

2020-21 Nonpoint Source Pollution Prevention Mini-grant Projects

| Mini-grant Amount | County Conservation District | Project Title | Project Summary |
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| \$1,500 | Armstrong | Manure Management Workshop & Outreach | <p>The Armstrong Conservation District will hold a local Manure Management Manual workshop. This workshop will assist farmers in understanding Pennsylvania's agricultural environmental requirements and lead to development of a complete manure management plan. Staff from the Armstrong Conservation District will also attend multiple Penn State Extension Pesticide Meetings and the Dayton Fair to provide educational outreach/handouts to participants.</p> |
| \$1,500 | Armstrong | Municipal Official Workshop | <p>Armstrong Conservation District staff will hold an informal workshop for municipal officials to discuss stormwater concerns and Erosion & Sedimentation (E&S)/National Pollution Discharge Elimination System program updates. The main topics of the workshop will be stormwater management, the importance of developing stormwater ordinances, Memorandum of Understandings with the District for review of E&S plans, the future of MS4 permitting, and Armstrong County's future Phase II Act 167 plan. A discussion will also be led on how to partner with the Dirt Gravel and Low Volume Roads program to achieve MS4 and stormwater compliance.</p> |

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| \$1,360 | Beaver | Agricultural Gathering and Manure Management | A gathering of farmers to learn management techniques to improve forage production through wise use of fertilizer, manure and pesticides. General Agricultural Erosion and Sedimentation and Manure Management will also be discussed. A second meeting will be a manure management plan writing workshop to guide farmers through the process of writing their own plan. |
| \$810 | Beaver | Stormwater Help for Homeowners | A workshop will be presented focused on watershed awareness, developing a plan to manage stormwater on one's property, and will include a stormwater Best Management Practices tour at the Beaver County Conservation District Environmental Center. Each participant will receive a free rain barrel kit. |
| \$2,000 | Bucks | Residential Stormwater Management | Bucks County Conservation District proposed to partner with watershed organizations in Lower and Central Bucks County to host two workshops on residential stormwater management: focusing on nonpoint source pollution reduction on a single residential property scale. In addition, BCCD proposes to contract with a graphic designer to update stormwater Best Management Practices educational materials to encourage homeowners to install stormwater BMPs on their properties. |

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| \$2,000 | Butler | Soil Health and Manure Management Education | Butler County Conservation will partner with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Allegheny County Conservation District and PA No-Till Alliance to hold the Western PA Soil Health Conference, which will focus on the benefits of improving soil health in agricultural systems. The Butler County Conservation District will also host a Manure Management Workshop for Butler County agricultural operators required by the state to have a manure management plan. |
| \$630 | Cameron | Stream Corridor Management Workshops | The Cameron County Conservation District plans to hold two educational events to educate about the importance of healthy stream corridor management. One event will be a day-long event geared toward professionals, contractors, and municipal government officials. The other will be a two-hour evening workshop for homeowners. |
| \$2,000 | Centre | Manure Management & Ag E&S Plan Development Workshop | The Centre County Conservation District will hold a FREE public educational workshop to teach landowners and farmers how to write their own Manure Management and Agricultural Erosion & Sediment Control Plans. The Conservation District has held these workshops in targeted areas the past several years, with excellent attendance (50-90 attendees). The District is targeting Potter and Gregg Townships this year, holding the workshop at the Centre Hall Lions Club on Saturday March 14, 2020 from 9am – 1pm. District employees will walk participants through completing the Plans, providing examples of Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will help reduce non-point source pollution on the farm and in the local landscape. |

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| \$1,500 | Chester | Chester County Manure Management Workshops | <p>Three Manure Management Plan Workshops will be held between March and May of 2020, one in each of the following townships: East Marlborough, Willistown, and West Vincent. Chester County Conservation District staff will use these workshops to educate farmers/landowners on how to complete Manure Management Plans for their property(ies). In order to reach more equine operators, two of these workshops will be evening meetings.</p> |
| \$750 | Chester | <p>Engaging Municipalities: Municipal Stormwater Workshops for Chester County Christina Basin Municipalities</p> | <p>Two workshops (roughly 5 hours from morning registration through lunch) targeting municipalities:</p> <p>Integrating Green Storm Water Infrastructure in Your Municipality: How to develop and implement a plan with your community and staff</p> <p>Participants will learn about green stormwater infrastructure techniques and how to plan, develop and implement them into their municipal stormwater planning. The workshop will present as an example a recently completed cooperative project with West Grove Township, White Clay Wild and Scenic Program and Brandywine Conservancy and with planning support from Rutgers Cooperative Extension. Participants will learn about how the project was planned and how municipal staff helped to install a rain garden and will work to maintain it in the future. Workshop will include a site visit of the project site.</p> |

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| \$2,000 | Chester | Chester County Agricultural Producer Field Days | Chester County Conservation District plans to hold two agricultural field days in 2020. One will target the equine community and the other will be intended for mushroom growers. Each field day will accommodate about 20 farmers and consist of an educational session or pesticide credit opportunity before visiting two to three farms with planned and implemented best management practices (BMPs). Farmers will learn about preventative stormwater practices, pasture/land management, and required plans that reduce nutrient runoff and soil erosion. |
| \$1,000 | Clarion | Backyard Conservation | We would like to host a workshop to educate landowners (or any other interested party) on conservation practices they can do in their own backyard. We will primarily focus on stormwater reduction Best Management Practices such as rain gardens and rain barrels. |
| \$2,000 | Clarion | Outreach Workshops | Three workshops will be held; one for the logging community, one for consultants, and one for contractors. Topics of discussion for each workshop may include erosion and sediment controls, invasive species, updates to permitting, and storm-water management, fitted appropriately to each audience. |
| \$1,310 | Cumberland | Upper Allen Rain Garden Workshop | Rain Garden workshop participants will learn about the many benefits that a rain garden provides and how to install their own rain garden. Participants will learn about nonpoint source pollution, rain garden soils, and rain garden plants. |

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| \$1,600 | Dauphin | Manure Management Workshops | These workshops are going to be partnered with a MS4 specialist to show how manure management can prevent Nonpoint Source Pollution from agricultural waste. We will also have assistance from Natural Resources Conservation Service to talk about the programs they offer to put Best Management Practices in place to prevent NSP pollution. |
| \$1,350 | Franklin | Manure Management Plan Workshops | Agricultural producers that own livestock and/or land-apply manure will be invited to day-long workshops where they will receive assistance to complete their Manure Management Plans. The assistance will be provided by trained individuals at the Conservation District, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Penn State Extension. By completing Manure Management Plans, the producers will learn about manure application setbacks, environmentally sensitive areas, animal concentration areas and how they can prevent soil and nutrient runoff by following their Manure Management Plans. |
| \$2,000 | Franklin | Franklin County 2020 Summer Conservation Farm Tour | The Summer Conservation Farm Tour is an opportunity for agricultural producers to learn about the benefits of conservation, for both their operations and the environment. Attendees will see first-hand how the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) can reduce sediment and nutrient loading from agriculture. In addition to learning about why nitrogen and phosphorus are the two biggest nutrient concerns for surface waters, attendees will also receive a brief overview of Franklin County's Watershed Implementation Plan 3 and its nutrient reduction goals. |

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| \$2,000 | Greene | Stormwater Workshops | We intend to host at least two workshops that will educate property owners on what stormwater runoff is, the role of landscape modification in increasing stormwater runoff and the effects of stormwater runoff in driving non-point source (NPS) pollution and degrading watersheds. This workshop is designed to encourage property owners to adopt a watershed-wide view of how they manage their property and to take action in reducing stormwater runoff by installing/implementing stormwater best management practices (BMP). To further promote property owner involvement, Conservation District staff will assist attendees of the workshop in constructing a rain barrel to be installed on their property. |
| \$1,650 | Juniata | What's the Point? | A workshop for small business and residential property owners and municipality staff will be held to define storm water runoff and its sources, to encourage management and reduction of storm water, and to develop an understanding of its effects on watersheds near and far. In support of the district's efforts to promote the conservation and protection of water quality, the workshop will demonstrate the direct relationship between storm water runoff and environmental health. |

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| \$2,000 | Lawrence | A Creek Runs Through It | <p>The Lawrence County Conservation District will install of a dry creek bed approximately 130 feet in length terminating at a pollinator rain garden at the new Friendship Street Community Garden in New Castle. The garden is an offshoot of the Lower East Side Community Garden where an Edible Rain Garden was installed last year. It is a joint project of the Lower East Side Garden Group and Disability Options Network with contribution and cooperation by multiple local agencies and the citizens of the neighborhood. The dry creek bed will serve as a storm water infiltration Best Management Practices on the down-slope edge of the property filtering sediment, nutrients, and any residual contaminants on this site. The dry creek will serve as a demonstration project showing an attractive storm water BMP that both captures and directs storm water and filters Nonpoint Source Pollution at the same time. Many homeowners can install a similar structure on their properties.</p> |
| \$2,000 | Lebanon | Lebanon County Rain Barrel Workshop(s): Water Quality 101 | <p>Participants will be educated on the topic of non-point source pollution. They will learn how it affects water quality and quantity and how we as homeowners can help minimize non-point source pollution in and around our own homes. Specifically, they will learn what the local sources of non-point source pollution are and how a rain barrel can be used as one measure to help reduce non-point source pollution. Through this grant, rain barrels will be purchased for and distributed to workshop participants.</p> |

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| \$2,000 | Lehigh | Agriculture Winter Workshops | A multi-county regional workshop held in conjunction with Bucks, Montgomery, and Northampton Counties for farmers that focuses on manure management, the new Agricultural Erosion and Sedimentation manual, resources available online, and spotted lantern fly awareness. Pesticide credits will be offered as a draw for farmers. |
| \$1,000 | Lehigh | Rain Garden Program | Lehigh County Conservation District will teach homeowners how to mitigate the effects of Nonpoint Source Pollution by installing a rain garden. We will detail how rain gardens help with stormwater, details about how to design and install them, and how to maintain them. |
| \$2,000 | McKean | Protecting McKean County Watersheds | This program will provide homeowners, natural resource workers, agricultural producers, and the public with the knowledge to implement practices to improve water quality in their watershed. Topics presented through outreach programs will help them to prevent non-point source pollution. |
| \$1,920 | Monroe | Streamside Buffer Workshop: A Guide for Backyard Buffers in Northeast PA | The Monroe County Conservation District, in partnership with the Penn State Extension Master Watershed Steward Program and the US Fish and Wildlife Services, will conduct a Riparian Buffer Workshop and hands-on planting demonstration targeted at local landowners. The workshop will focus on the importance of riparian buffers for prevention on non-point source pollution and protection from stream bank erosion. This workshop will introduce concepts such as native and invasive plants, riparian buffer maintenance, and multi-functional buffers. |

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| \$1,900 | Montgomery | Pasture and Manure Management Workshop Series | <p>This project will be a series of two workshops, an educational classroom presentation and a pasture walk. Both events will educate on proper manure handling, writing manure management plans, forage management, soil conservation, agricultural erosion and sediment control, no-till pasture renovation and rotational grazing, among several other topics. These workshops will stress the importance that soil health, robust forage management and proper manure handling have on pollution prevention and overall watershed health.</p> |
| \$1,500 | Northampton | “FUNdamentals of Stream Ecology” | <p>Through discussion and field experience, “FUNdamentals of Stream Ecology” will provide educators with an introduction to various topics associated with stream ecology. We will spend the morning in the classroom reviewing various techniques and principles required for a stream quality assessment. In the afternoon, we will take a field trip to a section of Bushkill Creek or Martins Creek where we will perform a stream quality assessment with the PA Fish and Boat Commission and Martins-Jacoby Watershed Association, as well as a trip to the Oughoughton Creek to see streambank erosion issues. The program will identify local nonpoint source pollution issues and address the importance of stream bank stabilization and other strategies to improve water quality both in the classroom and in the field.</p> |

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| \$1,860 | Perry | 2020 Perry County Field Day | <p>The goal of the 2020 Perry County Field Day is to provide farmers with information on new technologies available in the agricultural industry. The thoughtful adoption of new technology can assist farmers in improving their financial situation, help reduce non-point source pollution through targeted application and provide a safer working environment for the farmer. Participants will learn how new technology can help them go beyond managing at the field scale.</p> |
| \$2,000 | Pike | Planning for Conservation: A Municipal Workshop Series | <p>The Pike County Conservation District will work with the Pike/Wayne Conservation Partnership and Natural Lands to present two workshops for municipal officials and planning commission members. The workshops will include lectures and hands-on activities that demonstrate to elected officials how using these planning tools help communities manage growth with practical, effective land use planning and regulation. Topics include conservation design, prioritizing conservation and development and comprehensive planning tools. This workshop series will focus on conserving open space and water resources, preventing nonpoint source pollution and incorporating smart growth principles. The conservation design portion of the workshop will discuss minimizing disturbed areas by planning construction to limit overall earth disturbance, retaining and utilizing natural site conditions, maintaining riparian buffers and utilizing low maintenance non-structural stormwater controls. These bmp's are more cost effective to the developer as well.</p> |

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| \$1,500 | Pike | Checklist for a Watershed Friendly Home | The Pike County Conservation District will develop and produce an educational "rack card" educating local residents on non-point source pollution from their own property. The front of the "rack card" will have a brief description of non-point source pollution, and a checklist of ways homeowners and landowners can reduce the non-point source pollutants potentially coming from their homes. The back of the "rack card" will have an info graphic of the components of the checklist, providing a simple and understandable format of the information. The information and design of the "rack card" will also be shared on the district website and distributed to local community associations, allowing it to reach an even wider audience. |
| \$2,000 | Potter | Landowner Workshop | Educate landowners about their impact on the environment. This will include: Roof runoff control using rain barrels, yard runoff control, and streamside stewardship including buffer implementation. We will hold two events to attempt to attract a varied audience, one event on a weekday evening, the other on a weekend morning. |
| \$2,000 | Potter | Potter County Rotational Grazing Trial Kit & Field Day | The project will help encourage livestock producers to adopt rotational grazing as a best practice on their pastures by offering a free trial kit. A field day will be held to provide feedback and future recommendations based on their experience with the grazing plan developed by Natural Resources Conservation Service and the grazing kit. |

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| \$2,000 | Schuylkill | Ag Technology Field Day and Demonstration | The Schuylkill Conservation District plans to host an agricultural technology demonstration day featuring manure injection, drone technology, and inter-seeding. The demonstrations will focus on the benefits of this technology in terms of nutrient efficiency and soil health principals. In addition, SCD will provide information on how these technologies reduce nonpoint source pollution generated from agricultural practices |
| \$1,000 | Snyder | Agricultural Plan Writing Workshops | The workshops will give farmers and farm owners the ability to write their own manure management and agricultural erosion and sedimentation plans. These plans will help these people do their part to reduce non-point source pollution coming from their farms. |
| \$1,000 | Snyder | 2021 Farmers Winter Meeting | The Snyder County Conservation District annually holds a winter meeting where farmers learn about water quality topics such as soil health, techniques on how to remain in environmental compliance, environmentally sound management of pest control, and learn about possible Best Management Practices and available water quality cost share/incentive programs. |

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| \$1,961 | Snyder | NPS Pollution Prevention Demo Day | The Snyder County Conservation District will host a field day at Faylor Lake in Beaver Springs to showcase various Dirt and Gravel roads and erosion and sedimentation post construction stormwater management best management practices targeted to eliminate nonpoint source pollution. Not only will this serve as an informal training for township officials, landowners and agency personnel interested in installing similar practices, but also eliminate sources of nonpoint source pollution by improving parking areas, gravel roads, and drainage ditches to benefit water quality of the adjacent Middle Creek and Faylor Lake. |
| \$1,902 | Susquehanna | Susquehanna County Conservation District Stormwater Management and Rain Barrel Workshop | The Susquehanna County Conservation District will host a workshop to educate the public on non-point source pollution and stormwater management. Twelve rain barrels will be purchased with the grant money and eleven of the twelve rain barrels will be distributed at the workshop for homeowners to install at home. One of the rain barrels and an informational sign will be installed at the district office to serve as an educational opportunity for visitors. |
| \$2,000 | Venango | How to Manage a Sustainable Equine Farm | The Venango Consecration District, Penn State Extension and Venango Area Riding for the Handicap want to host an informative event in the Venango area for equine operators. This event will allow for operators to learn about nonpoint source pollution and how stormwater management and erosion, manure management, soil health and pasture management are all contributing factors. |

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| \$1,750 | Wayne | Soil Health Demonstration Workshop | This project will provide a wide audience of people with an education relative to how agricultural conservation practices promote soil health and help to reduce erosion, in turn reducing non-point source pollution. The intention is to use this demonstration kit at all of the district's educational events. |
| \$1,000 | Wayne | Wayne County Earthmover's Workshop | This workshop will target Wayne County's earthmovers and will focus on education regarding nonpoint source pollution prevention. This will be accomplished by presentations about topics such as best management practices, site preparation, site retirement, permitting, etc. |
| \$2,000 | Westmoreland | Ag E & S Plan Writing Workshops | These agricultural erosion and sedimentation workshops will provide farmers with an opportunity to develop and implement an agricultural erosion and sedimentation plan for their farm, which is required by state law if they till anything over 5,000 sq.ft. Once the plan is implemented by the farmer, the erosion and sedimentation will be significantly reduced from that farm, and watershed awareness will be an integral part of these workshops as we deal with the slopes of fields, soil types, riparian buffers, contour strip buffers, and storm water best management practices. Juxtaposed to the storm water BMP's are the nonpoint source pollution water pollution occurrences that flow into the local streams that add to the total pollution amounts. The use of riparian buffers will be emphasized for filtering out pollutants before water reaches the stream. |