

APPENDIX - I

**2004 Sussex Conservation District
Cost-Share Program**

EROSION CONTROL

1. Permanent Vegetative Cover Establishment (Acres)
 - a. Purpose is to establish permanent vegetative cover on farmland subject to wind or water erosion or to improve water quality.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, and land preparation.
 - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$2,500.
 - d. Life span: 10 years

2. Field Terraces (Ft)
 - a. Purpose is to establish terraces on farmland to reduce soil erosion, or to improve water quality.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Tile, seed, lime, fertilizer, mulching, earthmoving, outlet pipes, and rip-rap.
 - c. Cost-share rate: 50% of actual cost, not to exceed \$5,000.
 - d. Life span: 10 years

3. Diversions (Ft)
 - a. Purpose is to establish diversions on farmland to reduce soil erosion, to convey excess water to a safe outlet, or to improve water quality.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Tile, seed, lime, fertilizer, mulching, earthmoving, outlet pipes, and rip-rap.
 - c. Cost-share rate: 50% of actual cost, not to exceed \$5,000.
 - d. Life span: 10 years

4. Field Windbreak (Acres)
 - a. Purpose is to establish trees and shrubs to protect farmland from soil erosion and/or to improve water quality.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Trees, shrubs, land preparation, and required herbicides.
 - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$2,500.
 - d. Life span: 10 years

5. Critical Area Plantings (Acres)
 - a. Purpose is to establish plantings to reduce soil erosion and/or improve water quality.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, mulching, land preparation, filtercloth, and earthmoving.
 - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$5,000.
 - d. Life span: 10 years

6. Water and Sediment Control Basins (No.), Grade Stabilization Structures (No.), and Grassed Waterways (Acres).
 - a. Purpose is to reduce soil erosion and/or improve water quality.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, mulching, rip-rap, filtercloth, earthmoving, pipes, fill dirt, tile, and fencing (if needed to exclude livestock).
 - c. Cost-share rate: 50% of the actual cost, not to exceed \$5,000.
 - d. Life span: 10 years

7. Poultry Windbreaks (Acres)
 - a. Purpose is to establish trees and shrubs around poultry houses to reduce odors, noise, dust, and particulates.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Trees, shrubs, land preparation, required herbicides, and if recommended, irrigation.
 - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$10,000.
 - d. Life span: 10 years

8. Shoreline Stabilization (Ft.)
 - a. Purpose is to prevent the loss of land or damage to land uses, or other facilities adjacent to the banks, including the protection of known historical, archeological, and traditional cultural properties.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Rip-rap, vegetation, land preparation, earthmoving, fill dirt, filtercloth, lime, and fertilizer.
 - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$50,000.
 - d. Life span: 10 years

ANIMAL WASTE SYSTEMS

1. Agriculture Waste Control Systems (No.)
 - a. Purpose is to improve water quality by collecting, storing, and utilizing animal manures more efficiently.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Aerobic and anaerobic lagoons, pits, waste storage ponds, liquid manure tanks, settling basins, collection basins, handling or pumping systems, calibratable application equipment, and gutters.
 - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost or of the remaining balance, not to exceed \$50,000. Practices with multiple components may receive payments once each component is completed.
 - d. Life span: 15 years for structural practices and 7 years for mechanical equipment.

2. Roofed Animal Manure Structures (No.)
 - a. Purpose is to improve water quality by storing animal manure in a dry stacking facility.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, roofed manure structure (dry stacking facility), fill dirt, and guttering of roof water (if required).
 - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$20,000.
 - d. Life span: 15 years

3. Agricultural Composting Facilities (No.)

Composter thermometers will be required with each District cost-shared composter. The thermometer can be purchased at the District office for 50% of the original cost, or it can be deducted from the cost-share funds. Composter thermometers will be sold to poultry carcass composter owners/operators upon request at 50% of their original cost.

- a. Purpose is to improve water quality by composting agricultural waste.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, fill dirt, guttering, composting facility, and thermometer.
 - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$10,000.
 - d. Life span: 15 years
4. Poultry Incinerators (No.) *Incinerators must meet all NRCS and DNREC specifications and secure all necessary permits.*
 - a. Purpose is to improve water quality by incinerating poultry mortality.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:

- i. Double burner incinerator and concrete pad.
 - c. Cost-Share rate: 50% of actual cost, not to exceed \$3,800
 - d. Life span: 15 years
- 5. Heavy Use Protection Areas (No.) *When constructing heavy use protection areas, pads need to be constructed on chicken houses before approval to construct pads for poultry manure structures and/or poultry carcass composters.*
 - a. Purpose is to reduce quantities of pollutants from manure from entering streams, ditches, and drainageways.
 - b. Cost-share for the following components:
 - i. Concrete and labor
 - c. Cost-share rate is 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$20,000. There is a maximum of four pads per person per year.
 - d. Lifespan: 15 years
- 6. Equipment
 - a. Calibratable Spinner Manure Spreaders - The District will cost-share up to 65% on a new calibratable spinner manure spreader, not to exceed \$5,000. The spreader must meet all eligibility requirements as utilized by the State Revolving Fund Loan Program.
 - b. Front-End Loaders - The District will cost-share up to 65% on a new or used front-end loader, not to exceed \$5,000. The front-end loader must meet all eligibility requirements as utilized by the State Revolving Fund Loan Program.
- 7. Additions to Existing Structures (retrofits, guttering, etc.)
 - a. Purpose is to upgrade, enlarge, or add to an existing structure.
 - b. Cost-share for the following components:
 - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, roofed manure structure, composting facility, fill dirt, and guttering.
 - c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$10,000.
 - d. Life span: 10 years

WATER MANAGEMENT

- 1. Water Control Structures (No.)
 - a. Purpose is to regulate water levels in open ditches to improve water quality and improve water efficiency.
 - b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, mulching, pipes, rip-rap, filtercloth, earthmoving, and fill dirt.

- c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$5000.
- d. Life span: 15 years

WILDLIFE HABITAT DEVELOPMENT

1. Wildlife Plantings (Acres)

- a. Purpose is to establish or improve farmland for wildlife habitat.
- b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Trees, shrubs, grasses, legumes, lime, fertilizer, and land preparation.
- c. Cost-share rate: 75% of actual cost, not to exceed \$2,500.
- d. Life span: 10 years

2. Wildlife Ponds (No.)

- a. Purpose is to develop or restore ponds for wildlife. Ponds must be at least 500 feet from a building of any kind. If a building is constructed within 500 feet of pond during the life span of practice, cost-share amount will be returned.
- b. Cost-share for following components:
 - i. Seed, lime, fertilizer, mulching, outlet pipes, and earthmoving.
- c. Cost-share rate: 50% of actual cost, not to exceed \$5,000.
- d. Life span: 10 years

3. Constructed Wetlands (No.)

- a. Purpose is to develop, enhance, and restore wetlands to improve wildlife habitat.
- b. Cost-Share for the following components:
 - i. Trees, shrubs, grasses, legumes, earthmoving, outlet pipes, and seed.
- c. Cost-share rate: 50% of actual cost, not to exceed \$5,000.
- d. Life span: 10 years.

Appendix II

2004 Sussex Conservation District Cost-Share Cover Crop Program

Cost-Share Rates

	Conventional	Aerial
	<u>October 31</u>	<u>October 15</u>
All eligible crops are	\$17 per acre	\$17 per acre
<i>Eligible crops are as follows: Rye, Rape*, Clover, Vetch, Triticale, Wheat, Annual Rye Grass, Barley, and Oats*</i>		
<i>*Indicates planting dates of September 15 for aerial applied and September 30 for conventional.</i>		

Conditions

1. Application of commercial fertilizers or animal manures (nitrogen & phosphorus) are not allowed on a field that is intended to receive or is receiving cover crop incentive payments. Cover crops is a nutrient trap.
2. Payment will be split with 50% being paid by December 31, after the planting certification provision is met and 50% being paid after the participant certifies in writing that the crop has been disposed of in an approved manner. Participants are limited to \$7,500 in cover crop assistance. In the event enrollment in the program exceeds available funding, the Sussex Conservation District reserves the right to reduce the maximum payment amount per participant to no less than \$5,000.
3. Farmers will self-certify that fall planting program provisions have been met prior to receiving the first payment, and must certify in writing in accordance with step #2 before receiving the final payment.
4. Killdown or suppression of acreage managed as cover crops must occur on or after March 15, with the exception of early spring crops (i.e. peas, etc.), which may occur no earlier than March 1.
5. Options for end-of-winter management include killing by a “burn-down” herbicide, by plowing it under, or green chop/silage (for on-farm use only), before planting to the new crop. No harvesting of the mature cover crop is allowed under any circumstance.
6. Failure to notify the District of a change in crop may jeopardize cost-share assistance.
7. Aerial seeding must be completed by the listed dates and at the required rates.
8. Grazing on District cost-shared cover crops is allowed with the following conditions:
 - a. The farmer must notify the District in writing two weeks before they plan to graze livestock. They must indicate in their letter the field(s) to be grazed and the number and type of animals.
 - b. Prior to grazing, the cover crop must be well established. Under optimal conditions, grazing can commence 6 to 8 weeks after planting, and after the two week written notification has been submitted.
 - c. The District reserves the right to deny a grazing request based on poor crop establishment, too many animals per acre, or other conditions that may apply.

<i>Planting Dates (for 2004)</i>	<u>Conventional</u>	<u>Aerial</u>
Rye (100 lbs./acre)	October 31	October 15
Wheat (120 lbs./acre)	October 31	October 15
Barley (140 lbs./acre)	October 31	October 15
Oats (100 lbs./acre)	September 30	September 15
Annual Rye Grass (20 lbs./acre) .	October 31	October 15
Rape (8 lbs./acre)	September 30	September 15
Triticale (100 lbs./acre)	October 31	October 15
Clover (20 lbs./acre)	October 31	October 15
Vetch (25 lbs./acre)	October 31	October 15

Ranking Criteria (if demand exceeds funds available)

Where water quality is the goal, the University of Delaware recommends that the use of winter cover crops be targeted to the following situations:

1. Watersheds in close proximity to sensitive surface waters and/or those most susceptible to groundwater contamination by nitrogen and phosphorus.
2. Soils most likely to experience erosion that are in close proximity to surface waters sensitive to eutrophication by nitrogen and phosphorus.
3. Artificially drained soils where shallow groundwater discharges rapidly into surface waters.
4. Cropping systems that are most likely to have significant amounts of residual nitrate-N in the upper portions of the soil profile in the early fall (“upper portion” is defined as <1 foot for loamy sand and sandy loam soils as <2 feet for silt loam soils). In general, winter cover crops should be targeted to previous cash crops that had below normal yields, in the following priority order:
 - a. Dryland corn that received animal wastes and commercial fertilizer N.
 - b. Dryland corn that received only commercial fertilizer.
 - c. All other corn that received fertilizer or animal wastes.
 - d. Any other crop (e.g. commercial vegetables) that received fertilizer or animal wastes N.
 - e. Soybeans that received animal wastes, alone or in rotation with small grain.
 - f. Soybeans that received no supplemental N.
 - g. Grain sorghum.