

## 2022-23 Nonpoint Source Pollution Prevention Mini-grants for Conservation Districts

Mini-Grant Amount	Conservation District	Project Title	Project Description
\$2,000	Allegheny	Municipal Outreach for Prevention of NPS Pollution	The purpose of this project is to reduce potential NPS Pollution in Allegheny County by educating municipal professionals to understand what NPS is, ways it can be prevented, and regulatory requirements associated with construction stormwater.
2,000	Armstrong	Backyard Bioswale Demonstration Project	Landowners inquire about wet spots or stormwater runoff in their yards. While we can give technical assistance and advice to them about possible solutions, it is difficult for landowners to envision what possible solutions could look like and therefore they are hesitant to commit to a solution. This demonstration area will serve as an example to show landowners what a bioswale can look like and that stormwater and NPS pollution solutions can be both beneficial to the landowner and their local watershed.
\$1,356	Beaver	Agricultural Gathering and Manure Management	Focusing on proper nutrient and pesticide application to farm land will reduce NPS pollution and support the district's goal to improve agriculture in the county.
\$1,170	Beaver	Stormwater Help for Homeowners	The district gets numerous requests for assistance annually about storm water problems. The purpose of the project is to educate homeowners about nonpoint source pollution and how simple changes can improve water quality in our watershed.
\$2,000	Berks	Using Cover Crops to Prevent Nonpoint Source Pollution Workshop	The purpose of the project is to educate farmers and provide awareness of local NPS water pollution and stormwater management related to agricultural practices. It is incredibly important to address nonpoint source pollution related to stormwater on agricultural lands.
\$2,000	Bradford	Bradford County Outreach and Education Project	We have really struggled to get cover crops to work in this area. It has been a huge challenge. Last year, we may have finally discovered the thing that will make it work and we need to promote that, we need a good no-till meeting, we have a local farmer doing some great things with pasturing (which will really help with nutrient retention), and just talk about Manure Management Plans in general, what they need to do, how we can help, etc.

\$2,000	Clarion	AMD Treatment System Field Tour	AMD impairs the majority of the streams in Clarion County from substantial coal mining done in the past. The effects of the mining are clearly visible in our red/orange stained streams. Most of the people in our community know the streams are affected by iron and the contamination comes from historic mining, but very few know the method for treatment. This event would showcase the treatment system and how the public funding was spent as well as celebrate the completion of such a large project in Clarion County.
\$2,000	Clearfield	Cover Crop and Nutrient Management Field Day	Many crop fields throughout Pennsylvania are left without adequate cover during times of the year when manure and sediment runoff is at its highest risk. Farmers are hesitant to invest in cover crops as they are unsure if it's worth the time and cost to install them. This workshop will enable farmers to see the economic and ecological value cover crops offer; resulting in increased sustainability of their operations. In addition, many operations across the state over apply nitrogen and do not have a good understanding of how nutrient management works on their farm. We will explore and provide information to attendees on how to increase their nutrient management practices on farms.
\$1,500	Clinton	102/105 E&S Workshops	The purpose of these workshops are to ensure that landowners, contractors, municipalities, and real estate agents/brokers understand erosion and sedimentation, waterway and wetland encroachment, and floodway rules and regulations. It has been demonstrated that many people are unaware of the impact that unregulated, unpermitted construction can have on the environment. By addressing the need for education on those topics, more county residents will take additional precautions before partaking in construction and earth disturbance. This will reduce the amount of erosion and sedimentation that pollute our surface waters.
\$1,500	Clinton	Manure Management Plan Workshop	The purpose of these workshops are to aid farmers in developing Manure Management plans to be in compliance with Chapter 91 of PA code and to reduce the amount of nutrients on the landscape that have the potential to reach our surface waters. There is a need for education and outreach to many county farmers on the importance of

			being in compliance with regulations pertaining to agricultural operations.
\$2,000	Columbia	NPS Pollution Prevention for Homeowners	Columbia County has significant agricultural and stormwater runoff issues throughout the county, which is largely rural. There are approximately 65,000 people living in Columbia County, many of whom utilize private water wells which can all be impacted by non-point source pollution. Educational presentations will teach landowners about the ways in which everyday actions, such as fertilizing yards, applying salt to roads and driveways, and improperly storing animal waste, can contribute to non-point source pollution that can end up impacting the groundwater that they drink or their neighbors' groundwater.
\$2,000	Cumberland	Upper Allen Township Rain Garden, Phase 2	Project will include a workshop focused on homeowners and landowners to teach them about local water quality, nonpoint source pollution, stormwater and how they can treat stormwater on their property by installing small rain gardens. Participants will then be able to get their hands dirty by helping to plant the remaining two stormwater swales at the township. This project will install an educational interpretive sign about how rain gardens treat nonpoint source pollution which will help prevent pollution downstream.
\$2,000	Dauphin	Stormwater Management Strategies for Homeowners Workshop	The purpose of the project is to educate homeowners on the basics of stormwater, the problems it causes and ways to manage stormwater on their properties. The need for this project is to help people realize that we all play a part in managing stormwater and minimizing its impacts. With weather events becoming increasingly severe, the need for stormwater management has come to the forefront in protecting infrastructure, personal property and restoring the Chesapeake Bay.
\$1,995	Elk	NPS Pollution Prevention Workshop Series	This Project will involve a series of 3 workshops that will provide outreach to 3 different, unique audiences within our community. The Elk County Conservation District will be reaching homeowners and landowners through a Streambank Stabilization workshop to discuss sediment pollution from eroding banks and the types of stabilization methods available to them, as well as permitting required to remediate banks. Additionally, we will be reaching out to local contractors and earth moving companies to discuss Best Management Practices (BMPs) for reducing NPS pollution discharges from construction sites. Lastly,

			we plan to host a Realtor workshop in conjunction with Potter County Conservation District.
\$2,000	Franklin	Ag Education Event- Conservation Farm Tour or Ag BMP Meeting	Even though some of the farms in the county have implemented BMPs, there are still many more farms that could benefit from BMPs. Because the BMPs on individual farms are not typically seen by the entire agricultural community, people do not understand how they function or the benefits that the BMPs provide (both to the farm and to water quality). Hands-on BMP education is very valuable, especially when the farmer that installed the BMPs is there to give his/her insight to the audience.
\$2,000	Jefferson	Grazing Field Day	Nutrient and sediment runoff resulting from poor pasture management are sources of nonpoint source pollution in PA. A grazing field day provides farmers with the opportunity to see for themselves how sound conservation practices can benefit their farm both economically and environmentally.
\$1,975	Juniata	Dirt to Soil	To increase the number of producers effectively implementing a soil health management system, the project will demonstrate the interrelationships between soil health, water quality, and agricultural production. Increased acreage utilizing limited soil disturbance practices, pasture management, and soil regeneration efforts will increase infiltration and groundwater storage to directly reduce erosion, flooding, and water pollution.
\$1,215	Juniata	What's At Stake Field Day	The field day instructors will educate landowners, watershed associations, and conservation groups in identifying, harvesting, and planting live stakes on their own property and throughout the community to secure streambanks and flood plains with native vegetation. Instructors will emphasize the importance of natural streambank stabilization in reducing nonpoint source pollutants such as sedimentation and nutrients and in providing aquatic wildlife habitat and food sources and water temperature reducing shade.
\$2,000	Lancaster	Erosion & Sediment Control Plan (E&S Plan) for Small Projects Development Guide	The Development Guide will act as guidance from the Conservation District to members of the regulated community (landowners, contractors, etc.) regarding the requirements of a written E&S Plan under Chapter 102. It will guide them through the process of developing an effective E&S Plan for their particular project site. The guide will also provide guidance on effective implementation of a

			written E&S Plan during construction. By promoting the development and implementation of effective E&S Plans, the Development Guide will aid in increasing compliance with Chapter 102 and decreasing the discharge of sediment to the waterways of Lancaster County.
\$2,000	Lebanon	2023 Rain Barrel Workshop	The Lebanon County Rain Barrel Workshop(s): will support LCCD's educational goals by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing environmental literacy regarding water quality and quantity issues in Lebanon County.</li> <li>• Educate homeowners about non-point source pollution.</li> <li>• Educate homeowners about rain barrels and their uses/benefits.</li> <li>• Provide homeowners an opportunity to incorporate measures to minimize non-point source pollution.</li> </ul>
\$1,500	Lebanon	Conservation on the Ground Field Day: Equine Edition	This field day will show farmers/ landowners improvements implemented locally and give a transparent breakdown of the BMP installation process. Bringing the operator, the district, and agency staff together to discuss each of their roles in the project will allow a complete overview. This along with hearing the operator's feeling about the experience and final products will encourage others to feel comfortable to evaluate and enhance their operations with improvements on their own or through an organization.
\$2,000	Lehigh	Suburban Agriculture	This program will educate landowners with backyard livestock about best management practices they can implement to reduce nonpoint source pollution. Backyard livestock could include chickens, rabbits, goats, sheep, horses, or similar.
\$2,000	Lehigh	Sustainable Backyard Workshop	Lehigh County Authority indicated one of the biggest complaints they receive from residents is stormwater runoff and pollution coming off of neighboring properties. A workshop will be held that focuses on how homeowners can help minimize stormwater and non-point source pollution through the installation and maintenance of best management practices at their home.
\$2,000	McKean	Promoting Healthy Watersheds	The McKean County Conservation District makes it a priority to provide educational programs and presentation to citizens throughout the county. Programs are geared toward responsible use and protection of our natural resources and cover a variety of topics. These outreach

			efforts and programs will give a diverse group of individuals tools needed to implement BMPs to prevent non-point source pollution. The program will also ensure the protection and preservation of water quality, as well as improving the overall health of the watershed through the efforts of individuals reached through the educational programs.
\$1,500	McKean	Promoting Best Management Practices Tours	The McKean County Conservation District makes it a priority to provide educational programs and presentations to citizens throughout the county. These tours will meet the following goals from the District's Strategic Plan and Annual Workplan: 1. Market and increase awareness of Conservation District programs & functions; and provide educational outreach. 2. Protect, maintain, & improve McKean County's natural resources. 3. Develop resources to sustain & enhance the conservation district and our natural resources. Participants of these tours will be shown how the District is improving the overall health of our watershed through the use of best management practices; thereby, giving them the knowledge and tools needed to show them how to implement BMPs to prevent non-point source pollution and ensure the protection and preservation of water quality.
\$1,000	Snyder	2023 Farmers Winter Meeting	As a group, farmers handle many materials that can have a detrimental effect on water quality: animal manure, chemical fertilizers, milking system cleaning solvents, pesticides. Knowing how to handle these materials in an environmentally safe manner can help farmers maintain and improve their own farms while helping our natural resources with improved management and installing best management practices.
\$1,000	Snyder	Agricultural Plan Writing Workshops	Farmers and agricultural landowners are becoming more aware of their responsibility regarding agricultural environmental regulation compliance. This compliance not only involves installing and maintaining BMPs to prevent sediment and nutrient pollution, but the required plans and recordkeeping required as well. We will host at least two sets of plan writing workshops for farm operators and landowners that will teach them to write their own manure

			management plans (MMPs), agricultural erosion & sedimentation plans (Ag. E&S plans), and maps for each type of plans.
\$2,000	Snyder	Soil Health Event & Bucket	By explaining soil health as a long-term benefit to their resources as well as the potential as an economic benefit, farmers who adapt this strategy will improve their soil resources, which will lead to improved water quality. The district will work with one experienced farmer who currently no-till and plant cover crops to hold the field day events. Also, we will meet with several farmers who are interested in their operations' soil health by bringing a "soil health bucket" to analyze their current situations and offer recommendations for improvement.
\$2,000	Tioga	Women in Ag	A major part of the Tioga County Conservation District's mission is education to conserve natural resources. The need and purpose of this project will be to continue to build on years of non-point source pollution education to the women in the local ag community. Non-point source pollution will be the main focus topic and attendees will be educated with skills and knowledge that they will be able to take with them to implement at home or on their farm. Last year there was a dramatic increase in flooding instances in certain areas of the County. The district will tie in how non-point source pollution and flooding relate and what BMPs can be implemented to help both issues.
\$1,327	Tioga	Rain Barrel Workshop 2022	Wellsboro (Tioga County in General) is becoming more developed as time goes on. With this development there are more impermeable surfaces and increased flooding the area. It is important to educate the public about how these surfaces are contributing to the flashiness of the floods we are receiving, and ways they can mitigate this issue.
\$2,000	Venango	How To Manage A Sustainable Equine Farm	Due to a large amount of recreational horse owners in the county, it is now more imperative that we reach out to these operators to try and help. Some of the environmental impacts occurring at these residences can be eliminated or improved with some education and BMPs. It is also important to explain how water quality is affected by NPS pollution because of poor practices or lack of knowledge and how these landowners can change that.
\$2,000	Warren	Streams, Trees, You, and Me	According to the EPA, non-point source pollution is the leading cause of water quality problems. It can negatively impact drinking water,

			recreation, fisheries and wildlife. Education about the benefits of riparian buffers and their impact on non-point source pollution can lead people to make responsible decisions about the management of their property. An increase in riparian buffers would result in a reduction in the amount of non-point source pollution that makes its way into area streams.
\$2,000	Washington	Washington County Agriculture Outreach Events	The Washington County Conservation District is dedicated to agricultural education as well as water quality education. By providing this program, we aim to continue the education of the agriculture community on sound farm management practices that can be implemented on their operations, how these practices can help water quality, and how they can get into compliance with the state regulations.
\$1,200	Westmoreland	Forest Best Management Practices Workshop	The Westmoreland Conservation District will host a Forest Best Management Practices Workshop for landowners. The workshop would review the role that forests play in maintaining healthy watersheds and discuss how forest management decisions, such as creating access roads, might affect the health of the forest and the local waterways. Participants will learn about forest management plans and various forest best management practices (BMPs). In addition, presenters will discuss how timber harvesting can improve the health of their woodlots and review current regulations and landowner responsibilities related to timber harvesting and the protection of local streams.