



Greene County Conservation District

Fort Jackson Building, Mezzanine – 19 South Washington Street – Waynesburg, PA 15370-1839

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Greene County Conservation District Water Quality Mini-Grant Program Policy

The purpose of the Water Quality Mini-Grant Program is to supplement state and federal grant/ incentive programs or private funds specifically designated to offset costs associated with the implementation/installation of Best Management Practices (BMP's) designed to prevent erosion, mitigate non-point source nutrient and sediment run-off, and generally improve downstream water quality. Reimbursements will cover on-the-ground project costs only; no administrative costs or in-kind contributions from the applicant will be paid.

The projects to be funded must be specifically related to water quality improvement. The following are examples of projects, which will be considered:

Authorized BMP's include:

1. Stream crossings and agricultural ramps
2. Diversion ditches
3. Spring developments for livestock use
4. Riparian vegetative buffers
5. Root wads, live fascines, and other vegetative stream-bank stabilization methods
6. Placed stone and/or mortared walls (stream-bank stabilization)
7. Channel deflectors
8. Gabion slope protection
9. Other NRCS or DEP approved stabilization methods
10. Evaluation of new Erosion and Sediment control products on publicly-owned construction projects

Eligible applicants include:

1. Locally-Based Environmental Organizations
2. School-Based Environmental Clubs
3. Individual Property Owners
4. Home Owners Associations
5. Scouting Organizations
6. Civic Associations
7. Sportsman's Associations

Application Requirements:

Revised March 15, 2011

Each applicant should submit a completed application; an 8 ½ x 11" copy of a USGS Topographical map identifying where the BMP's will be installed; photographs clearly identifying the project site; a descriptive narrative of the project and the problem it is designed to address.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Maximum award of up to \$ 1,000.00 per applicant per program year may be awarded. Awards are based on funds expended by the applicant.

Up to 5 grant awards may be given in one year at the discretion of the Conservation District Board any undisbursed grants will remain with the Conservation District to be used at its discretion. Funds will not roll over to the next year.

Budget constraints shall be taken into account on availability of funds for this program. The Board at anytime during the current year may suspend this program.

All previously awarded contracts will be funded in the event the program is cancelled.

Applicants will be given 1 year to complete their project. Grant extensions shall be requested at least two months prior to the end of the contract. Extensions may be granted by the Conservation District Board.

All Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.

Priority will be given to applicants that have not received funding in the past prior to June 30. Previously funded applicants projects will be awarded on first come basis after July 1 of the application year. All projects will be accepted throughout the calendar year, filed and ranked by priority.

Applications will be considered at the Conservation District Board of Directors regularly scheduled meetings on the **third Tuesday of each month. Applications will not be approved by the Conservation District Board of Directors until a site visit and evaluation has been made by GCCD Technical Staff.**

Approval of all Best Management Practices and Mini-Grant applications will be at the discretion of the GCCD Board of Directors and following the recommendation of GCCD Technical staff.

The applicant is required to obtain the proper permits as outlined in PA Code 25 Chapter 102/105 prior to start of project; nor are they exempt from any permit fees unless specifically waived in the GCCD Fee Schedule.

A **Social Security number or Federal Tax ID number** must be provide prior to payment so that a Federal 1099 may be issued to the applicant.

Grant applications must be submitted on the form developed by the Greene County Conservation District.

Applications must be received prior to the start of the project.

Funds will be released from the Conservation District upon the Applicant's submittal of a written statement of project completion to PA Technical Guide Standards, copies of paid bills and after a site inspection by GCCD technical staff. If the project is part of a project that is funded by other sources outside the Conservation District, the applicant must provide proof that the funding being requested was not or will not be paid by another source. Receipts will only be accepted for payment, In-kind, donated or on-hand materials or labor will not be reimbursed by the grant. If the GCCD Board of Directors waives the requirement for payment after completion of the project the applicant must still submit the above mentioned paperwork to prove the project was satisfactorily completed. If the applicant fails to provide the necessary proof of project completion they will be ineligible for future mini- grants and requested to return the funds. Any revision to this program that has been approved by the GCCD Board of Directors at one of their regularly scheduled monthly meeting must be adhered to prior to GCCD Board approval of funding.

The mini-grant program's goal will be to maximize the environmental benefits while minimizing paperwork, as associated with other grants. The funds allocated to this program are non-tax dollar funding.

**Return Application to:
Greene County Conservation District
19 S. Washington St, Suite 150
Waynesburg, PA 15370
Ph. 724-852-5278
Fax 724-852-5341**

