

GUIDELINES

PA DEP & PACD Announce Mini-grant Program for Manure Management Manual and Chapter 102 Compliance Seminars/Work Sessions

Application Deadline: January 31, 2019 or until all funds are allocated

Through the Clean Water Fund and the Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant, DEP is making available up to \$1,500 to conservation districts to:

1. Hold local Manure Management Manual and/or Agricultural Erosion & Sedimentation Plan workshops. These sessions would be for producers/landowners to improve awareness of the revised Manure Management Manual and Chapter 102. These sessions would assist farmers in understanding requirements and lead to development of a complete manure management plan and/or agricultural erosion & sedimentation plan.
2. Provide one-on-one assistance to complete manure management plans and/or agricultural erosion & sedimentation plans already in progress.
3. Train - per nutrient management and manure management delegation, districts will facilitate workshops for agricultural operations in the development and the implementation of manure management plans separately or in cooperation with other districts or agencies.
 - a. The district will conduct a minimum of 1 technical training program per calendar year for operators to guide operators through the development of a manure management plan for the operator's operation. Trainings should include one-on-one training opportunities to assist operators in plan development.
 - b. The District will conduct technical training programs or include components for consultants assisting operators in the development of a manure management plan or providing planning services to operators for manure management plan development. The implementation of this activity may be coordinated with technical training for operators.

Districts are encouraged to use these mini-grant funds to market to and reach private consultants including certified crop advisors, seed/fertilizer salespeople, etc. to help their clients with writing manure management plans.

Mini-grants are available to conservation districts up to \$1,500 to conduct workshops and one-on-one assistance that is designed to assist farmers, the regulated community and others in the development of strategies and plans to reduce nutrient and sediment loads delivered to the Chesapeake Bay, specifically the Commonwealth agricultural erosion and sediment control requirements (Chapter 102) and the Manure Management Manual. A total of \$60,000 is available for mini-grants. They will be funded on a first-



come, first-served basis. Please note that your district does not need to be in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed to participate.

Conservation Districts are able to implement educational programs that:

- Familiarize farmers, consultants and others with the manure management manual and Chapter 102 compliance
- Allows farmers to leave the workshop with completed manure management plans and/or agricultural erosion & sedimentation plans
- If appropriate to the training, promote the PA One Stop program developed by Penn State as a tool to assist farmers with the development of plans
- Train consultants in the development of manure management plans

Mini-Grant Workshop Target Audience:

- Farmers
- Consultants
- Others

Please note that a template evaluation, news release, postcard, flyer, agenda, as well as presentations and scripts, will be available. DEP will provide **free** copies of the Manure Management Manual with 21 business days' notice. Contact your regional DEP office to request copies.

Grants pay for eligible expenses on a reimbursement basis. Please submit your reimbursement request with your final report. The following items are NOT considered reimbursable expenses: equipment and novelty items including t-shirts, magnets, pens, etc. Mileage will be reimbursed at the current approved state rate.

We hope you will consider applying for a manure management mini-grant. Please visit <https://tinyurl.com/manuregrant> for more information or apply online. The deadline to apply is January 31, 2019 or until all funds are allocated. Applications will be reviewed as they are received. After the January 31 deadline, any remaining funds will be released for any district to use above their initial \$1,500. Workshops and one-on-one assistance must be completed in enough time to have the final report submitted to PACD by May 28, 2019. *(No extensions will be granted.)*

Contact Shannon Wehinger, PACD Director of Communications & Education, at swehinger@pacd.org or 717-238-7223 x105 with any questions.

