• 25 Pa Code § 102.4(a)
  • Agricultural Erosion and Sediment Control Requirements
  • First adopted in 1972
  • Most recently revised in 2010
    • Includes Animal Heavy Use Areas (AHUAs)

• Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Manual for Agriculture
  • January 1, 1975
• No current guidance (or standard format) exists
• Challenging to explain to producers and others what defines an Ag E&S Plan
• Reliant upon institutional knowledge (steep learning curve without written guidance)
• PA In the Balance
  • Technical Assistance Capacity Building
• Chesapeake Bay Ag Inspection Program
  • Focus on compliance with Ag E&S and Manure Management planning requirements
Ag E&S Technical Guidance Document – Pre-Draft

• Timeline
  • July - September, 2017 – DEP staff met with SCC, NRCS, PSU representatives to work through outline and framework for the TGD.
  • October, 2017 – developed initial draft and shared with a small internal workgroup, consisting of statewide representation of conservation districts, DEP, and SCC
  • October – February, 2018 – held multiple conference calls with the workgroup and made revisions to the initial draft based upon feedback provided.
  • April, 2018 – shared pre-draft with Ag Advisory Board
Elements in the TGD

What – what is an Ag E&S Plan, and what are the required elements?

Who – to whom does it apply?

Why – attempted to focus on the benefits to the farmer as well as regulatory compliance

When – when would it need to be developed, updated, implemented, etc.

How – how should it be developed (i.e., how to identify and address resource concerns)

Includes reference to tools and resources (i.e., NRCS, PAOneStop, Conservation District planning assistance)
Ag E&S Technical Guidance Document – Pre-Draft

- Advisory Board Considerations -
  - Audience of the TGD – farmers, planners, regulatory staff, etc.
  - Provide enough information without being overwhelming (Keep it Simple)
  - Consistency – can this be consistently applied?
  - Applicability – need to ensure that accelerated erosion and sedimentation will be addressed when this guidance is followed
• Next Steps – Goals
  • AAB to create small workgroup
  • May – July, 2018 – DEP staff will meet with AAB workgroup to gather comments and suggestions
  • August, 2018 – DEP staff will work with the District/DEP/SCC workgroup on incorporating comments and suggestions from the AAB
  • October, 2018 – DEP staff will prepare the document for internal circulation and public comment
  • December, 2018 – the TGD will be posted for public comment
  • February, 2019 – DEP staff will prepare the document for final internal review
  • February, 2019 - April, 2019 – Review final document with AAB and other relevant advisory boards
  • April, 2019 – the TGD will be finalized and a subsequent outreach/training program will be developed
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