



CEG Project Description

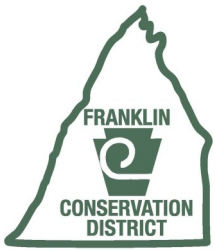
Slate Ridge Dairy

This project was one of our higher ranked projects due to Ben's farm plans being up-to-date and the potential nutrient savings to the Chesapeake Bay. He needed to implement a manure storage system for his beef operation since the bedded pack barn only holds two months of bedding and manure. This storage was designed based on the amount of manure his animals produce over a six-month period and the total bedding he uses over that period. Ben's fields normally have some type of growth on them, whether it is a crop during the spring and summer months or a cover crop over the fall and winter months. He does not always have a field available to spread solid manure on, and it is not beneficial to the farmer or environment to spread manure during the winter time. The six-month time period allows him to spread manure between harvest and planting in the spring and fall.

During our initial site visit with Ben, we noticed that he had some surface water running over his existing feed storage pad as well as a small amount of leachate leaving the pad. We suggested building a diversion above the pad to direct as much of the clean water around the pad as possible to keep it from getting contaminated by leachate. We also suggested seeding the area below the pad with a grass pasture mix to help filter any runoff from the pad before it reached the small stream below it. We talked with him about using this area for some limited grazing to remove the nutrients it collects.

As you can see from the attached timeline, this project was completed in an efficient manner due to the interest by everyone involved in seeing this program succeed. Ben's involvement was pivotal through the process from application, design, and all the way through construction. Without the buy-in from the farmer, we cannot implement these programs to their full potential. For the District's part, the ability to have a staff engineer funded in part by the Chesapeake Bay Program allowed us to provide a design package to Ben in short order. Our local contractors were able to jump right in and take the design and implement it with impressive speed. Within three months, they were able to complete the excavation, building and seeding while being aided by the somewhat dry conditions this summer. As a District, we pride ourselves on having a good relationship with our local farmers and contractors, which then helps us implement our projects.





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TIMELINE

- 2/25/21 Application Received and Site Visit Completed**
- 3/23/21 Application Approved**
- 3/26/21 Site Survey Completed**
- 4/07/21 Contract Signed**
- 4/16/21 Design Completed by District Engineer**
- 5/25/21 Construction Commences**
- 5/28/21 Diversion Channel Completed**
- 6/08/21 Footers for Wall Poured**
- 6/14/21 Wall Poured**
- 7/20/21 Concrete Floor Poured**
- 8/16/21 Manure Storage Building Completed and Payment Made**