

2021-22 Nonpoint Source Pollution Prevention Mini-grant Projects

Mini-grant Amount	County Conservation District	Project Title	Project Summary
\$1,788	Allegheny	A Role for Everyone: Addressing Watershed Health and NPS Pollution	ACCD proposes to hold 4 digital workshops in 2021 that each address the issue of NPS Pollution from a different perspective (and with a slightly different audience focus). They are 1) Streambank Stabilization Techniques for Property Owners, 2) Landslide Solutions for Municipalities and Land Managers, 3) Soil health and turf management for Homeowners, and 4) Watershed-wide assessment and planning efforts.
\$1,360	Beaver	Agricultural Gathering and Manure Management	A gathering of farmers to discuss management techniques to improve use of manure, fertilizer and pesticides. Ag E&S will also be discussed (1/2 day event). Manure Management Plan writing workshop to guide farmers through the process of writing their own plan (1/2 day event).
\$860	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 BMP tour at the BCCD Environmental Center. Each participant will receive a free rain barrel kit.
\$1,720	Bradford	Bradford County Outreach and Education Project	Manure Management 1 on 1 Plan Writing Sessions will use 5 free soil test kits as a draw to walk 10 people through the manure management planning process. These sessions lead to all kinds of farm specific conservation topics. Two educational videos promoting conservation practices that will be shared on our website and social media. Topics may include Water infiltration and flooding, ACA improvements and animal health, No-till garden, Pasture Management – rest and regrowth for soil health and productivity or animal health and profit, Cover crops in the winter landscape. No-till garden- install signage explaining no-till and soil health conservation practices.

\$2,000	Butler	Sustainable Backyard Workshop and Rain Garden	The Butler County Conservation District and the Slippery Rock Community Library would like to hold a workshop about addressing non-point source pollution in your own backyard. Along with the workshop we'd like to establish a rain garden on the libraries property to use as an example of a best management practice the community could install on their own property.
\$1,200	Centre	We All Live Downstream: Water Quality Initiatives for Homeowners	Conservation staff will hold an informal virtual workshop series focused on educating homeowners on local water quality issues, the Countywide Action Plan's goals for both agriculture and residential sectors, and how to develop a plan and incorporate diverse BMPs on their property to manage stormwater runoff. The goal of these workshops will be to reduce nonpoint source pollution on a single residential property scale through BMP installation. Soil test kits will be provided for all homeowners who attend both sessions and submit a program evaluation. Rain barrels will be raffled off to those who attend both sessions and return the program evaluation to provide tangible next steps in reducing their property's stormwater footprint.
\$2,000	Chester	Charlestown Playhouse Raingarden Signage	New raingardens to be installed in summer 2021 at Charlestown Playhouse, are designed to mitigate NPS pollution from agricultural lands above the site as well as contaminants in the gravel parking lot, and keep silt and pollutants from leaving the site and entering the high-quality Pickering Creek. The proposed educational signage is about raingardens, stormwater runoff, and native habitat. The raingarden project is endorsed by Charlestown Township and supported by a grant from the Schuylkill River Restoration Fund. It will be accessible by the public.

\$1,275	Chester	Homeowners Association (HOA) Stormwater Facility Maintenance Training	The HOA Stormwater Facilities Maintenance Training will provide HOA Boards, residents, grounds keepers, and municipal staff information about how to inspect, maintain, and retrofit their stormwater facilities in order to decrease non-point source pollution in their watershed. It will also have a collateral benefit of connecting municipalities who are looking for projects for their MS4 permits with private property owners who are looking to improve their stormwater infrastructure. This meeting will take place both in person (outside) and virtually due to COVID-19.
\$2,000	Clearfield	Stormwater Education in Clearfield County	The Stormwater Education in Clearfield County project will involve purchasing the Ward Stormwater Floodplain Simulation System model. This model will allow us to visually demonstrate the impacts human activities have on watersheds through increased stormwater runoff and educate municipal officials about the causes, methods of prevention, and ways to remediate existing stormwater issues.
\$1,980	Clinton	Clinton County Virtual Rain Barrel Workshop	The Clinton County Conservation District will hold two virtual rain barrel workshops to educate county residents on nonpoint source pollution and stormwater management. Sixty-four rain barrels will be purchased and constructed before the workshops. The barrels will be used not only as a teaching resource, but as an advertisement to promote the virtual workshop attendance. Everyone to sign up for the workshops will be able to pick up the constructed rain barrels to take home and use to promote conservation and stormwater management.

<p>\$2,000</p>	<p>Franklin</p>	<p>2021 Summer Conservation Farm Tour</p>	<p>The Summer Conservation Farm Tour will provide attendees with a firsthand account of Best Management Practices (BMPs) and how they can enhance farming operations while improving water quality. Because the majority of nutrient reduction goals listed in Franklin County's Watershed Implementation Plan 3's (WIP3) Countywide Action Plan (CAP) rely on the installation of BMPs on agricultural land, it is important for farmers to become more familiar with BMPs and their on-farm benefits. In addition to learning about BMPs, attendees will also learn what BMPs the CAP has focused on to reduce excess nitrogen and phosphorus loading.</p>
<p>\$1,320</p>	<p>Franklin</p>	<p>Izaak Walton League Streamside Signage and Tree Planting Workshop</p>	<p>Franklin County Conservation District (FCCD) will partner with a local chapter of Izaak Walton League (IWL) to host a public outreach educational event (hands-on workshop for adults - with COVID-19 safety precautions in place), following installation of streamside interpretive signage at the park. The event will be held at the outdoor pavilion of the IWL Chambersburg Chapterhouse, namely, Waltonian Meadows, in Chambersburg, PA. IWL members and FCCD staff will present the new signs, teach participants about buffer benefits, lead a tour of IWL's existing buffer areas, and demonstrate proper buffer planting before assisting the participants with planting trees in the hands-on portion of the workshop. The event is designed to help streamside property owners gain an appreciation of the effect of buffers and trees on healthy streams versus streams affected by nonpoint source pollution.</p>

<p>\$2,000</p>	<p>Franklin</p>	<p>Antietam Meadow Park Streamside Interpretive Signage and Macroinvertebrate Workshop</p>	<p>Franklin County Conservation District (FCCD) will partner with Antietam Watershed Association (AWA) and The Institute to host a public outreach educational event (hands-on workshop for adults - with COVID-19 safety precautions in place) to be held at Antietam Meadow Park (AMP) in Waynesboro, PA following installation of streamside interpretive signage at the park. Institute staff and assistants will aid the participants in the use of kick nets in the creek to collect the macroinvertebrates, complete the study creekside with biotic index sheets, and return the organisms to the stream. The study is designed to help streamside property owners gain an appreciation of the aquatic life found in healthy streams versus streams affected by nonpoint source pollution.</p>
<p>\$2,000</p>	<p>Greene</p>	<p>Agricultural Workshop and Field Day</p>	<p>The Conservation District will hold agricultural workshops and field days in 2021 related to Ag BMP and rotational grazing. Workshops and field days provide tools and information to better equip participants with implementing practices in their own operations. As an incentive for attending workshops and field days, participants will receive a farm record book that will help track calving, herd activity, livestock health, hay production, pasture condition, and soil management.</p>
<p>\$2,000</p>	<p>Greene</p>	<p>Stormwater Workshops</p>	<p>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.</p>

\$1,992	Indiana	Beginning Temporary Fence Kit	This grant will enable placing live demonstrations of rotational grazing in the community. More farmers will adopt these practices after seeing their neighbors use the system as opposed to only receiving instruction to do so.
\$1,400	Jefferson	MMP Development Webinar & One-On-One Assistance	This project will provide farmers with an overview of the manure management regulations, and a step-by-step guide to completing their own manure management plans. In addition, this project will support one-on-one assistance to those who still would like help completing their plan in-person and/or do not have internet access. Manure management on the farm is critical to nonpoint source pollution prevention. These plans provide a level of standards in manure management that improve and protect the waters of the commonwealth.
\$1,500	Jefferson	Rain Barrel Workshop & Demonstration Area	The Jefferson County Conservation District will host a workshop to educate the public on non-point source pollution and stormwater management. Fourteen rain barrels will be purchased with the mini-grant money and 13 of the 14 rain barrels will be distributed at the workshop for homeowners to install at home (one per household). One of the rain barrels and an informational sign will be installed at the district office to serve as a demonstration area and an educational opportunity for visitors.
\$2,000	Juniata	A Pollution Solution	One 6-12 minute educational video and interpretive signage will be presented to the general public to define nonpoint source pollution (NPS), to encourage its management and reduction, and to develop an understanding of its effects on stream health and water quality. In addition to defining NPS and its reduction, the educational video will feature a lawn conversion riparian buffer installation demonstration and the unveiling of an interpretive sign relating the benefit of riparian buffers to watershed protection.

\$2,000	Juniata	Buckets of Benefits	One field tour will be presented to the agricultural community to define nonpoint source pollution (NPS), to encourage its management and reduction, and to develop an understanding of its effects on stream health and water quality. In addition to defining NPS and its reduction, presenters will demonstrate the use of a soil health bucket and the benefits of soil health management practices to soil and water health. Two soil health buckets, one for advanced testing and one for basic testing, will be available for producers to assess their crop and pasture lands at no cost.
\$2,000	Lebanon	Lebanon County Rain Barrel Workshop(s): Water Quality 101	Participants will be educated on the topic of non-point source pollution. They will learn how it affects water quality and quantity and how as homeowners they can help minimize non-point source pollution in and around their homes. Specifically, they will learn 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.
\$1,500	Lebanon	Conservation on the Ground Field Day: Dairy Edition	Funding will be used to host an agricultural field day showcasing conservation Best Management Practices (BMPs) installed on a local dairy farm. The goal is to show producers real life examples of improvements to an operation and how to reduce the amount of untreated runoff traveling from their operation to surface and ground waters. It will also be used to introduce members of the agricultural community to district, agency, and partner professionals and present/provide information of programs available to assist farmers and landowners with projects.

\$2,000	Lehigh	Homeowner Rain Barrel Workshop	The Lehigh County Conservation District, in partnership with Upper Macungie Township, the Penn State Extension, and the Lehigh County Authority will carry out one rain barrel workshop to educate 50 homeowners on the importance of stormwater management and reducing non-point source pollution. Homeowners will learn about the types of best management practices installed on their property and how to maintain them. Each workshop participant will receive a rain barrel kit to be installed by the homeowner on their property to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff and non-point source pollution reaching our local waterways.
\$2,000	Lehigh	Homeowner Stormwater Management Workshop	The Lehigh County Conservation District, in partnership with Heidelberg, Lowhill, and Weisenberg Townships, Heidelberg Township and Weisenberg Township Environmental Advisory Council's, the Penn State Extension, and the Lehigh County Authority will carry out a workshop to 50 homeowners on the importance of stormwater management and reducing non-point source pollution in the Lehigh River watershed. Participants will receive a rain barrel kit to be installed and maintained on their property.
\$2,000	McKean	Citizens Helping Watersheds- Protecting McKean County's Water Resources	This project will inform landowners, homeowners, forest industry personnel, farmers, and the general public about BMPs to prevent potential NPS pollution. MCCD will provide a series of workshops, produce/distribute educational flyers & videos, and potentially provide demonstration areas for public parks related to stormwater and infiltration BMPs for parks and home landscapes.

\$2,000	Mifflin	Self-guided Water Quality Tour at Local Township Park	The Mifflin C.C.D. proposes to place a permanent educational/interpretive sign along the walking path that parallels the local stream and to hold a virtual/self-guided tour of improvements that were implemented along the stream at a local township park. The improvements were previously implemented using a variety of partnerships and grant funding. Improvements included tree plantings, streambank stabilization, and in stream structures to help with erosion and promote fish habitat.
\$1,500	Montgomery	Pasture Management and No-Till Drill Education	This project will consist of a series of webinars covering manure and pasture management topics. These webinars will be co-hosted by the Montgomery County Conservation District and Penn State Extension and will culminate in a pasture walk which will take place either in person or virtually. Additionally no-till cover crop and native meadow planting educational demonstrations will be held either outdoors in person or via live video dependent upon restrictions that are in place in Fall 2021.

<p>\$2,000</p>	<p>Northumberland</p>	<p>Countywide Action Plan Website Outreach</p>	<p>The Northumberland County Conservation District has started the process of developing their Countywide Action Plan (CAP) as part of the PA DEP's Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. A number of stakeholders will be involved in this process, including municipal officials, watershed groups, and the agriculture community. NCCD would also like to include homeowners in this process and educate them as to how they can make a contribution to cleaning up the Bay. The primary goal of using these grant funds will be to develop a website page to reach the general public in an effort to encourage specific actions that can contribute to improving water quality in Northumberland County, including the opportunity to make a pledge to take a specific action and submit photographs showing them taking that specific action. It will also include educational materials regarding our progress during the development of the CAP for the general public, public meetings information, and a section for interested parties to submit comments and sign-up to be involved. A brochure modeled after Pike County Conservation District's "A Homeowner's Checklist for a Watershed-Friendly Home" will be distributed in our District newsletter to raise awareness.</p>
<p>\$1,860</p>	<p>Perry</p>	<p>2021 Perry County Field Day</p>	<p>The goal of the 2021 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>

\$1,000	Pike	Community Association Workshop Series	The Community Association Workshop Series will be a series of workshops and walking tours discussing greenspace, trails, and community wastewater systems. Community associations have reached out to the District and partners looking for information on these topics. These topics will discuss the importance of greenspace to stormwater management and how properly functioning wastewater systems prevent NPS pollution.
\$2,000	Potter	Rain Barrel Workshop	Provide rain barrels for local homeowners to reduce roof runoff and promote the responsible use of water. Educate landowners about other methods they can use to prevent NPS pollution around their home.
\$2,000	Snyder	Soil Health Toolbox Field Day	The Snyder CCD, in cooperation with one or two local farmers, will hold at least one or two field day events in which soil health, along with water quality and erosion control, will be discussed and demonstrated with BMPs such as cover cropping and no-tilling as well as long-term management thinking.
\$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 & sedimentation plans. These plans will help these people do their part to reduce non-point source pollution coming from their farms.
\$1,000	Snyder	2022 Farmers Winter Meeting	The Snyder CCD 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 BMPs and available water quality cost share/incentive programs.

\$2,000	Susquehanna	Susquehanna County Manure Management Workshops	In Susquehanna County, the majority of impaired streams on the states 303.d list are listed as impaired by pathogens. These streams are primarily located in agricultural lands that receive manure. If awarded the grant, the district will be using the funding to educate farmers on how to utilize manure management plans in a way that protects the water resources and benefits their operations. Those with existing manure management plans are encouraged to participate if they need additional help with updating their plans or have questions/concerns.
\$1,358	Tioga	Virtual Rain Barrel Workshop	The goal of this project is to educate homeowners on the benefits of building and installing rain barrels on their building. It will teach attendees the issues of impermeable surfaces and how a rain barrel can begin to remedy that issue. Rain barrels are where conservation meets cost savings as well.
\$1,000	Washington	Washington County 2022 Agriculture Winter Meeting	The Washington CCD annually hosts a meeting where farmers learn about water quality topics such a soil health, environmental compliance, environmentally sound management of pest control and available water quality cost share / incentive programs.
\$2,000	York	Making the Most with Multimedia – A Virtual Look at Watersheds	The York County Conservation District will produce multimedia presentations and infographics to highlight successful stream restoration projects, riparian buffer plantings, and provide a virtual watershed tour. The productions will offer base knowledge about local waterways as the viewer virtually travels through the watershed. Education including everything from a brief history and statistics to promoting effective ways to reduce non-point source and improving water quality will be discussed.