

Funding Opportunity Notice for Producers in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky

Ohio River Basin Water Quality Trading Project

Updated January 10, 2017 (Original release August 6, 2016)

NOTICE:

UPDATES RELEASED JANUARY 10, 2017

Deadline Extended:

Projects must be fully installed, including verification by the state agency, no later than ~~November 15, 2017~~ **July 15th 2018**. There is a preference for projects installed by ~~June 2017~~ **November 2017**.

Eligible Area Increase:

Project area increase, adding significant portions of Kentucky to the eligible funding area.

Rapid Project Pre-Screen:

Added fillable PDF Form.

Project Application:

Provided fillable PDF application.

Funding Opportunity Notice under the Ohio River Basin Water Quality Trading Project

The [Ohio River Basin \(ORB\) Water Quality Trading \(WQT\) Pilot Project](#) is announcing the 2016-2018 round of funding. During 2013-2015, the project funded approximately 30 landowners to reduce nutrient runoff from farms in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. Now the project seeks to include forestry (i.e. tree planting) as a best management practice to reduce nutrient runoff and enhance ecosystem function on farmland in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky. The project will also consider funding non-forestry practices that work synergistically with the forestry practice to further reduce nutrient runoff. Eligible producers are invited to submit funding requests per the instructions set forth in this application package.

The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), American Farmland Trust and a team of collaborators have been working since 2012 with the support of the States to install best management practices that generate “water quality credits”, which can be used towards achieving broader water quality improvements. All funding under this notice comes from private sources raised by the project. Landowners report high satisfaction in working with EPRI and have enjoyed the simple application and contract. Additional details about the pilot project can be found at <http://wqt.epri.com>, including videos from landowners who have received funding.

Under this funding opportunity, EPRI is releasing \$600,000 across Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky. It is anticipated that 4-15 individual projects will be funded in each state. The projects are anticipated to range in size and scale. Funding applications will be ranked first by the pounds of nitrogen and phosphorus runoff avoided, and secondarily by the social and ecosystem benefits provided by the project.

KEY ELEMENTS:

- Project applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until all funds are expended, beginning September 1st, 2016.
- Projects must be fully installed and verified by the state agency no later than ~~November 15, 2017~~ July 15, 2018. There is a preference for projects installed by November 2017.
- No funding will be provided for projects on federal or state land. Projects MUST be installed on private land.
- The project must reduce its runoff of total nitrogen or total phosphorous below current conditions (what is currently being achieved with existing land uses and management practices) AND otherwise comply with applicable legal requirements.
- Funding covers up to 80% of total project costs. (i.e. 80% cost share cap)
- At least 60% of requested funding must be applied towards forestry BMPs, with no more than 40% applied towards complimentary BMPs.

- Contract length for forest planting is 20 years, complimentary structural projects is 10 years, and complimentary seasonal projects is 5 years.
- Payments will be made after project installation and on-site verification, followed by annual maintenance payments.
- We strongly suggest utilizing the Rapid Project Pre-screen before completing a full application.
- If accepted, producers will sign agreements with their local Soil and Water Conservation District or State agency for the implementation of the conservation practices, with payments made by the same agency.

All Questions and Applications to:

Brian Brandt
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(614) 906-4931 (cell)
bbrandt@farmland.org

AND

Jessica Fox,
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State Contacts Related to this Funding Opportunity:

OHIO

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INDIANA

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KENTUCKY

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Project Selection

The primary goal of this effort is to direct private money towards reduction of total nitrogen (TN) and total phosphorus (TP) loading to waterways. Therefore, the first priority for funding will be the cost per pound of avoiding TN and TP from entering flowing water. Secondly, funding will be prioritized based on the following:

- A range of different practices to gain maximum knowledge and understanding.
- Extent to which ancillary benefits are produced (wildlife habitat, carbon, air quality, etc).
- Extent to which State priority concerns are addressed (i.e. natural resource initiatives).
- Willingness of producer to participate in media event or outreach to other producers.
- There is a preference for EQIP-eligible producers.
- Projects must be fully installed and verified by the state agency no later than ~~November 15, 2017~~ July 15, 2018. There is a preference for projects installed by ~~June~~ November 2017.

Lower priority projects may be funded if the cost share request is significantly below the 80% cap. If an application is close to being funded, we may discuss modifications with the applicant (via the state agency) to make the proposal competitive for funding. EPRI encourages landowners to submit ideas using the Rapid Project Pre-screen process (below).

Forestry Project Priorities

The following provides more specific guidance on the forestry projects likely to receive funding:

- **Highest priority:** Field slopes greater than 7% and soils in infiltration classes C, C/D, D, land currently in corn/soy or wheat rotations, normal reforestation, located next to headwater streams
- **High priority:** Field slopes between 4 and 7% and soils in infiltration classes B, B/D, C, C/D, D, land currently in corn/soy or wheat rotations, normal reforestation
- **Medium priority:** Field slopes between 2 and 4% and soils in infiltration classes B, B/D, C, C/D, D, land currently in corn/soy or wheat rotations, normal reforestation
- **Low priority:** Field slopes between 0 and 4% and soils in infiltration classes A and A/D, land currently in corn/soy or wheat rotations, pasture land, normal reforestation or Timber Stand Improvement (TSI) proposed

EPRI will consider projects involving tree planting around livestock confinement areas or windbreaks, if runoff is a documented problem. Timber State Improvement (TSI) projects alone, with no complimentary practices, are very unlikely to receive cost-share.

The following web-based tool can be used to find the soil type for most locations in the US:
<http://resources.arcgis.com/en/communities/soils/02ms0000008000000.htm>

Additional information on soil types:

Soil Hydrologic Group	Funding potential	Notes
D	High	High clay content
C/D	High	High clay content
C	High	High clay content
B/D	Med	Medium clay and silt content
B	Med	Medium clay and silt content
A/D	Med	Moderate clay and silt content
A	Low	Sandy soils

Complimentary BMPS

As noted, this funding round is most interested in forestry projects, specifically the planting of trees such as forested riparian buffers, tree establishment (with associated maintenance practices) around livestock confinement areas, or general forestry establishment.

Complimentary BMPs that further reduce nutrient runoff can also be included in the funding request include: (1) conservation cover; (2) cover crops; (3) cropland converted to pasture; (4) livestock exclusion, (5) heavy use protection areas, and/or (6) milk-house waste improvements. Other BMPs may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

All implemented BMPs should be designed and installed using appropriate State NRCS Practice Standards available through the appropriate Field Office Technical Guide. If a producer wants to modify existing NRCS standards or maintenance specifications (e.g. allowing possible haying or grazing of buffer strips), they need to include an explanation of those modifications as part of their funding application.

Public Release of Information

Non-confidential materials submitted to the state may be subject to the current state’s Freedom of Information Act or related disclosure laws.

Funding Details

- Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis beginning September 1st, 2016 until funds are expended.
- It will take 30 days after application is received to provide funding decision.
- Projects must be fully installed, including verification by the state agency, no later than ~~November 15, 2017~~ July 15, 2018. There is a preference for projects installed by ~~June~~ November 2017.
- We **strongly** suggest utilizing the Rapid Project Pre-screen (below), which can quickly provide feedback on the likelihood of funding before a full application is prepared.

Contract Length and Payment Schedule

Forestry projects: All forestry practices require a 20-year commitment. The payment schedule for the forestry component of the project is as follows:

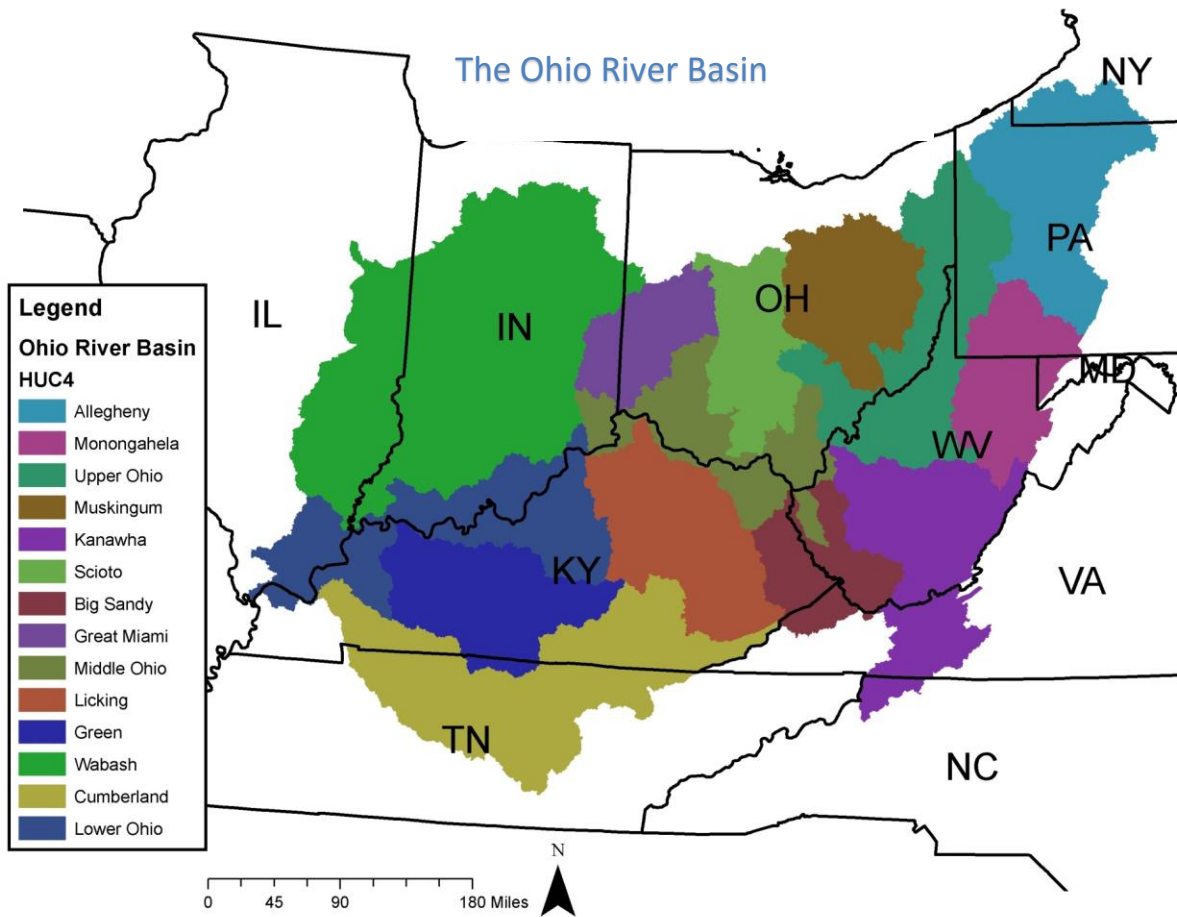
Milestone	Payment	Example: \$25,000 awarded for forestry project
After project installation and project verification	75% of total EPRI cost-share commitment	\$18,750
Year 2-5: Subject to annual project verification	6.25% of total cost-share commitment annually for 4 years.	\$1,562.50 per year (total of \$6,250)
Year 6-20: Portion of funding could be recovered if practice not maintained, per contract terms.	None	\$0
		Total: \$25,000

Non-forestry Structural projects: Complimentary structure practices require 10-year commitments (for example, heavy use areas). All complimentary non-forestry structural projects follow the same payment schedule as the forestry project.

Seasonal projects: Complimentary seasonal practices require 5-year commitments (for example, cover crops). All seasonal projects are paid each year they are verified in equal rates for the term of the contract.

Eligible Locations

There are 71 counties in Ohio, 89 counties in Indiana, and 71 counties in Kentucky that are eligible for funding. You will need to confirm if the specific project site falls within the project boundaries, which can be done via the Rapid Pre-screen. If you are unsure if your project falls within the areas shown, please contact the project for clarification. The list of counties is provided on the following pages. Only projects that are part of the larger Ohio River Basin are eligible for funding.



LIST OF ELIGIBLE COUNTIES BY STATE

State	County	Amount of County
IN	Adams	Partial
IN	Allen	Partial
IN	Bartholomew	Full
IN	Benton	Partial
IN	Blackford	Full
IN	Boone	Full
IN	Brown	Full
IN	Carroll	Partial
IN	Cass	Partial
IN	Clay	Full
IN	Clinton	Full
IN	Crawford	<10%
IN	Daviess	Full
IN	Dearborn	Partial
IN	Dearborn	Partial
IN	Decatur	<10%
IN	Decatur	<10%
IN	Decatur	Partial
IN	Delaware	Full
IN	Dubois	Partial
IN	Fayette	Partial
IN	Fayette	<10%
IN	Fountain	Full
IN	Franklin	<10%
IN	Franklin	Full
IN	Fulton	Full
IN	Gibson	Partial
IN	Grant	Full
IN	Greene	Full
IN	Hamilton	Full
IN	Hancock	Full
IN	Hendricks	Full
IN	Henry	Partial
IN	Henry	Partial
IN	Howard	Full
IN	Huntington	Partial
IN	Jackson	Full
IN	Jasper	<10%

IN	Jay	Full
IN	Jefferson	Partial
IN	Jennings	Full
IN	Johnson	Full
IN	Knox	Full
IN	Kosciusko	Partial
IN	Lawrence	Full
IN	Madison	Full
IN	Marion	Full
IN	Marshall	Partial
IN	Martin	Full
IN	Miami	Partial
IN	Monroe	Full
IN	Montgomery	Full
IN	Morgan	Full
IN	Noble	<10%
IN	Ohio	Full
IN	Orange	Partial
IN	Owen	Full
IN	Parke	Full
IN	Pike	Partial
IN	Posey	Partial
IN	Pulaski	Partial
IN	Putnam	Full
IN	Randolph	Partial
IN	Randolph	Full
IN	Ripley	Partial
IN	Ripley	<10%
IN	Ripley	Partial
IN	Rush	<10%
IN	Rush	Partial
IN	Scott	Partial
IN	Shelby	Full
IN	Spencer	<10%
IN	Starke	Partial
IN	Sullivan	Partial
IN	Switzerland	Partial
IN	Tippecanoe	Full
IN	Tipton	Full
IN	Union	Full
IN	Vanderburgh	Partial

IN	Vermillion	Full
IN	Vigo	Full
IN	Wabash	Partial
IN	Warren	Full
IN	Washington	Partial
IN	Wayne	Full
IN	Wells	Partial
IN	White	Partial
IN	Whitley	Partial
KY	Anderson	Full
KY	Bath	Full
KY	Bell	Full
KY	Boone	Full
KY	Bourbon	Full
KY	Boyd	Full
KY	Boyle	Full
KY	Bracken	Full
KY	Breathitt	Full
KY	Bullitt	Full
KY	Campbell	Full
KY	Carroll	Full
KY	Carter	Full
KY	Clark	Full
KY	Clay	Full
KY	Elliott	Full
KY	Estill	Full
KY	Fayette	Full
KY	Fleming	Full
KY	Floyd	Full
KY	Franklin	Full
KY	Gallatin	Full
KY	Garrard	Full
KY	Grant	Full
KY	Greenup	Full
KY	Harlan	Full
KY	Harrison	Full
KY	Henry	Full
KY	Jackson	Full
KY	Jefferson	Full
KY	Jessamine	Full
KY	Johnson	Full

KY	Kenton	Full
KY	Knott	Full
KY	Knox	Full
KY	Laurel	Full
KY	Lawrence	Full
KY	Lee	Full
KY	Leslie	Full
KY	Letcher	Full
KY	Lewis	Full
KY	Madison	Full
KY	Magoffin	Full
KY	Marion	Full
KY	Martin	Full
KY	Mason	Full
KY	McCreary	Full
KY	Menifee	Full
KY	Mercer	Full
KY	Montgomery	Full
KY	Morgan	Full
KY	Nelson	Full
KY	Nicholas	Full
KY	Oldhan	Full
KY	Owen	Full
KY	Owsley	Full
KY	Pendleton	Full
KY	Perry	Full
KY	Pike	Full
KY	Powell	Full
KY	Pulaski	Full
KY	Robertson	Full
KY	Rowan	Full
KY	Scott	Full
KY	Shelby	Full
KY	Spencer	Full
KY	Trimble	Full
KY	Washington	Full
KY	Whitley	Full
KY	Wolfe	Full
KY	Woodford	Full
OH	Adams	Partial
OH	Allen	<10%

OH	Ashland	Partial
OH	Ashtabula	Partial
OH	Athens	Partial
OH	Auglaize	<10%
OH	Belmont	Partial
OH	Brown	Full
OH	Butler	Partial
OH	Carroll	Partial
OH	Champaign	Partial
OH	Clark	Partial
OH	Clermont	Full
OH	Clinton	Partial
OH	Columbiana	Partial
OH	Coshocton	Full
OH	Crawford	<10%
OH	Darke	Partial
OH	Delaware	Full
OH	Fairfield	Partial
OH	Fayette	Partial
OH	Franklin	Full
OH	Gallia	Partial
OH	Geauga	<10%
OH	Greene	Partial
OH	Guernsey	<10%
OH	Hamilton	Partial
OH	Hardin	Partial
OH	Harrison	Partial
OH	Highland	Partial
OH	Hocking	Partial
OH	Holmes	Full
OH	Jackson	Partial
OH	Jefferson	Full
OH	Knox	Partial
OH	Lawrence	Full
OH	Licking	Partial
OH	Logan	Partial
OH	Madison	Partial
OH	Mahoning	Full
OH	Marion	Partial
OH	Medina	Partial
OH	Meigs	<10%

OH	Mercer	<10%
OH	Miami	Full
OH	Monroe	Partial
OH	Montgomery	<10%
OH	Morgan	Partial
OH	Morrow	Partial
OH	Muskingum	Full
OH	Noble	Partial
OH	Perry	Partial
OH	Pickaway	Full
OH	Pike	<10%
OH	Portage	Partial
OH	Preble	Partial
OH	Richland	Partial
OH	Ross	Partial
OH	Scioto	Partial
OH	Shelby	Partial
OH	Stark	Partial
OH	Summit	Partial
OH	Trumbell	Partial
OH	Tuscarawas	Full
OH	Union	Full
OH	Vinton	Partial
OH	Warren	Partial
OH	Washington	Partial
OH	Washinton	Partial
OH	Wayne	Full
OH	Wyandot	<10%

Farm History Documentation Requirements

For a producer to receive funding, the farm must reduce its loading of total nitrogen or total phosphorus below current conditions (what is currently being achieved with existing land uses and management practices) AND otherwise comply with applicable legal requirements. Agricultural producers will need to provide three years of farm practice history to document the condition prior to receiving cost share.

The following provides details on the documentation acceptable for demonstrating the current conditions of the site:

Heavy Use Pads

Remote sensing, including aerial and satellite imagery at a level of resolution appropriate to see the absence of a heavy use pad in the area proposed 3 years prior to the project (in 2013, 2014 and/or 2015). Attach geo-referenced time-stamped aerial photograph with Tax Parcel Number and GPS coordinates and map of production area showing placement of proposed heavy use pad.

Alternative/supplemental: For farms with nutrient management plans or comprehensive nutrient management plans, the technical documents can be used to document the absence of a previous heavy use pad. NRCS or SWCD technical staff may also be able to make an on-site determination of previous history.

Livestock Exclusion

Preferred: Remote sensing, including aerial and satellite imagery at a level of resolution appropriate to see the absence of a fenced riparian zone (similar to a filter strip) in the area proposed 3 years prior to the project (in 2013, 2014 and/or 2015). Attach geo-referenced time-stamped aerial photograph with Tax Parcel Number and GPS coordinates and map of production area showing placement of proposed fencing.

Cover Crops

Preferred: Remote sensing, including aerial and satellite imagery at a level of resolution appropriate to see the absence of cover crops in the area proposed 3 years prior to the project (in 2013, 2014 and/or 2015). Remote sensing must be done between October - November or during March when the cover crop is actively growing. Attach geo-referenced time-stamped aerial photograph with Tax Parcel Number and GPS coordinates and map of production area showing placement of cover crop.

Alternative/supplemental: Some farms may have an EQIP Conservation Activity Plan completed by a Technical Service Provider that identifies the need for cover crops based on on-site inspection and evaluation (e.g. Agricultural Energy Management, Landscape or Organic Transition; Drainage Water Management; IPM CAPs, etc.). The CAP may help document the previous presence/absence of cover crops. In addition, SWCD staff will have records from

farmers who have received cost-share funds from federal or state sources for cover crop implementation.

Enhanced nutrient management on corn

Preferred: Farm management records and sales receipts (fertilizer purchase records) from August 2013 to present to confirm current activities. These are unlikely to be falsified or inaccurate because they are critical records used to manage farm operations. However, farmers' records can be crosschecked with records from synthetic and organic N fertilizer suppliers if additional scrutiny is desired. Demonstrating that the farm is following a comprehensive nutrient management plan or nutrient management plan to make these reductions provides additional assurance that fertilizer reductions will be accompanied by the appropriate placement, rate and timing adjustments. To register GHG reduction emissions credits, EPRI and Delta will need the field coordinates and legal description and copies of application receipts, ownership and title or lease agreements and a signed affidavit that the producer follows 4R implementation (timing, method, product).

Forest Practices

Preferred: Remote sensing, including aerial and satellite imagery at a level of resolution appropriate to see the absence of riparian buffer in the area proposed 3 years prior to the project. Attach geo-referenced time-stamped aerial photograph with Tax Parcel Number and GPS coordinates and map of production area showing placement of riparian buffer.

Cropland converted to Forested area and/or Pasture

Preferred: Remote sensing, including aerial and satellite imagery at a level of resolution appropriate to see the absence of riparian buffer in the area proposed 3 years prior to the project installation. Attach geo-referenced time-stamped aerial photograph with Tax Parcel Number and GPS coordinates and map of production area showing placement of riparian buffer.

Alternative/supplemental: Verify using FSA aerial maps and the associated FSA-578 form. Cropped acres or "cropable" acres will typically be assigned a field number on an FSA map and these acres, by crop type, will be recorded on the FSA 578 form. Permanent pasture typically will not be assigned a field number on an FSA map and the pasture acres will not be recorded on FSA-578 form.

Compliance with Local, State, and Federal Regulations

It is the State or their designee's responsibility to confirm that producers are in compliance with all local, state, and federal regulations. The information provided here summarizes, to the best of our knowledge, the state-specific requirements.

OHIO

The local SWCDs and the Division of Soil and Water Conservation within the Ohio Department of Agriculture maintain up to date information about state laws. In 2014, Ohio approved a bill directing the Ohio Department of Agriculture to establish a fertilizer application certification program. The program will begin on September 30, 2017 and anyone who applies fertilizer for agricultural production on land more than 50 acres in size will need to be certified by ODA as a fertilizer applicator or be acting under the instruction of a certified fertilizer applicator. Certification will include education on the time, place, form, amount, handling and application of fertilizer, commonly referred to as the "4 R's" of nutrient stewardship. Certified applicators will also be required to maintain fertilizer records for at least three years following a fertilizer application.

The State¹ has recommended using a three-tiered system of watershed classification and suggested that any potential regulatory changes should be incrementally implemented in accordance with this prioritization structure: Level 1: Watershed in Distress (e.g. Grand Lake St Mary); Level 2: Critical Natural Resource Areas (e.g. Western Lake Erie Watershed) and 3) Statewide (i.e. majority of state that is not in a Level 1 or 2 area). At each level, a process/trigger for developing nutrient management plans, programs and procedures would be developed including separate Nutrient Management Plan process for farms involved in livestock production (permitted and non-permitted) and crops. Currently only watersheds discharging into Lake Erie fall into these categories.

INDIANA

The local SWCDs and the Division of Soil and Water Conservation within the Indiana Department of Natural Resources maintains up to date information about state laws. Within Indiana, the primary agency for environmental issues is the Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). All confined feeding operations require prior approval from IDEM and require manure management plans (which would constitute a baseline requirement for individual farms).

KENTUCKY

The Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Act, KRS 223.71-100 through 224.71-140 constitutes the baseline for individual producers.

¹ 2012. Ohio Department of Agriculture and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Directors' agricultural Nutrients and Water Quality Working Group. Final Report and Recommendations. 115 pages.

Only BMPs that producers implement beyond the requirements of this state act are eligible for funding under this notice. Producers must demonstrate compliance with the AWQA with the following:

1. Confirm with the relevant Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) that there are no outstanding Notices of Violation (NOVs) citing the landowner for AWQA violations;
2. A copy of the landowner's Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) has been filed with the relevant SWCD;
3. At least one soil test has been conducted within the last five-year period in accordance with the AWQA Statewide Plan specifications. This includes following guidance and procedures from the University of Kentucky regarding soil testing:

Applicants should use the Mehlich III solution to extract phosphorus (P), potassium (K), calcium (Ca), magnesium (Mg), and zinc (Zn). Soil pH should be determined in a solution of 1 M KCl and then converted to soil-water pH for soil test reports. Buffer pH should be determined with the Sikora buffer. These methods are described in Bulletin 190 of the Southern Cooperative Series, Procedures Used by the State Soil Testing Laboratories in the Southern Region of the United States. In addition, in accordance with NRCS Practice Code 590 for Kentucky, all test should be performed by laboratories successfully meeting the requirements and performance standards of the North American Proficiency Testing Program-Performance Assessment Program (NAPT-PAP).

Questions and Answers

- Are structural designs required before project is approved and under contract?
 - No, they are not required until contract is in place.
- Is there a standard payment per practice?
 - No, we select projects based on the cost per pound of TN reduction, not on the practice type. Since efficiency of practices varies depending on farm location, soil types, slope, and other factors, we are not able to set a standard payment per practice.
- Is there a 24h notification requirement to do on-site monitoring of the BMP?
 - Yes. The agreement provides for reasonable access with reasonable notice with a minimum of a 24 h notification.
- Is a conservation plan required for farmers to participate?
 - No, unless it is required by law.
- Are farmers required to be EQIP eligible?
 - There is a preference for EQIP eligible producers. However, they do not need to submit any paperwork to their local NRCS office. All they need to do is complete the forms provided in this application package.
- What information do we collect to confirm that farmers are EQIP eligible?
 - The only information you need are the answers provided in the application form. No additional forms are needed.
- Do we need to fill out a NRCS CPA 52 form for the project (environmental evaluation worksheet required by NRCS)
 - No. A NRCS CPA 52 form is not needed.
- If a BMP fails or otherwise does not function, are farmers required to re-install the BMP or compensate EPRI for the failed practice?
 - Farmers, in consultation with the State and/or SWCD, are expected to take all appropriate precautions to prevent the failure of a practice, and to initiate immediate and appropriate corrective action upon discovery of a failure.
- To what extent will personal information be publicly released in the project?
 - Since the State Agencies are involved in the application process, the applications, farm practice history and other application package documents may be subject to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

- If the land owner just purchased the farm, they may have only a one year history on management practices. Will that be enough?
 - Most states have aerial layers they use for their GIS maps (2008, 2010 and 2012) and this may suffice in some cases. For seasonal practices, we've also provided some possibilities for alternative documentation.

- If the landowner doesn't maintain the practice, what happens?
 - The producer will be subject to recovery of the funds provided. For structural practices, the State Agency reserves the right to collect the money paid to the farmer according to the contract terms. For seasonal practices paid on an annual basis, the SWCD/State can stop paying them and give the remaining funds to another farmer in the county who can generate equivalent nutrient reductions. If there isn't another farmer available, the State Agency may move the funds to another project.

Rapid Project Pre-Screen Form

EPRI is offering the ability to quickly pre-screen project ideas to gain an early understanding of the likelihood of funding and avoid unnecessarily completing full applications.

1. Short narrative description of the project (for example, 50-acre tree planting, riparian buffer strip for farm field, wind break, etc).
2. Species of trees anticipated (oaks, poplar, etc).
3. Describe briefly the current land use (i.e. corn-soy rotation, barn buffer)
4. Installation timeframe anticipated.
5. Location of project. This can be provided by road intersection points, google earth map with arrow/circle showing field, latitude and longitude coordinates, address, or any other public record to identify the parcel. We need to see the size of the project and location within the watershed. Attached additional pages if needed.

Send the completed form with the above information to Jessica Fox (jfox@epri.com) and Brian Brandt (bbrandt@farmland.org), using the **Subject: RAPID PROJECT PRE-SCREEN**.

We can respond within 1 week with an estimate of the likelihood of funding.

Full Application: Forestry in the Ohio River Basin Water Quality Trading Project

Prior to completing the full application, we **strongly** suggest utilizing the **Rapid Project Pre-screen**, which can provide feedback on the likelihood of project funding.

Read the full Funding Notice prior to submitting a funding application to ensure eligibility.

DEADLINES:

- Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis beginning September 1st, 2016 until funds are expended.
- It will take 30 days for to review applications; applications should be submitted at least 30 days before landowners need to place tree orders.
- Projects must be fully installed and verified by the state agency by ~~November 15, 2017~~ July 15 2018.

Project Master Reference Code (EPRI will provide if a Rapid Project Prescreen was completed. Otherwise, leave blank): _____

County: _____

State/SWCD Staff Lead Name: _____

State/SWCD Staff Lead e-mail: _____

Check appropriate title of Applicant (check all that apply): Owner Operator

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email: _____

Does this practice involve a partnership or joint venture with others? Yes No

Is the applicant also the landowner? Yes No

If not, is there written documentation of permission to install the practice/practices binding the landowner to the cost share if the tenant no longer rents/leases the land? Yes No

KENTUCKY LANDOWNERS ONLY:

The Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Act, KRS 223.71-100 through 224.71-140 constitutes the eligibility baseline for individual producers. The applicant has demonstrated compliance with the AWQA as follows:

- Confirm with the relevant Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) that there are no outstanding Notices of Violation (NOVs) citing the landowner for AWQA violations;
- A copy of the landowner’s Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) has been filed with the relevant SWCD;
- At least one soil test has been conducted within the last five-year period in accordance with the AWQA Statewide Plan specifications. This includes following guidance and procedures from the University of Kentucky regarding soil testing:

Applicants should use the Mehlich III solution to extract phosphorus (P), potassium (K), calcium (Ca), magnesium (Mg), and zinc (Zn). Soil pH should be determined in a solution of 1 M KCl and then converted to soil-water pH for soil test reports. Buffer pH should be determined with the Sikora buffer. These methods are described in Bulletin 190 of the Southern Cooperative Series, Procedures Used by the State Soil Testing Laboratories in the Southern Region of the United States. In addition, in accordance with NRCS Practice Code 590 for Kentucky, all test should be performed by laboratories successfully meeting the requirements and performance standards of the North American Proficiency Testing Program-Performance Assessment Program (NAPT-PAP).

Type of operation (check all that apply): Cropland Livestock Other _____

Describe the current operation, including:

- Crop types:
- Livestock density (heads per acre):
- Fertilizer amounts (N, P) applied:
- Timing of fertilizer application:

Location of proposed new practice(s): *include aerial photo or map that shows project location and nearest waterbody.*

Address: Same as above

Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

Enter using uniform format (degree-minutes-seconds)

The following question refer to EQIP-eligibility

Has the applicant exceeded their EQIP Payment Limitation? Yes No

Has the applicant exceeded the Adjusted Gross Income provision? Yes No

Is the applicant in compliance with the Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation provision?

Yes No

Is applicant willing and able to demonstrate 3 years of farm practice history?

Yes No

Project Description:

Describe the proposed practice(s) to be implemented. Include on-site photographs showing current conditions. Include size of project, species of trees anticipated, current land use and installation time-frame.

Project Cost:

What is the total cost of the project being proposed? Include details such as tree purchase, installation cost, materials, labor, etc.

Funding Request:

How much funding is being requested?

Total cost-share funding request: \$ _____

Percent cost-share of total project cost (should not exceed 80%): _____

Have any of the proposed practices been implemented on the same acres previously? Yes No

Are the proposed practice(s) being implemented a result of a regulatory action, as part of an existing settlement, or other legal action? Yes No

What is the status of technical assistance provided for this project to date? Check all that apply.

- Initial Investigation
- Survey
- Design
- Conservation plan
- Self-Assessment

Has the applicant previously received cost-share for this same project on the same acres?

- Yes No

If yes, please explain: _____

Potential Ancillary Benefits or Priority Concerns addressed (check all that apply):

- Carbon Sequestration
- Water Quantity
- Habitat Enhancement
- Excessive Run-off
- Soil Health
- Erosion control
- Sediment Reduction
- Fertilizer Use Reduction
- Rare Species
- Pollinators
- Water retention
- Agricultural Viability
- Animal health
- Other (please list)

Is the applicant willing to participate in a media event or field day highlighting his/her involvement in agricultural publications? Yes No

Is the applicant aware that his/her Application and associated documents may be subject to public disclosure by way of a Freedom of Information Act request? Yes No

Briefly describe conservation practices already being implemented by the Applicant in their operations:

SIGNATURES

I certify that I am willing and able to demonstrate my farm practices for the last 3 years (e.g., through records, photographs, or other documentary materials) for the farm specified in the funding application and that I will provide a complete demonstration, upon request, to my local SWCD, State department, and/or the Electric Power Research Institute.

Further, I certify that the proposed project will comply with all local, state, and federal regulations; that the proposed practices are not otherwise required to meet a local, state or federal obligations; and that all statements contained herein are true and accurate.

Applicant Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

SWCD/State Staff

To the best of my professional knowledge, this project meets eligibility requirements as described in this funding notice and the applicant will not apply the requested cost-share towards achieving compliance with local, state and federal regulations.

SWCD/State Staff Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____