



Who is the Lancaster County Conservation District?

- Established by State law in 1938
- Nine member Board appointed by Co. Com.
(5 Farmer Directors, 3 Public Directors and 1 Co. Com)
- 26 Staff members hired by the Board of Directors
- 14 working directly and full-time with Ag
- 12 working indirectly or part-time with Ag



District's Role

- Common Sense buffer between big brother government and the local landowner.
- Develop Farm Conservation Plans, which is a record your decisions to met regulatory obligations
- Deliver technical assistance to the landowner in the form of plan drawings and advice
- Provide Education and Outreach to both ag and non ag audiences.
- Funded through delegation agreements with DEP, PDA and SCC plus funding through grants.
- Upon complaint or investigation the District is required to seek resolutions to pollution or potential pollution concerns.
- Voluntary Compliance first, second and third before penalties



Best Management Practices (BMPs)





Suburban Sprawl



Mount Joy Nutrient Trading

Sequence of Events

1. 2005 – DEP initiates a Nutrient Trading Program
2. 2005/06- Mount Joy & ARRO Engineering - DEP
3. March 2006 – Proposal to DEP by ARRO for Mount Joy
4. April 2006 – Request from DEP to District (\$150k)

(Proposal revisions, Baseline Verification, Aggregator, Broker)

5. June 2006 - Workgroup formed
(PSU, DEP, LCCD, NRCS, ARRO, WWTP, PACD, farmer, consultants)
6. June 2006 – April 2007
 - (a). Primary goal ---- Ag BMPs
 - (b.) Secondary goal ---- Legacy Sediment BMP



Mount Joy Nutrient Trading

Sequence of Events (cont')

7. Goals:

A. Primary – Ag

- (a.) Streamside BMPs (buffers, fencing, etc)
- (b.) General Ag BMPs (waterways, terraces, etc.)
- (c.) Tillage Practices (minimum, no-till)

B. Secondary – Non-Ag

- (a.) Legacy Sediment (removal/relocation)



Mount Joy Nutrient Trading

Sequence of Events (cont')

8. Goals (Revised):

A. Primary – Ag

- (a.) Streamside BMPs (~~buffers, fencing, etc~~)
- (b.) General Ag BMPs (~~waterways, terraces, etc.~~)
- (c.) Tillage Practices (~~minimum, no-till~~)
- (d.) Poultry Litter Transport***

B. Secondary – Non-Ag

- (a.) Legacy Sediment (~~removal/relocation~~) ***protocol development***



Mount Joy Nutrient Trading

Sequence of Events (cont')

9. Results:

A. Ag BMP, 930 a. no-till, 11,791 lbs of N/yr @ \$3.81/credit – 3 year contract

SOLD

B. Ag BMP, 2,253 tons of poultry litter transported out of the watershed
30,023 lbs of N and 3,815 lbs of P

UNSOLD

C. Ag BMP, 425 a. no-till, 3,570 lbs of N/yr (NEW CALCULATIONS)

UNSOLD

D. Secondary – Non-Ag

(a.) Legacy Sediment protocol development



Mount Joy Nutrient Trading

Lessons Learned

1. Players were already in place
2. Broad-based workgroup
3. District was the critical catalyst
4. Lacked a basic framework of reference for some BMPs
5. Future trades will require:
 - a. Short term flexible contracts for the generators (farmers)
 - b. Long term fixed contracts for WWTP and/or developers
 - c. Repeatable protocols with predictable credit projections