, Division of Watershed Stewardship, reserves the right to change any yearly program practices or priorities as necessary to implement important conservation needs or to assure that the year's funds are allocated within the existing fiscal year.
6. If the property on which the practice is installed changes ownership within the required contract period, an agreement must be reached with the new owner to require continued maintenance of the structure for the remainder of the contract period or with the original owner for reimbursement to the District for the funds allocated through the cost-share program prior to the change in ownership.
7. All or part of the cost-share assistance paid to a landowner as determined by the District may need to be refunded, if before expiration of the specified lifespan, the installed practice is destroyed; the owner relinquishes control of or title to the land on which the practice is installed and the new owner/operator does not agree in writing to properly maintain the practice for the remaining lifespan; or the owner of the practice is no longer engaged in agricultural animal production.
8. Practices out of compliance will be subject to the following compliance violation procedure:

- a. Thirty days after a verbal warning by the Sussex Conservation District, and the conservation practice has not been brought into compliance, a letter will be sent to the owner/operator giving them 30 days to bring the conservation practice into compliance. The letter will include the specific violation and exactly what needs to be addressed to bring the practice into compliance. The letter will state that failure to bring the practice into compliance will require the refund of cost-share funds.
  - b. Failure to bring the practice into compliance after the 30 days from the first letter will warrant a second and final certified letter requiring the cost-share funds to be repaid within 30 days of receipt of the letter.
9. When the District (SCD) is the only agency providing cost-share assistance for a specific practice, the District will provide cost-share up to the maximum amount specified per practice.
10. When another agency or agencies are providing financial assistance for cover crops, the District will not provide any additional cost-share funds with exception to the NRCS, Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) where participants are eligible to enroll the same acres for cover crops funding. Other BMPs may be eligible up to 50% of the balance after other financial assistance funds are used. BMPs eligible for this additional funding will be at the discretion of the Sussex Conservation District Board or Supervisors.
11. Special Projects Category - The Board of Supervisors will determine cost-share percentage rates, caps, and allowable practices on a case-by-case basis.
12. Construction must begin on all practices within 60 days and be completed within 180 days from notification of approval. One 30-day extension, to the start date, may be granted by the District Coordinator. All other extensions must be authorized by the Board of Supervisors. Unless unique circumstances exist, and an extension is requested in writing by the cooperator, failure to complete construction within 180 days from approval will result in an automatic cancellation.
13. Prior to payment for a structural practice, the participant must complete a UCC Lien for that practice. The cost to the landowner is \$30 made payable to the Sussex Conservation District. The lien will be filed with the Recorder of Deeds office upon completion of the practice.
14. To be eligible for conservation cost-share assistance on poultry carcass composters, poultry incinerators, mortality freezers, and poultry windbreaks the grower must have poultry houses, or they must be under construction to receive cost-share payments. Applications may be accepted as long as a contract with a poultry company is in place. In this case, final cost-share disbursement will be withheld until the poultry houses are under construction.
15. Failure of a cost-share program participant to adequately operate and maintain a District or federally cost-shared practice during the specified lifespan, will preclude the participant from receiving future cost-share assistance from the District until the conservation practice is brought



## General Guidelines

into compliance to the satisfaction of the Sussex Conservation District Board of Supervisors. (For example, a poultry manure structure needs to be properly operated and maintained during its lifespan in order to be eligible for cost-share assistance for cover crops.)

16. All poultry manure storage structures must be filled to 50% of their capacity at least once during the year.
17. No litter (bedding material) is to be stored in a poultry manure storage structure at any time.
18. Mortality composting is not permitted in a poultry manure storage structure except in the case of mass mortality. If mass mortality occurs, the producer must notify the District of the occurrence.
19. Except as follows, no manure generated from a participant's operation is to be stored outside a poultry manure storage structure unless it is full. This includes any land that the farmer/operator owns, leases, or manages. Manure that is going directly to the field from a chicken house can be stockpiled outside for up to 90 days, as long as Delaware Nutrient Management law is followed.
20. The District reserves the right to reduce any cost-share payment to an applicant for an outstanding balance owed to the District that is over 90 days past due at the time the cost-share payment is made.
21. Exceptions to these guidelines require the approval of the District Coordinator or District Conservationist.

## FY 2024 Sussex Conservation District Cost-Share Program

### EROSION CONTROL

1. Permanent Vegetative Cover Establishment (Acres)
  - a. Purpose is to establish permanent vegetative cover on farmland subject to wind or water erosion or to improve water quality.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, and land preparation.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed **\$12,000**.
  - d. Life span: 10 years
  
2. Field Terraces (Ft)
  - a. Purpose is to establish terraces on farmland to reduce soil erosion, or to improve water quality.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Tile, seed, lime, fertilizer, mulching, earthmoving, outlet pipes, and rip-rap.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$8,000.
  - d. Life span: 10 years
  
3. Diversions (Ft)
  - a. Purpose is to establish diversions on farmland to reduce soil erosion, to convey excess water to a safe outlet, or to improve water quality.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Tile, seed, lime, fertilizer, mulching, earthmoving, outlet pipes, and rip-rap.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed **\$10,000**.
  - d. Life span: 10 years
  
4. Field Windbreak/**Hedgerows** (Acres)
  - a. Purpose is to establish trees, shrubs, and **bunch grasses** to protect farmland from soil erosion and/or to improve water quality.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Trees, shrubs, **grasses**, land preparation, and required herbicides.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed **\$8,000**.
  - d. Life span: 10 years
  
5. Critical Area Plantings (Acres)
  - a. Purpose is to establish plantings to reduce soil erosion and/or improve water quality.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, mulching, land preparation, filtercloth, and earthmoving.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed **\$12,000**.
  - d. Life span: 10 years

## General Guidelines

6. Water and Sediment Control Basins (No.), Grade Stabilization Structures (No.), and Grassed Waterways (Acres).
  - a. Purpose is to reduce soil erosion and/or improve water quality.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, mulching, rip-rap, filtercloth, earthmoving, pipes, fill dirt, tile, and fencing (if needed to exclude livestock).
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of the actual cost, not to exceed \$8,000.
  - d. Life span: 10 years
  
7. Poultry Windbreaks (Acres)
  - a. Purpose is to establish trees and shrubs around poultry houses to reduce odors, noise, dust, and particulates.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Trees, shrubs, land preparation, required herbicides, and if recommended, irrigation.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, (potential caps decided at time of approval)
  - d. Life span: 10 years
  
8. Shoreline Stabilization (Ft.)
  - a. Purpose is to prevent the loss of land or damage to land uses, or other facilities adjacent to the banks, including the protection of known historical, archeological, and traditional cultural properties.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Rip-rap, vegetation, land preparation, earthmoving, fill dirt, filtercloth, lime, and fertilizer.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$50,000.
  - d. Life span: 10 years

**ANIMAL WASTE SYSTEMS**

1. Agriculture Waste Control Systems (No.)
  - a. Purpose is to improve water quality by collecting, storing, and utilizing animal manures more efficiently.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Aerobic and anaerobic lagoons, pits, waste storage ponds, liquid manure tanks, settling basins, collection basins, handling or pumping systems, calibratable application equipment, and gutters.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost or of the remaining balance, not to exceed \$60,000. Practices with multiple components may receive payments once each component is completed.
  - d. Life span: 15 years for structural practices and 7 years for mechanical equipment.
  
2. Roofed Animal Manure Structures (No.)

## General Guidelines

- a. Purpose is to improve water quality by storing animal manure in a dry stacking facility.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, roofed manure structure (dry stacking facility), fill dirt, and guttering of roof water (if required).
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, (potential caps decided at time of approval)
  - d. Life span: 15 years
3. Agricultural Composting Facilities (No.)
- Composter thermometers will be required with each District cost-shared composter. The thermometer can be purchased at the District office for 50% of the original cost, or it can be deducted from the cost-share funds. Composter thermometers will be sold to poultry carcass composter owners/operators upon request at 50% of their original cost.*
- a. Purpose is to improve water quality by composting agricultural waste.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, fill dirt, guttering, composting facility, and thermometer.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, (potential caps decided at time of approval)
  - d. Life span: 15 years
4. Animal Mortality Freezers (units per operation)
- a. Purpose is to improve water quality by freezing animal mortality and transporting the mortality to a rendering facility. *Number of freezer units are calculated based on number and type of chickens and projected mortality.*
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Freezer units, concrete pad, storage building, electrical connection
  - c. Cost-Share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$35,000 per operation
  - d. Life span: 15 years
5. Large Animal Mortality (No.)
- a. Purpose is to dispose of large animal mortality in an environmentally friendly manner. *Large animals are defined as cows and horses (excludes racehorses) only.*
  - b. Cost-Share for the following components:
    - i. Pick up of dead animal and delivered to rendering facility
  - c. Cost-Share rate: 100% of the cost less \$60 per cow and \$120 per horse paid by the farmer
  - d. Life span: n/a
6. Poultry Incinerators (No.) Incinerators must meet all NRCS and DNREC specifications and secure all necessary permits.
- a. Purpose is to improve water quality by incinerating poultry mortality.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Double burner incinerator and concrete pad.
  - c. Cost-Share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$6,000
  - d. Life span: 15 years

7. Heavy Use Area Protections (No.) When constructing heavy use area protections, pads need to be constructed where the resource concern is the greatest.
  - a. Purpose is to reduce quantities of pollutants from manure from entering streams, ditches, and drainageways.
  - b. Cost-share for the following components
    - i. Concrete and labor
  - c. Poultry House Pads - Cost-share rate is 75% of \$5.00/sq. ft., with a maximum of 4 pads at 1,600 sq. ft. per pad. This would equal a cap of \$6,000 per pad. There is a maximum of four pads per person per year.
  - d. Manure Structure Pads - Cost-share rate is 75% of \$5.00 sq. ft., with a maximum of 2 pads at the width of the manure structure by 40 ft. per pad. The Sussex Conservation District reserves the right to reduce the maximum number of pads based on funding availability and/or the amount of interest in the program.
  - e. Lifespan: 10 years
  
8. Equipment
  - a. Calibratable Spinner Manure Spreaders - The District will cost-share up to 65% on a new calibratable spinner manure spreader, not to exceed \$5,000. The spreader must meet all eligibility requirements as utilized by the State Revolving Fund Loan Program.
  - b. Front-End Loaders - The District will cost-share up to 65% on a new or used front-end loader, not to exceed \$5,000. The front-end loader must meet all eligibility requirements as utilized by the State Revolving Fund Loan Program.
  
9. Additions to Existing Structures (retrofits, guttering, etc.)
  - a. Purpose is to upgrade, enlarge, or add to an existing structure.
  - b. Cost-share for the following components:
    - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, roofed manure structure, composting facility, fill dirt, and guttering.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost (potential caps determined at time of approval)
  - d. Life span: 10 years
  
10. Access Road
  - a. Purpose is to provide a fixed route for vehicular travel for resource activities involving the management of an established conservation practice.
  - b. Cost-share for the following components:
    - i. Pipes, fill dirt, grading, stones, filter cloth, excavating, seed, lime, fertilizer, and mulching.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of the actual cost or 50% of the remaining balance, not to exceed \$10,000.
  - d. Life span: 10 years

## General Guidelines

## 11. Roof Runoff Structure

- a. Purpose is to improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, increase infiltration, protect structures, and increase water quantity by collecting, controlling, and transporting precipitation from areas.
- b. Cost-share for the following components:
  - i. Gutters, down spouts, pipes, rock, lumber, and other items required for a roof structure.
- c. Cost-share rate: 75% of the actual cost not to exceed \$15,000.
- d. Life span: 15 years

**WATER MANAGEMENT**

## 1. Water Control Structures (No.)

- a. Purpose is to regulate water levels in open ditches to improve water quality and improve water efficiency.
- b. Cost-share for following components:
  - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, mulching, pipes, rip-rap, filtercloth, earthmoving, and fill dirt.
- c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$10,000.
- d. Life span: 15 years

**WILDLIFE HABITAT DEVELOPMENT**

## 1. Wildlife Plantings/Pollinators (Acres)

- a. Purpose is to establish or improve farmland for wildlife habitat.
- b. Cost-share for following components:
  - i. Trees, shrubs, grasses, legumes, forbs, lime, fertilizer, and land preparation.
- c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$12,000.
- d. Life span: 10 years

## 2. Wildlife Ponds (No.)

- a. Purpose is to develop or restore ponds for wildlife.
- b. Cost-share for following components:
  - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, mulching, outlet pipes, and earthmoving.
- c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$37,500.
- d. Life span: 10 years

## 3. Constructed Wetlands (No.)

- a. Purpose is to develop, enhance, and restore wetlands to improve wildlife habitat.
- b. Cost-Share for the following components:
  - i. Trees, shrubs, grasses, legumes, forbs, earthmoving, outlet pipes, and seed.
- c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$50,000.
- d. Life span: 10 years.

## **INVASIVE SPECIES/NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL**

1. Weed Wiper Bar
  - a. Purpose is to control woody vegetation while maintaining grasses for wildlife habitat and erosion control.
  - b. Cost-share for following components:
    - i. Chemicals and application.
  - c. Cost-share rate: 50% of actual cost of the project not to exceed \$8,000.
  
2. Hand Spraying of Noxious Weeds
  - a. Purpose is to control noxious and invasive species where conventional methods such as the Weed Wiper Bar cannot access.
  - b. Cost-share for the following components:
    - i. Chemicals and application
  - c. Cost-share rate: 50% of actual cost of the project, not to exceed \$15,000.

## Appendix II-A FY 2024 Sussex Conservation District Cost-Share Cover Crop Program

### Cost-Share Rates

	Conv./Aerial <u>November 15</u>	Conv./Aerial <u>October 1</u>
All eligible crops are	\$50 per acre	\$60 per acre

**Examples of eligible crops include but are not limited to:** Rye, Rape\*, Clover, Vetch, Triticale, Wheat, Annual Rye Grass, Barley, Austrian Winter Peas, Oats\*, Forage/Oilseed Radishes\*, and Forage/Turnips\*.  
**\*Indicates crops that need to be planted by October 1. There will be no late planting dates or rates for these species. NO PLANTING EXTENSIONS WILL BE GRANTED.**

### Conditions

1. Application of commercial fertilizers or animal manures (nitrogen & phosphorus) are not allowed on a field that is intended to receive or is receiving cover crop incentive payments. Cover crop is a nutrient trap. In the case of a hardship, manure may be allowed to be applied to enrolled land in the fall only after receiving approval from the Sussex Conservation District Board of Supervisors or their designee. If the cover crop has not already been planted, it must be planted within 7 days of manure application. Examples of hardships might include heavy rains that fill to capacity or overflow a liquid manure storage structure or diseased poultry litter that must be removed from the house immediately. The poultry integrator must provide certification of diseased litter. The Board of Supervisors has the right to approve or disapprove such requests.
2. Multi species (2 or more species) mixes are encouraged but not required. (Mixes that consist of only oats, peas, rape, radishes, & turnips must be planted by October 1).
3. A single payment will be made in the spring after all program provisions have been met.
4. Participants will self-certify in writing that fall planting program provisions have been met. Each program participant must certify in writing by:
  - a. October 6, 2023, that fields were planted by October 1, 2023, for \$60/acre.
  - b. November 17, 2023, to certify the fields were planted by November 15, 2023, for \$50/acre.

*Failure to self-certify in writing will result in no payment and withdrawal from the program.*
5. Program participants must certify in writing that the cover crops are destroyed between March 15 - June 3, 2024, in accordance with step #3 before receiving payment. Failure to certify by June 3, 2024, will result in a nonpayment.
6. Harvesting of cover crops is not permitted with the exception of on-farm use only.
7. Kill down or suppression of acreage managed as cover crops must occur on or after March 15, with the exception of early spring crops (i.e., peas, etc.), which may occur no earlier than March 1 and no later than June 3, 2024. *A one-time extension may be granted by the Director of Ag Programs for soil health purposes (destroyed after June 3 but not harvested to build organic matter or plant green).*



## General Guidelines

8. Methods for end-of-winter management include killing by a “burn-down” herbicide, by plowing it under, green chop/silage (for on-farm use only), or other means approved by the Sussex Conservation District before planting to the new crop.
9. Unincorporated Broadcast and Aerial seeding must be completed by the listed dates and at the required rates of 30% more seed than listed below. Aerial application requires receipts.
10. Grazing on District cost-shared cover crops is allowed with the following conditions:
  - a. The farmer must notify the District in writing two weeks before they plan to graze livestock. They must indicate in their letter the field(s) to be grazed and the number and type of animals.
  - b. Prior to grazing, the cover crop must be well established. Under optimal conditions, grazing can commence 6 to 8 weeks after planting, and after the two-week written notification has been submitted.
  - c. The District reserves the right to deny a grazing request based on poor crop establishment, too many animals per acre, or other conditions that may apply.

<u>Planting Rates (for fall 2023)</u>	<u>\$50/acre conv. or aerial</u>	<u>\$60/acre conv. or aerial</u>
Rye (100 lbs./acre)	November 15	October 1
Wheat (100 lbs./acre)	November 15	October 1
Barley (100 lbs./acre)	November 15	October 1
Oats (90 lbs./acre)	not eligible	October 1
Annual Rye Grass (15 lbs./acre)	November 15	October 1
Rape (8 lbs./acre)	not eligible	October 1
Triticale (100 lbs./acre)	November 15	October 1
Clover (15 lbs./acre)	November 15	October 1
Common Vetch (60 lbs./acre)	November 15	October 1
Hairy Vetch (20 lbs./acre)	November 15	October 1
Austrian Winter Peas (50 lbs./acre)	not eligible	October 1
Forage/Oilseed Radish (8lbs./acre)	not eligible	October 1
Forage Turnips (5 lbs./acre)	not eligible	October 1

***Other crops not listed or for multi species mixes please contact the District office for seeding rates and planting dates.***

**Aerial or unincorporated broadcast application of the above listed crops will require a 30% increase in seeding rate.**

## **Ranking Criteria (if demand exceeds funds available)**

Where water quality is the goal, the University of Delaware recommends that the use of winter cover crops be targeted to the following situations:

1. Watersheds in close proximity to sensitive surface waters and/or those most susceptible to groundwater contamination by nitrogen and phosphorus.
2. Soils most likely to experience erosion that are in close proximity to surface waters sensitive to eutrophication by nitrogen and phosphorus.
3. Artificially drained soils where shallow groundwater discharges rapidly into surface waters.
4. Cropping systems that are most likely to have significant amounts of residual nitrate-N in the upper portions of the soil profile in the early fall ("upper portion" is defined as <1 foot for loamy sand and sandy loam soils as <2 feet for silt loam soils). In general, winter cover crops should be targeted to previous cash crops that had below normal yields, in the following priority order:
  - a. Dryland corn that received animal wastes and commercial fertilizer N.
  - b. Dryland corn that received only commercial fertilizer.
  - c. All other corn that received fertilizer or animal wastes.
  - d. Any other crop (e.g. commercial vegetables) that received fertilizer or animal wastes N.
  - e. Soybeans that received animal wastes, alone or in rotation with small grain.
  - f. Soybeans that received no supplemental N.
  - g. Grain sorghum.
5. In order for land to be eligible for cover crop cost-share assistance, it must follow an annual crop (row crops/vegetables). Perennial crops, pasture and perennial hayland are not eligible for the cover crop program.

### **SPECIAL NOTICE**

The Board of Supervisors reserves the right to establish a maximum level of funding that any individual and/or entity may receive. The Board further reserves the authority to adjust said maximum level based on available funding in any given year.

## Appendix II-A

### FY 2024 Sussex Conservation District Cover Crop Referral Program Pilot

Purpose of the Pilot Program is to reach farmers that do not currently plant cover crops as part of their operation, and to provide them with an incentive to try planting cover crops to help Delaware meet its water quality goals of 240,000 acres of cover crops statewide. To reach that goal, we need to reach those farmers that do not plant cover crops as part of their operation and do not typically participate in our programs.

**Eligibility:** Farmers that have not planted cover crops or received funding from any program to plant cover crops in the past. Any farmer that refers a new applicant to the SCD program will be eligible for payment.

**Cost-Share Component:** Provide current cover crop participants a referral payment of \$500 to bring a farmer to SCD to enroll in SCD's cover crop program. If the new farmer enrolls in the program, they will also receive an incentive payment of \$500 once they complete the program. Completing the program means they have certified in writing the planting and destruction of the cover crops.

**Payment:** The new farmer must plant and destroy the cover crops to be eligible for the payment. Once the destruction certification has been submitted and verified, SCD will pay the new farmer \$500 and the referring farmer \$500. Full payments will be made in the spring once destruction certifications have been completed.

There is no limit to the number of referrals a farmer can make.

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#### Program Rules:

- Payments will be made to both the new participant and the referring producer after the new participant satisfies all program requirements in the spring.
- A minimum of 10 new acres must be enrolled, planted, and destroyed to qualify both parties for the incentive payment.
- Family members are not eligible for the referral program. (i.e., father refers child or siblings). Some exceptions may apply and will be decided on a case-by-case basis.
- Past participants cannot sign-up new tracts/fields even if they have never had cover crops planted on those tracts/fields.

## **APPENDIX III**

### **FY 2024 Sussex Conservation District Special Projects—Education & Outreach**

#### Purpose

It is the intention of the Board of Supervisors to consider requests for Conservation Cost-Share Funding from entities for the development of projects that promote conservation and other best management practices for primary use in educational or public outreach purposes. The Board believes that participating in these types of activities not only promotes conservation practices throughout the county, but also by increasing the awareness and value of conservation practices among our youth and the general public.

#### Eligibility

Schools in Sussex County with an active Agriculture, Natural Resources, FFA, or similar program; Sussex County 4-H Programs; Business or Non-Profit entities providing interactive conservation practices that are open to the general public.

#### Amount of Awards

The program is funded through the Conservation Cost-Share Program administered by the Sussex Conservation District. Annually, the Board may set aside an amount, not to exceed \$10,000, for Special Projects—Education & Outreach. Awards will cover up to a maximum of 50% of the project's costs and total funding shall not exceed \$2,500 per year per applicant.

#### Guidelines

For applicants proposing practices currently covered by the Sussex Conservation District's Conservation Cost-Share Guidelines (the "Guidelines"), those Guidelines shall apply. For practices not addressed in the current Guidelines, the Board of Supervisors will consider the application as a Special Project.

#### Application and Review

The District will accept applications on a continuous basis as long as funding is available. The criteria used to evaluate applications will include, but is not limited to type of practice, nutrient reduction/management, impact on operation, availability of matching funds, etc.

#### Signage

All cost-share recipients will be required to post a sign in a noticeable location on the site indicating that funding was made available through the Conservation Cost-Share Program administered by the Sussex Conservation District.

## **APPENDIX IV**

### **FY 2024 Sussex Conservation District Special Projects—Air Seeder (Not Funded)**

#### Purpose

The purpose of this program is to get earlier established and additional acres of cover crops planted in Sussex County. Increased acreage and earlier planted cover crops are needed in order to meet the goals and objectives of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) and TMDLs in all three major watersheds in Sussex County. This will be accomplished through the use of the air seeder to plant cover crops into standing cash crops.

#### Eligibility

Landowners willing to plant cover crops into a standing cash crop prior to harvest. Multi-species blends are required to use the air seeder.

#### Amount of Awards

The program is funded through the Conservation Cost-Share Program administered by the Sussex Conservation District. Annually, the Board may set aside a specified amount for Special Projects—Air Seeder. Awards will incentivize the early establishment of cover crops by paying a \$10 per acre additional incentive for new customers. All others will receive the early acre rate of \$50 per acre. Maximum amounts paid per applicant will depend on funding availability.

#### Guidelines

1. There will be \$15.00 per acre charge to Sussex County farmers using the air seeder within county boundaries. Producer will receive a bill from an outside contractor for the application of cover crop.
2. Applicants requesting the air seeder to establish cover crops must do the following:
  - Plant cover crops at the recommended rates.
  - Additional manure/fertilizers cannot be applied after the cash crop has reached full maturity.
  - Multispecies blends are required.
  - Crop selection should be based on crop needs that will follow.
  - Written planting certification must be received by November 17, 2023.
  - Destroy cover crops between March 15– June 3, 2024 by an approved destruction method. A one-time deadline extension may be granted for the purposes of soil health. Cover crops cannot be harvested.
3. Producer is responsible for the cost of the seed which may be purchased through the Sussex Conservation District. If the farmer purchases his own seed, they may be responsible for loading the seed by an approved loading method. Seed MUST be clean to be used in the air seeder. If seed is purchased from another supplier, consultation with contractor will be required.
4. Producer will supply to the operator an aerial photograph of the field(s) showing any areas to be avoided (ex. waterways, obstructions, hazards).
5. A pre-approved suite of cover crop mixes will be offered through the Sussex Conservation District.

General Guidelines

6. Farmers utilizing the air seeder and participating in the program are still eligible for regular cost-share assistance for land enrolled in the cover crop program.

Application and Review

Priority will be given to those planting into a standing cash crop. Applications will be approved by the Sussex Conservation District Board of Supervisors at their monthly meetings. This project will not be funded in FY 2024.

## **APPENDIX V**

### **FY 2024 Sussex Conservation District**

### **Whole Farm Conservation Plan Incentive Program**

**Purpose:**

To incentivize landowners to develop a whole farm conservation plan. A Sussex Conservation District Planner will work with producers to assess all natural resource concerns on the farm and document and develop a plan to address those resource concerns. Not only will the conservation plan document what the landowner is currently doing on the farm but also make recommendations on other best management practices that will address natural resource concerns such as water quality, soil health, air quality, wildlife, etc.

**Cost-Share for the following components:**

- Development of a Whole Farm Conservation Plan by an SCD Conservation Planner

**Incentive rate:**

- \$125 per whole farm conservation plan on 10 to 49.9 acres
- \$250 per whole farm conservation plan on 50 acres or more

**Application and Review**

Funding will be limited to the first 100 whole farm conservation plans and applications will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Future Plan:**

Once a determined number of plans are completed, a question will be added to the EQIP Ranking Sheets to provide additional points for completed Whole Farm Conservation Plans. The increased ranking score will also serve as an incentive to have a Whole Farm Conservation Plan.

**Appendix VI**  
**FY 2024 Sussex Conservation District**  
**Oyster Aquaculture Pilot Program**  
**(Delaware Inland Bays Only)**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this program is to increase the participation of oyster aquaculture farmers in the Delaware Inland Bays Watershed and to pay for the nutrient reduction oysters are contributing to help Delaware meet its water quality goals. It has been proven that oysters filter the water and improve water quality. Each oyster removes 0.32 grams or 0.0007 pounds of N at harvest. There is the potential to grow 340,000 oysters per acre annually. With 298 acres available for lease, this has the possibility to remove 238 lbs. of nitrogen per acre each year. If all 298 acres were in production, there is the capability to remove 70,924 lbs. of nitrogen per year from the Delaware Inland Bays.

**Eligibility**

Oyster aquaculture farmers in the Delaware Inland Bays Watershed are eligible. Proof of lease(s) is required, and if an established grower, the last four months of harvest reports are needed to accompany the application.

**Amount of Awards**

The program is funded through the Conservation Cost-Share Program administered by the Sussex Conservation District. Annually, the Board may set aside a specified amount for oyster aquaculture. Awards will incentivize the nutrient reductions on a per oyster basis which will provide funding for the oyster aquaculture farmers to invest in the necessary equipment to continue to expand their operation by paying up to \$0.05 per harvested oyster. Maximum amounts paid per applicant will depend on funding availability.

**Guidelines**

1. Applications will be accepted throughout the year.
2. Written certification of oyster harvest (Monthly Delaware Inland Bays Shellfish Aquaculture Harvest Report) must be submitted to SCD before payment will be made.
3. Payments will be made quarterly based on the monthly harvest report at \$0.05 per harvested oyster per acre, with a maximum amount paid per applicant of \$7,500.



This Cost-Share Program Guidelines and budget were approved by the Sussex Conservation District on August 22, 2023.

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Chairman

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Director, Division of Watershed Stewardship

**Sussex Conservation District  
Cover Crop Assistance Requests**

Name	WS	Early Plant Acres Requested	Late Plant Acres Requested	Total Acres Requested	Cost-Share Requested
ABC Farms, Inc.	IB	1,165.5	0.0	1,165.5	\$ 69,930.00
AD & D Farms, LLC	DB	439.0	0.0	439.0	\$ 26,340.00
Adams, Martin L.	CB	42.2	0.0	42.2	\$ 2,532.00
Adkins, D. Mark	IB	974.0	0.0	974.0	\$ 58,440.00
Adkins, Darold P.	IB	606.5	0.0	606.5	\$ 36,390.00
Adkins, Dennis D.	CB	33.0	0.0	33.0	\$ 1,980.00
Adkins, Stiles W.	IB	317.7	0.0	317.7	\$ 19,062.00
Ammons Farms, LLC	CB	309.5	0.0	309.5	\$ 18,570.00
Apatchalan Farms, Inc.	CB	467.2	0.0	467.2	\$ 28,032.00
Arney, Kenneth J.	CB	1,200.0	0.0	1,200.0	\$ 72,000.00
Atkins, Lewis R., Jr.	CB	185.0	0.0	185.0	\$ 11,100.00
B. Ritter, LLC	DB	638.7	0.0	638.7	\$ 38,322.00
Banks Farms, LLC	IB	435.0	0.0	435.0	\$ 26,100.00
Baxter Ag Enterprise, LLC	CB & IB	637.0	0.0	637.0	\$ 38,220.00
Baxter Farms, Inc.	CB & IB	1,566.3	0.0	1,566.3	\$ 75,000.00
Bender Farms, LLC	CB	271.9	0.0	271.9	\$ 16,314.00
Bennett Farms, Inc.	DB	1,855.2	0.0	1,855.2	\$ 75,000.00
Bennett, Bruce N.	CB	366.2	0.0	366.2	\$ 21,972.00
Bennett, Jay P.	DB	180.9	0.0	180.9	\$ 10,854.00
Benson Farms, Inc.	IB	513.0	0.0	513.0	\$ 30,780.00
Betts, William F., III	CB	783.9	0.0	783.9	\$ 47,034.00
Blessing, Dale E.	DB	483.8	0.0	483.8	\$ 29,028.00
Blessing, Melissa L.	DB	738.6	0.0	738.6	\$ 44,316.00
Blue Hen Farms, LLC	DB	438.3	0.0	438.3	\$ 26,298.00
Breeding, Steven P. *	CB	43.7	0.0	43.7	\$ 2,622.00
Brittingham, Burton S. *	CB	261.3	0.0	261.3	\$ 15,678.00
Brittingham, Donnie K.	DB	172.6	0.0	172.6	\$ 10,356.00
Brittingham, Gary R.	CB	355.5	0.0	355.5	\$ 21,330.00
Brittingham, Jonathan W.	CB	155.6	0.0	155.6	\$ 9,336.00
Bunting, Frank A. *	CB	34.5	0.0	34.5	\$ 2,070.00
Burton Family Farms, LLC	DB	48.2	0.0	48.2	\$ 2,892.00
Burton, John A.	DB	91.5	0.0	91.5	\$ 5,490.00
C & E Farms, LLC	IB	2,161.2	0.0	2,161.2	\$ 75,000.00
C & J Wilkins, LLC	DB	45.3	0.0	45.3	\$ 2,718.00
C & S Farms, Inc.	CB	2,014.0	0.0	2,014.0	\$ 75,000.00
C A Loockerman Farms, LLC	CB	138.0	0.0	138.0	\$ 8,280.00
C D Carey Farms, LLC	DB	311.7	0.0	311.7	\$ 18,702.00
C. Magee Farms, LLC	IB	622.3	0.0	622.3	\$ 37,338.00
Calhoun, Douglas A.	CB	202.1	0.0	202.1	\$ 12,126.00
Calhoun, Joseph A., Jr.	IB	261.2	0.0	261.2	\$ 15,672.00
Calloway Farms, LLC	CB	1,145.4	0.0	1,145.4	\$ 68,724.00
Carey Farms, Inc.	DB	621.6	0.0	621.6	\$ 37,296.00
Carmean, Wayne C.	IB	288.7	0.0	288.7	\$ 17,322.00
Cedar East Farms, LLC	DB	106.9	0.0	106.9	\$ 6,414.00
Chambers, Timothy D.	CB	83.8	0.0	83.8	\$ 5,028.00
Charles H. West Farms, Inc.	DB	303.4	0.0	303.4	\$ 18,204.00
Chicken Little Farms, Inc.	CB	759.4	0.0	759.4	\$ 45,564.00
Clendaniel, Richard M., Jr.	DB	175.1	0.0	175.1	\$ 10,506.00
Clifton Farms, Inc.	DB	1,767.0	0.0	1,767.0	\$ 75,000.00
Clifton, Richard C. *	DB	90.3	0.0	90.3	\$ 5,418.00
Clyde Betts & Son, Inc.	DB	333.1	0.0	333.1	\$ 19,986.00
Collins Acres Farms, LLC	IB	1,667.3	0.0	1,667.3	\$ 75,000.00
Collins Bros. Farms, Inc.	CB	2,484.5	0.0	2,484.5	\$ 75,000.00
Conaway Farms, Inc.	CB	2,132.7	0.0	2,132.7	\$ 75,000.00

Name	WS	Early Plant Acres Requested	Late Plant Acres Requested	Total Acres Requested	Cost-Share Requested
Conaway, Lisa J.	CB	40.6	0.0	40.6	\$ 2,436.00
Cooper, Brian K.	CB	637.8	0.0	637.8	\$ 38,268.00
Cornerstone Farms, Inc.	CB	257.9	0.0	257.9	\$ 15,474.00
Cory's Produce, LLC	CB	412.5	0.0	412.5	\$ 24,750.00
Coulbourn Farms, LLC	CB	981.6	0.0	981.6	\$ 58,896.00
CRW Farms, LLC	CB	200.4	0.0	200.4	\$ 12,024.00
Daisey Farms, Inc.	CB	1,406.7	0.0	1,406.7	\$ 75,000.00
Daisey, Bruce W.	CB	38.2	0.0	38.2	\$ 2,292.00
Daisey, Steven M.	IB	204.9	0.0	204.9	\$ 12,294.00
Del-Ridge Farms, Inc.	CB	386.2	0.0	386.2	\$ 23,172.00
Dennis Shockley, Inc.	CB	217.4	0.0	217.4	\$ 13,044.00
Dickerson, Adam Richard	CB	1,515.7	0.0	1,515.7	\$ 75,000.00
DMC Farms, Inc.	CB	1,488.6	0.0	1,488.6	\$ 75,000.00
Donald Johnson & Son, Inc.	CB	668.8	0.0	668.8	\$ 40,128.00
Downes, Darrell T.	CB	53.4	0.0	53.4	\$ 3,204.00
Dublin Hill Farms, Inc.	CB	191.4	0.0	191.4	\$ 11,484.00
Dukes, Jerry C.	CB	1,473.8	0.0	1,473.8	\$ 75,000.00
Duvall, Charles R.	CB	424.8	0.0	424.8	\$ 25,488.00
E & E Flood Farms Limited Partnership	IB	65.2	0.0	65.2	\$ 3,912.00
E N D Farms, Inc.	CB	103.4	0.0	103.4	\$ 6,204.00
East Valley Farms, LLC	CB	47.9	0.0	47.9	\$ 2,874.00
Eaton, Arthur Paul., IV	CB	70.1	0.0	70.1	\$ 4,206.00
Eaton, Alexis *	CB	113.3	0.0	113.3	\$ 6,798.00
Edgar Mills & Son Farms, Inc.	DB	597.4	0.0	597.4	\$ 35,844.00
Elliott Farms *	CB	764.6	0.0	764.6	\$ 45,876.00
Elliott, John T., Jr.	CB	152.5	0.0	152.5	\$ 9,150.00
Elliott, Robert C., Jr.	CB	159.8	0.0	159.8	\$ 9,588.00
Ellis Farms, Inc.	CB	728.9	0.0	728.9	\$ 43,734.00
Evans Farms, LLC	CB	3,779.7	0.0	3,779.7	\$ 75,000.00
Fleetwood Farms, Inc.	CB	450.7	0.0	450.7	\$ 27,042.00
Flyway Farms, LLC *	DB	95.1	0.0	95.1	\$ 5,706.00
Fox Farm	DB	68.5	0.0	68.5	\$ 4,110.00
Fox, Christopher D.	DB	55.2	0.0	55.2	\$ 3,312.00
Fox, Daniel J.	DB	119.3	0.0	119.3	\$ 7,158.00
Frank Clendaniel, Inc.	DB	622.2	0.0	622.2	\$ 37,332.00
Fred M. O'Neal & Sons, Inc.	CB	1,001.4	0.0	1,001.4	\$ 60,084.00
Fred West Farms, LLC	IB	2,381.7	0.0	2,381.7	\$ 75,000.00
Fry Farms, Inc.	DB	905.7	0.0	905.7	\$ 54,342.00
G C Farms, Inc.	CB	258.2	0.0	258.2	\$ 15,492.00
G W Shockley & Sons, Inc.	DB	1,948.6	0.0	1,948.6	\$ 75,000.00
Garey, Alan F.	CB	261.7	0.0	261.7	\$ 15,702.00
Glen Givens, Inc.	CB	243.7	0.0	243.7	\$ 14,622.00
Glenville Hollow Farms	CB	2,074.8	0.0	2,074.8	\$ 75,000.00
Gordy, Mark F.	CB	273.8	0.0	273.8	\$ 16,428.00
Grass Works Meat Farm, LLC	CB	114.8	0.0	114.8	\$ 6,888.00
Green Acres Farms, Inc.	DB & IB	923.4	0.0	923.4	\$ 55,404.00
Green Meadow Farms, LLC	CB	546.3	0.0	546.3	\$ 32,778.00
Greenland Sod Farm, LLC	CB	1,017.8	0.0	1,017.8	\$ 61,068.00
Gundry, Anthony R.	CB	207.6	0.0	207.6	\$ 12,456.00
Gundry, John R.	CB	386.7	0.0	386.7	\$ 23,202.00
H & L Farms, Inc.	CB	1,244.5	0.0	1,244.5	\$ 74,670.00
H. Joseph & Sons, LLC	DB	2,774.7	0.0	2,774.7	\$ 75,000.00
H. Wayne Givens & Sons, LLC	CB	382.2	0.0	382.2	\$ 22,932.00
Harmon, James T.	IB	127.1	0.0	127.1	\$ 7,626.00
Hastings, Clarke M.	CB	775.8	0.0	775.8	\$ 46,548.00
Hastings, Franklin R.	CB	132.9	0.0	132.9	\$ 7,974.00

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Hastings, Kelly T., Jr. *	CB	26.4	0.0	26.4	\$ 1,584.00
Helgason, Hilmar	CB	70.6	0.0	70.6	\$ 4,236.00
Hellens, R. Gregg	IB	50.2	0.0	50.2	\$ 3,012.00
Henry C. Johnson Jr., & Son	IB	671.0	0.0	671.0	\$ 40,260.00
Herman Ockels Estate	CB	200.8	0.0	200.8	\$ 12,048.00
Hickory Hill Farms, Inc.	IB	801.7	0.0	801.7	\$ 48,102.00
Hill Farms, Inc.	CB & DB	300.9	0.0	300.9	\$ 18,054.00
Hill, Randy Lee	CB	13.0	0.0	13.0	\$ 780.00
Hill, Seth Alex	CB	117.2	0.0	117.2	\$ 7,032.00
Hill, Tracey L.	CB	342.1	0.0	342.1	\$ 20,526.00
Hitchens, Blaine L.	CB	352.3	0.0	352.3	\$ 21,138.00
Hitchens, Tyler L.	CB	371.2	0.0	371.2	\$ 22,272.00
Holly Hill Farms, Inc.	DB	278.9	0.0	278.9	\$ 16,734.00
Horsey Church Farm, LLC	CB	66.4	0.0	66.4	\$ 3,984.00
Horsey Farms, Inc.	CB	1,169.8	0.0	1,169.8	\$ 70,188.00
Horsey Turf Farms, LLC	CB	3,964.3	0.0	3,964.3	\$ 75,000.00
Howard E. Wilkins & Sons, Inc.	DB	1,361.1	0.0	1,361.1	\$ 75,000.00
Howard Harding Farms, LLC	CB	185.3	0.0	185.3	\$ 11,118.00
Hudson, Douglas G.	CB	288.8	0.0	288.8	\$ 17,328.00
Hudson, Edwin B.	CB	618.5	0.0	618.5	\$ 37,110.00
Hurley, Robert W.	CB	183.1	0.0	183.1	\$ 10,986.00
Indian Riverview Marina, Inc.	IB	107.9	0.0	107.9	\$ 6,474.00
J C Wells & Sons, LP	DB	1,292.1	0.0	1,292.1	\$ 75,000.00
J E Bailey & Sons, Inc.	CB	477.7	0.0	477.7	\$ 28,662.00
J L Carpenter Farms, LLC	DB	917.4	0.0	917.4	\$ 55,044.00
J. Carlton Wells & Sons, Inc.	DB	3,354.0	0.0	3,354.0	\$ 75,000.00
James Farm, LLC	CB	307.4	0.0	307.4	\$ 18,444.00
James L. Carpenter & Son, Inc.	DB	3,696.6	0.0	3,696.6	\$ 75,000.00
JMB Farms, LLC	CB	364.2	0.0	364.2	\$ 21,852.00
John H. French & Sons, LLC	DB	104.6	0.0	104.6	\$ 6,276.00
John O. & John C. Dickerson	CB	461.7	0.0	461.7	\$ 27,702.00
Johnson Heritage Farm, LLC	IB	38.5	0.0	38.5	\$ 2,310.00
Johnson, Jean C.	DB & IB	1,062.1	0.0	1,062.1	\$ 63,726.00
Johnson, Keith A.	IB	31.8	0.0	31.8	\$ 1,908.00
Johnson, Shawn E.	CB & IB	63.8	0.0	63.8	\$ 3,828.00
Jones, Andrew C.	CB	160.6	0.0	160.6	\$ 9,636.00
Jones, Jake G.	DB	16.0	0.0	16.0	\$ 960.00
Jonesboro Farms, LLC	DB	289.1	0.0	289.1	\$ 17,346.00
Jones-Eller, Fay Ellis	CB	100.9	0.0	100.9	\$ 6,054.00
Kansak, Joseph J.	CB	102.6	0.0	102.6	\$ 6,156.00
Kenneth B. Daisey Farms, Inc.	CB	36.5	0.0	36.5	\$ 2,190.00
Kesselring, Nelson	IB	12.8	0.0	12.8	\$ 768.00
Kirk, Chris T.	CB	171.1	0.0	171.1	\$ 10,266.00
Kirk, Matthew S.	CB	36.1	0.0	36.1	\$ 2,166.00
Lakeside Farms, Inc.	CB	1,433.1	0.0	1,433.1	\$ 75,000.00
Lankford, Curtis Alan	CB	44.5	0.0	44.5	\$ 2,670.00
Larimore, Jeremy James	CB	354.2	0.0	354.2	\$ 21,252.00
Lawson, Clifford W.	IB	250.2	0.0	250.2	\$ 15,012.00
Lawson, Robert L.	IB	563.1	0.0	563.1	\$ 33,786.00
Lewis, Zachary L. *	CB	34.0	0.0	34.0	\$ 2,040.00
Lister, Dylan L.	CB	38.2	0.0	38.2	\$ 2,292.00
Littleton Farms, LLC	CB	83.5	0.0	83.5	\$ 5,010.00
Locust Grove, Inc.	CB	161.5	0.0	161.5	\$ 9,690.00
Long Branch Farms, LLC	CB & IB	3,434.6	0.0	3,434.6	\$ 75,000.00
M & M Farms, LLC	IB	1,504.4	0.0	1,504.4	\$ 75,000.00
M & M Webb Properties, LLC	CB	476.3	0.0	476.3	\$ 28,578.00

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M & T Farms, Inc.	CB	708.2	0.0	708.2	\$ 42,492.00
M & V Donovan Farms, LLC	CB	171.9	0.0	171.9	\$ 10,314.00
M J Webb Farms, Inc.	CB	3,836.5	0.0	3,836.5	\$ 75,000.00
Magee, Michael V.	IB	47.2	0.0	47.2	\$ 2,832.00
Malfitano, Michael J.	CB	647.3	0.0	647.3	\$ 38,838.00
Marine, Brian M.	CB	7.4	0.0	7.4	\$ 444.00
Martin, John E., III	IB	26.0	0.0	26.0	\$ 1,560.00
Marvel, Lance S.	CB	122.7	0.0	122.7	\$ 7,362.00
Marvel, Shane Philip	CB	111.4	0.0	111.4	\$ 6,684.00
Massey, Ronald M.	CB	114.4	0.0	114.4	\$ 6,864.00
Matt Esham Farms, LLC	IB	430.8	0.0	430.8	\$ 25,848.00
MattMelon, Inc.	CB	453.5	0.0	453.5	\$ 27,210.00
McCabe Enterprises, Inc.	IB	2,511.6	0.0	2,511.6	\$ 75,000.00
McCabe, Jason M.	IB	413.6	0.0	413.6	\$ 24,816.00
McFarm, Inc.	CB	244.2	0.0	244.2	\$ 14,652.00
Messick, Ronald L.	CB	110.6	0.0	110.6	\$ 6,636.00
Milton Farms, Inc.	DB	1,944.1	0.0	1,944.1	\$ 75,000.00
Mitchell, Chad A.	IB	412.2	0.0	412.2	\$ 24,732.00
Mitchell, Donald	CB	75.4	0.0	75.4	\$ 4,524.00
Moore Phillips Enterprises, LLC	DB & IB	90.1	0.0	90.1	\$ 5,406.00
Morris Farms, LLC	CB	72.4	0.0	72.4	\$ 4,344.00
Murray Brothers, LLC	IB	2,632.1	0.0	2,632.1	\$ 75,000.00
N S Hudson Farms, Inc.	IB	844.2	0.0	844.2	\$ 50,652.00
Newton Farms, LLC	CB	342.6	0.0	342.6	\$ 20,556.00
Ockels, Burton T.	CB	335.3	0.0	335.3	\$ 20,118.00
Ockels, Martin L., Sr.	CB	316.0	0.0	316.0	\$ 18,960.00
O'Day, Brock A.	CB	75.1	0.0	75.1	\$ 4,506.00
Paynter Farms, LLC	CB	96.6	0.0	96.6	\$ 5,796.00
Pettyjohn Farms, Inc.	DB	448.1	0.0	448.1	\$ 26,886.00
Phillips, Dale A.	DB & IB	108.9	0.0	108.9	\$ 6,534.00
Phillips, Guy E.	IB	242.7	0.0	242.7	\$ 14,562.00
Plum Creek Farms, LLC	CB	1,174.6	0.0	1,174.6	\$ 70,476.00
Poplar Leaf Farms, Inc.	CB	324.4	0.0	324.4	\$ 19,464.00
Price, Hunter Luke	CB	34.2	0.0	34.2	\$ 2,052.00
Quantum Farms, LLC	CB	160.8	0.0	160.8	\$ 9,648.00
Rayne Acres, LLC	CB	74.7	0.0	74.7	\$ 4,482.00
Reliance Farms, Inc.	CB	1,399.5	0.0	1,399.5	\$ 75,000.00
Richard L. Sapp Farms, LLC	DB	559.5	0.0	559.5	\$ 33,570.00
Richfield Farms, Inc.	CB	444.9	0.0	444.9	\$ 26,694.00
Ricks, Dean E.	CB	1,003.7	0.0	1,003.7	\$ 60,222.00
Ricland Farms, LLC	CB	958.3	0.0	958.3	\$ 57,498.00
Riddle Farms & Services, LLC *	IB	48.2	0.0	48.2	\$ 2,892.00
Ritter Family Farms, Inc.	IB	1,764.3	0.0	1,764.3	\$ 75,000.00
Robert Wheatley & Son, LLC	CB	785.7	0.0	785.7	\$ 47,142.00
Rodney L. Messick Farms, Inc.	DB	709.0	0.0	709.0	\$ 42,540.00
Rustic Acres, Inc.	IB	131.8	0.0	131.8	\$ 7,908.00
S & P Farms, Inc.	CB	59.5	0.0	59.5	\$ 3,570.00
S & R Operations, LLC	CB	346.3	0.0	346.3	\$ 20,778.00
Sandbur Savannah, LLC	CB	359.3	0.0	359.3	\$ 21,558.00
Sapp, Richard L. III	DB	98.9	0.0	98.9	\$ 5,934.00
Sapp, Richard L., Jr.	DB	1,005.0	0.0	1,005.0	\$ 60,300.00
Sayre Baldwin, Inc.	CB	274.8	0.0	274.8	\$ 16,488.00
Schlitter, Erica M.	IB	18.7	0.0	18.7	\$ 1,122.00
Sellers, Gregory R.	DB	224.2	0.0	224.2	\$ 13,452.00
Shea Enterprises, Inc.	CB	245.7	0.0	245.7	\$ 14,742.00
Shockley, Dylan C.	CB	16.4	0.0	16.4	\$ 984.00

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Smith Brothers, LLC	DB	425.1	0.0	425.1	\$ 25,506.00
Smith, David B.	CB	465.1	0.0	465.1	\$ 27,906.00
Smith, Kevin B. *	CB & IB	202.9	0.0	202.9	\$ 12,174.00
Smith, Matthew T.	CB	201.8	0.0	201.8	\$ 12,108.00
Smith, Robert Lee	CB	521.4	0.0	521.4	\$ 31,284.00
Steen, Donald E.	CB	391.8	0.0	391.8	\$ 23,508.00
Steen, Edward M.	CB	1,114.9	0.0	1,114.9	\$ 66,894.00
Steen, Jesse E.	CB	1,069.7	0.0	1,069.7	\$ 64,182.00
Steen, Kyle	CB	835.3	0.0	835.3	\$ 50,118.00
Swartzentruber Homestead	CB	170.6	0.0	170.6	\$ 10,236.00
Swartzentruber, Ryan R.	CB	170.2	0.0	170.2	\$ 10,212.00
Sycamore Farm Dairy, Inc.	DB	4,571.9	0.0	4,571.9	\$ 75,000.00
Syester Farms, Inc.	DB	569.2	0.0	569.2	\$ 34,152.00
Syester, Benjamin R.	DB	32.2	0.0	32.2	\$ 1,932.00
T & T Farm Operations, LLC	CB	266.5	0.0	266.5	\$ 15,990.00
T & V Farms, LLC	CB	35.3	0.0	35.3	\$ 2,118.00
T. G. Adams & Sons, Inc.	CB	1,502.4	0.0	1,502.4	\$ 75,000.00
Townsend, Charles P., Jr.	IB	484.4	0.0	484.4	\$ 29,064.00
Tri Oak Farms, Inc.	CB	1,496.6	0.0	1,496.6	\$ 75,000.00
Tull Farms & Son, LLC *	CB	109.6	0.0	109.6	\$ 6,576.00
Tull Farms, Inc.	CB	345.7	0.0	345.7	\$ 20,742.00
Tull, B. Brian	CB	82.9	0.0	82.9	\$ 4,974.00
Tull, Benjamin H.	CB	1,061.3	0.0	1,061.3	\$ 63,678.00
Turner Farms, Inc.	CB	668.8	0.0	668.8	\$ 40,128.00
Twenty-Twenty Farms, Inc.	CB	579.5	0.0	579.5	\$ 34,770.00
Twin Maple Farms, Inc.	CB	540.5	0.0	540.5	\$ 32,430.00
Tyndall, Richard W.	CB	228.0	0.0	228.0	\$ 13,680.00
Vanderwende, Cody L.	CB	1,983.4	0.0	1,983.4	\$ 75,000.00
Vanderwende, James G.	CB	3,205.0	0.0	3,205.0	\$ 75,000.00
Vanderwende, Jesse R.	CB	2,736.9	0.0	2,736.9	\$ 75,000.00
Vincent Farms, Inc.	CB	2,798.3	0.0	2,798.3	\$ 75,000.00
W.C. Farms, LLC *	DB	114.8	0.0	114.8	\$ 6,888.00
Walton Farms, LLC	CB	102.1	0.0	102.1	\$ 6,126.00
Walton, Wayne K.	DB	68.7	0.0	68.7	\$ 4,122.00
Warrington, Charles E., Jr.	DB	27.2	0.0	27.2	\$ 1,632.00
Webb, Frank	CB	71.2	0.0	71.2	\$ 4,272.00
Webb, H. Andrew	DB	590.6	0.0	590.6	\$ 35,436.00
Webb, H. Ronald	CB	555.9	0.0	555.9	\$ 33,354.00
Webb, Howard A.	DB	490.8	0.0	490.8	\$ 29,448.00
Webb, Ray Franklin	CB	71.2	0.0	71.2	\$ 4,272.00
Webb, Scott R.	CB	27.9	0.0	27.9	\$ 1,674.00
Wells Farms, Inc.	DB	2,382.2	0.0	2,382.2	\$ 75,000.00
Westwind Farms, Inc.	CB	108.0	0.0	108.0	\$ 6,480.00
Whaley, David C. *	CB	29.7	0.0	29.7	\$ 1,782.00
Wheatley Farms, Inc.	CB	3,933.5	0.0	3,933.5	\$ 75,000.00
Wheatley, Mark J.	CB	26.8	0.0	26.8	\$ 1,608.00
Wilkins, Richard	CB	430.1	0.0	430.1	\$ 25,806.00
William A. O'Day & Son, LLC	CB	1,780.5	0.0	1,780.5	\$ 75,000.00
Williamson Farm, Inc.	CB	692.6	0.0	692.6	\$ 41,556.00
Williamson III, Riley S.	CB	410.3	0.0	410.3	\$ 24,618.00
Willin Farms, LLC	CB	1,192.1	0.0	1,192.1	\$ 71,526.00
Willin, Randall C., III	CB	43.0	0.0	43.0	\$ 2,580.00
Wilson, Sam R., Jr.	CB	285.2	0.0	285.2	\$ 17,112.00
Woodenhawk Farms, Inc.	CB	426.5	0.0	426.5	\$ 25,590.00
Workman Farms, Inc.	CB	1,113.8	0.0	1,113.8	\$ 66,828.00
Workman, Gerald P.	CB	314.1	0.0	314.1	\$ 18,846.00

Name	WS	Early Plant Acres Requested	Late Plant Acres Requested	Total Acres Requested	Cost-Share Requested
Workman's, Inc.	CB	1,134.3	0.0	1,134.3	\$ 68,058.00
Wright, Charles M., V	CB	77.9	0.0	77.9	\$ 4,674.00
Wroten, Robin Lynn	CB	146.5	0.0	146.5	\$ 8,790.00
Wyatt, Dennis B.	DB	114.7	0.0	114.7	\$ 6,882.00
<i>* New Participants</i>		<b>178,965.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>178,965.8</b>	<b>\$ 8,112,258.00</b>

Motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the Sussex Conservation District requests for cover crop assistance. Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

Name	WS	Early Plant Acres Requested	Late Plant Acres Requested	Total Acres Requested	Cost-Share Requested
Wharton Farms, LLC	CB	718.8	0.0	718.8	\$ 43,128.00
		<b>718.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>718.8</b>	<b>\$ 43,128.00</b>

Motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the Sussex Conservation District requests for cover crop assistance. Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

Name	WS	Early Plant Acres Requested	Late Plant Acres Requested	Total Acres Requested	Cost-Share Requested
Carlisle Farms, Inc.	CB	1,868.9	0.0	1,868.9	\$ 75,000.00
Pine Breeze Farms, Inc.	CB	1,430.8	0.0	1,430.8	\$ 75,000.00
		<b>3,299.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>3,299.7</b>	<b>\$ 150,000.00</b>

Motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the Sussex Conservation District requests for cover crop assistance. Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

Name	WS	Early Plant Acres Requested	Late Plant Acres Requested	Total Acres Requested	Cost-Share Requested
Deerfield Farm, Inc.	IB	1,824.5	0.0	1,824.5	\$ 75,000.00
Double H. Farm, LLC	IB	499.8	0.0	499.8	\$ 29,988.00
		<b>2,324.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2,324.3</b>	<b>\$ 104,988.00</b>

Motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the Sussex Conservation District requests for cover crop assistance. Motion \_\_\_\_\_.

<b>Grand Totals</b>		<b>185,308.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>185,308.6</b>	<b>\$ 8,410,374.00</b>
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**Sussex Conservation District  
Cover Crop - Refer a Friend Incentive Requests**

<b>New Applicant</b>	<b>Acres Enrolled</b>	<b>Incentive</b>	<b>Referred By</b>	<b>Incentive</b>
Kevin Smith	202.9	\$ 500.00	Joel Wharton	\$ 500.00
Frank A. Bunting	34.5	\$ 500.00	Joel Wharton	\$ 500.00
Riddle Farms & Services, LLC	48.2	\$ 500.00	Joel Wharton	\$ 500.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>285.6</b>	<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>		<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>

Motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the Sussex Conservation District requests for Refer a Friend incentives. Motion \_\_\_\_\_.