

Project Description:

This grant award implemented projects to substantially reduce the amount of sediment and nutrient pollution from agricultural operations throughout Luzerne County. The individual projects developed and implemented best management practices that helped protect local waterways within the headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

The grant funds assisted with the completion of one Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) completed in 2019 and two projects installing the BMPs. The first BMP project was completed on an equine operation in 2022 and installed a heavy use area protection, a waste storage facility, subsurface drainage, access road, animal trails and walkways, underground outlets, storm water drop box, roof runoff and seeding/mulching. The second BMP project was completed on a beef operation in 2023 and installed a stream crossing, off stream watering facility, grazing system, waste storage facility, heavy use area protection, access road, animal trails and walkways, underground outlets, roof runoff, and seeding/mulching.

Project Goals:

The primary goal of the grant projects was to substantially reduce the amount of sediment and nutrient pollution from varied agricultural operations throughout Luzerne County that contribute to the overall goal of clean water for our commonwealth and beyond.

Project Results:

Deliverable #1, Manzoni HUA Project, Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan–

Completion of a Nutrient Management Plan, Conservation Plan and Inventory and Evaluation on a dairy farm to pursue installation of a waste storage facility and heavy use area protection. Manzoni Nutrient Management Plan deliverable nutrient load savings = 43.71 lbs./year Nitrogen, 5.02 lbs./year Phosphorous, 23,869.97 lbs./year Sediment

Deliverable #2, The Conyngham Farm Ag BMP Project – Funds in this grant were used to install a 32'x32' roofed waste storage facility, stabilized and reinforced .10-acre heavy use area protection, a drop box, drain culvert pipe, roof gutters on new and existing facility and fencing.

The installed BMPs resulted in a savings of 129.84 lbs. of nitrogen, 5.29 lbs. of phosphorous, and 174.86 lbs. of sediment.



Deliverable #3, Barchik Agricultural BMP Project – Installed 4,665 sq. ft. roofed HUAP and scrape lane with curb, 2,430 sq. ft. roofed waste storage facility, perimeter drain, roof gutters, access road, stormwater controls, stream crossing, water facilities, grazing practices and fencing.

Luzerne County 2016 Agricultural BMP Projects

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Luzerne Conservation District

The installed BMPs resulted in a savings of 926.01 lbs. of nitrogen, 55.92 lbs. of phosphorous, and 24,74.15 lbs. of sediment.



Project Costs:

Manzoni HUA Project - \$4,000.00, Growing Greener

Conyngham Farm Ag BMP Project - \$50,434.32, Growing Greener

Barchik Agricultural BMP Project - \$251,018.54 Growing Greener

Lessons Learned:

Pricing on construction projects today is very volatile. What a project is expected to cost at the time of grant application will drastically change at the time of project implementation. Often additional funding from a alternate source is needed to bring the project to completion.

Partners:

Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts TAG Engineers

NRCS

PA DEP

Contact Information:

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