

Chesapeake Bay Funding Program Open To Dauphin County

DAUPHIN (Dauphin Co.)—The Chesapeake Bay Program is becoming a familiar term to many local farmers.

Farmers in most parts of Dauphin County are now encouraged to apply for financial assistance for installing nutrient management and conservation practices, if these practices will help reduce serious risk of nutrient pollution to Dauphin County waterways and the Chesapeake Bay.

The maximum cost-share rates available are 80% of the costs for certain practices (manure storage systems, terraces, waterways, pas-

ture improvement, etc.) not to exceed \$30,000 per landowner.

Dauphin County's Chesapeake Bay Program Non-Point Source Pollution Financial Assistance Funding Program now includes the entire portion of Dauphin County north of Peters Mountain and the Swatara Creek Watershed, as well as the Conewago Creek Watershed. (The Swatara Creek Watershed includes all lands which drain into the Swatara, Beaver, and Manada creeks as well as their tributaries.)

To be eligible for the financial assistance funding program, land-

owners must meet the following conditions:

- Must be a landowner in the Dauphin County portions of the Upper Dauphin, Swatara Creek or Conewago Creek watersheds.

- Must have critical nutrient and/or soil erosion problem(s) on the farm in these watersheds.

- Must be a "cooperator" with the Dauphin County Conservation District.

- Must be willing to enter into a 1- to 2-year agreement designed to solve the critical nutrient and/or soil erosion problems on the farm.

Signing up for the financial assistance program does not guarantee approval in the program.

Only those landowners with serious nutrient and/or soil erosion problems on their farm may be approved. For this fiscal year funds allocated to Dauphin County's cost-sharing program amounted to \$115,500.

While sign-up for the program is open continually, applicants who wish to be considered in the next round of funding must submit requests by June 29 to the Dauphin County Conservation District, at the Dauphin County Agriculture and Natural Resources Center, 1451 Peters Mountain Road, Route 225, Dauphin. Staff is available from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday to

assist with sign-up applications.

The ultimate goal of the program is to reduce the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment entering the Susquehanna River and eventually the Chesapeake Bay. Agricultural runoff has been identified as the major source of these nutrients and sediment. Two of the primary benefits of the Chesapeake Bay Program to the residents of Dauphin County will be improved stream quality and reduced risk of groundwater contamination.

For more information, please contact Paul Mauger, nutrient management specialist, at (717) 921-8100, or visit the office.

Greencastle Livestock

Greencastle, Pa.

Thursday, May 31, 1990

Report Supplied by PDA

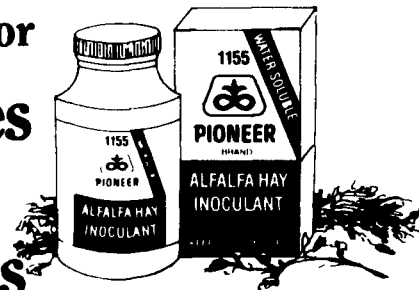
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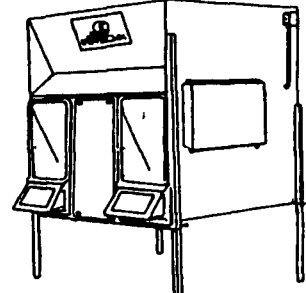
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