

FARM STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

SUMMARY

Under Stroud Water Research Center's Farm Stewardship Program, farmers can earn funds to help pay for conservation practices in exchange for stream buffer plantings.

- Administered by Stroud Water Research Center
- Annual program funding: Approx. \$200,000
- Funding Source: National Fish & Wildlife Foundation and other grant sources

FEATURES

For each acre of stream buffer planted with trees, program provides farmer with \$4,000 in form of a BMP voucher. Maximum voucher is \$20,000 per farm.

Vouchers can be used to help plan and install other conservation practices; an ideal match for funds from other programs such as EQIP, PENNVEST and REAP.

Buffers can be installed through CREP or other programs. No grazing is allowed in the buffer.

ELIGIBILITY

Who is Eligible?

Agricultural landowners in Lancaster and Chester counties. Priority given to targeted watersheds (can request map of targeted watersheds).

Eligible Costs

Preparation of agricultural erosion and sediment control (E&S) plan, nutrient or manure management plan.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) in approved farm plans.

Buffer can be under contract and planned in order to be eligible for voucher. Vouchers are disbursed in reimbursements for BMPs as farmers accumulate costs.

Must be willing to sign 15-year CREP contract or agree to establish or maintain forested buffer.

HELPFUL TIPS

To earn vouchers, must have a current Ag E&S plan or applicable nutrient or manure management plan. In addition to vouchers, up to \$2,000 per farm is available to cover costs for the preparation of these plans.

Similar BMP vouchers may be available from other organizations such as Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and Chesapeake Bay Foundation depending on grant funded initiatives.

HOW TO APPLY

No formal application process. Contact Lamonte Garber at Stroud Water Research Center at 717-576-3287; lgarber@stroudcenter.org.

