

C. Project Summary

French Creek Watershed Ag BMPs

Growing Greener

Venango Conservation District-Landowner: Dave and Lynn Mahler

Project Description

The closest waterway to the farm is Foster Run which does drain into French Creek. Foster Run is classified as an ag impaired stream, so we wanted to work with neighbor farms to try and reduce nutrient and sediment runoff from entering this waterway.

By installing an AHUA and MS the landowner now has a stabilized area to stack manure that will direct clean water away and allow the farmer to spread manure when the conditions are right for optimal vegetation uptake. As well as providing a stabilized area for the cattle to eat without further eroding an area and keeping them off of the pastures while protecting the soils health during the cold wet months. Project timeframe: 5/15/2022-12/10/2022

Project Goals

The goals of this project was to provide a stabilized roofed area to minimize erosion and nutrient runoff.

Project Results

An 40x56 561AHUA(Animal Heavy Use Area) and 40x40 313MS(Manure Storage) has been constructed. Other BMPs installed include;362 Diversion, 367 Roof, 382Fence, 468 Outlet, 516 Pipeline, 558 Roof Runoff, 560 Access Lane, 575 AT&W, 614Watering facility, and 620 Underground outlet.

BEFORE



AFTER



Project Cost

\$378,000.00 GG Grant funds of \$226,000.00 and NRCS EQUIP Federal funds \$120,000.00 and the remaining was paid by the Landowner. PA REAP Program was also applied for and PA tax credits in the amount of \$28,500 will go to the Landowner. Brining their out of pocket to \$9,500.00

Lessons Learned

Rather than splitting construction duties, try to get one general contractor to minimize communication errors and plan for a two month or more delay due to the bidding process.

Partners

Venango Conservation District, LO Dave and Lynn Mahler, PE R&R Engineering, Contractors; Klapec Excavation, Lutz Concrete, Precise Concrete Walls INC., DJ Holben Excavation, JM Warren Builders, and NRCS EQUIP Program

Contact Info

Venango Conservation District, Ag Tech Jane Price @ 814-676-2832