



Agriculture Cost-Share Funding Available for 2011-2012

You can reach P.W. Morgan at (540) 483-5269 ext.115

The Blue Ridge Soil & Water Conservation District is currently accepting applications for assistance with installation of agricultural best management practices that are designed to conserve soil and protect water quality.

July 1, 2011 began our new fiscal year and agriculture producers who are considering signing up for assistance this year are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.

All practices must be signed up prior to implementation and are subject to prioritized ranking for approval. Cover Crop applications must be submitted no later than September 2, 2011. Many of the eligible conservation practices can be combined with other conservation programs offered by USDA.

Three new practices for Blue Ridge SWCD VA State Best Management Practices for the Southern Rivers drainage area have been added for this year's funding. Agriculture cost-share for 2011-2012 is greater this year compared to last year. The following practices are available for qualified applicants:

- New: Reforestation of Erodible Crop & Pasture Land (FR-1 priority)
- New: Harvestable Cover Crop (SL-8H priority) allowing \$10/acre bonus payment for small grains raised and used for the production of biofuels in VA.
- New: Grazing Land Management (SL-9 base)
- Grazing Land Protection -SL-6 (stream exclusion, water fountains, well, pipeline and fencing)
- Harvestable Cover Crop, SL-8H: (\$25/acre and requires a Nutrient Management Plan)
- Non-Harvestable Cover Crop, SL-8B: (\$50-\$60/acre and requires a Nutrient Management Plan after the first year).
- Continuous NO-Till, SL-15-A, JSI-15-B and LT-CNT
- Nutrient Management (certain practices), NM-3, NM-3B and NM-4
- Riparian Vegetative Buffers, FR-3, WQ-1 and SL-7

For more information regarding water quality and erosion control best management practices, please contact P.W. Morgan (Senior Conservation Specialist) at (540) 483-5269 ext.115.

P.W. Morgan
Senior Conservation Specialist

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