Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Program Update

All Bay Meeting January 5, 2011 Steve Taglang

Changes to Chapter 102.4 and the Manure Management Manual

Chapter 102.4

Agricultural plowing and tilling

Animal Heavy Use Areas (AHUA)

Manure Management Manual

Land Application of Manure Supplement



Chapter 102 Revisions

- Chapter 102 regulations effective November 19, 2010
- New Provisions Include:
 - 25% cover
 - Animal Heavy Use Areas (AHUA)
 - Plan Implementation Schedule
- Written Erosion & Sediment Pollution Control Plans (E&S Plans) are required for Agricultural plowing and tilling (including "No Till" activities) and Animal Heavy Use Areas (AHUA)
- Current NRCS Conservation Plans with BMPs covering crop fields and AHUA may meet Chapter 102 requirements

25% Cover for Near Stream Fields

- Areas within 100 feet of a stream must maintain a minimum 25% plant cover or crop residue
- Crops such as corn silage with little post harvest residue will need additional BMPs within 100 ft of a stream
- Or specify other BMPs to protect these near stream areas



Animal Heavy Use Areas (AHUAs)

- Animal Heavy Use Areas (AHUAs) are barnyards, feedlots, watering areas, exercise lots, etc.
 - These are non-pasture areas for animals outside of the barn
- Must prevent pollution to stream from AHUA runoff
- The Agriculture E&S Plan must include all AHUAs on the farm

Proposed BMP Implementation Schedule

- Crop fields BMPs must be fully implemented over the crop rotation or 5 years
- AHUA plan must be developed within 2 years with another 3 years to fully implement under MMM





"T" Over Rotation

- "T" = Soil Loss Tolerance
- RUSLE / RUSLE2 technology may be used to <u>estimate</u> soil loss under a certain management condition
- RUSLE = Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation
- NRCS-developed <u>Conservation Systems Matrix</u>. Rotations that include hay or other erosion resistant crops are conservative with respect to soil loss and may be assumed to meet T over the rotation. Operators planning a more intensive crop rotation will need to develop an Conservation Plan or Ag E&S Plan through a qualified planner.**

Proposed Manure Management Manual (MMM) Revisions

Comment Period ended November 12, 2010

- Proposed Revisions Include:
 - Penn State Agronomy Guide references
 - Plan Format
 - Manure management on environmentally sensitive areas
 - Winter application restrictions
 - Pasture Management
 - Animal Concentration Areas (ACAs)

MMM Revisions

- January Review comments submitted / changes to MMM
- February Present revised MMM to the Agricultural Advisory Board
- Spring 2011 Published revised MMM
- Summer 2011 Education / Outreach,
 Training

Contract Performance Evaluations

- To date 22 districts have been evaluated
 - 4 Outstanding
 - 4 Commendable
 - 13 Satisfactory
 - 1 Needs Improvement

Contract Performance Evaluations Common Problems Noted

 Care should be taken to make sure standard forms are completely filled out. If a certain area is nonapplicable, N/A should be included. Dates should be included after all signatures.

2. Landowner forms must be completed for each individual that receives cost share funding (refer to: Administrative Manual for the SPFP - page 6-19)

Contract Performance Evaluations Common Problems Noted

- 3. Verification is needed for landowners not required to have an approved Act-38 nutrient management plan that they are, at a minimum, following DEP's Manure Management Manual. (refer to: Administrative Manual for the SPFP page 4).
- 4. If ranking of applicants needs to occur because of a lack of sufficient funds, the department recommends that the ranking formula be approved by the County Conservation District Board of Directors. (refer to: Administrative Manual for the SPFP page 6, Section C)

CBP-23 Quarterly Reports

 CBP-23 (Quarterly Reports) should reflect all Best Management Practices (BMPs) that the district technician and/or specialist has worked on, not just those funded through the CBP program.

 If another program funded a project, please note that funding source (such as EQIP, Growing Greener, etc.)

Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Program (CBRAP)

- Additional Funds received from EPA
- Funds could only be used for <u>Regulatory</u> and <u>Accountability</u> efforts
- DEP hiring 4 new Field positions (1 NCRO, 1 NERO, 2 SCRO) and filling the CAFO Section Chief position in Central Office
- There is potential new money for CD's in the future

Changes Under the Bay Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP)

"Mind Set"

Staff Activities

Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant

Changing Role under the Bay WIP DEP

- More Education / Outreach visits
- More focus on Ag Compliance
- Increased inspection and enforcement with CBRAP staff
- Chesapeake Bay Field Reps
 - E&S and manure management activities
 - Untracked non-cost shared BMPs

Changing Role under the Bay WIP Conservation Districts

Bay Techs

Ag Staff / E&S Staff

Changing Role under the Bay WIP Bay Techs

- Compliance Policy
- Compliance assistance outreach
 - 100 farms per year per staff person
- Non cost share BMP data collection
 - NRCS, NACD, and EPA working on structure and method
 - Bradford / Lancaster County Pilots

- DRAFT -Bradford CD BMP Pilot Study

Ag BMPs (256 farms - 18% of all in County)

Survey Methods: Group Meetings (64), Contractor farm visit (64),

<u>Practice</u>	Reported	% Not Cost Shared
No Till	6,039 ac	85%
Cover Crop	3,335 ac	74%
Manure Storage	81	43%
Barnyard Treatment	61	48%
No Nutrient Application	10,347ac	n/a
Nutrient Management Pla	n 98	n/a
Conservation Plan	145	n/a
Stream Fencing	79 farms / 339 ac	51%
Rotational Grazing	74 farms / 4,679 ac	88%

Urban BMPs (45 of 51 Municipalities Responded)

<u>Practice</u>		Reported
Dirt and Gravel Roads	108,100	
Stream Bank Protection		6,245
Street Cleaning		1,092,696
Municipal Sewage Connections	5	,709

Changing Role under the Bay WIP Other CD Staff

- Revisions to Delegation Agreements and Required Output Measures (ROMs)
 - Due to agriculture Chapter 102 requirements

- District Compliance Policies
 - Model compliance Policy to be developed

Changing Role under the Bay WIP Nutrient Management Techs

Seek additional funding from EPA for these positions

- Revisions to Delegation Agreements and Required Output Measures (ROMs)
 - Due to Chapter 91.36 and Manure Management
 Manual revisions

Changing Role under the Bay WIP NRCS

 Technical Service Provider (TSP) Agreements with 14 Conservation Districts

Conewago Creek "Showcase" Watershed

Lancaster County Plain Sect outreach position

Additional BMP funding

Changing Role under the Bay WIP PENNVEST

Additional funding source in 2010 and beyond

 Creation of a Non-point Source Circuit Rider to assist with PENNVEST NPS applications

Changing Role under the Bay WIP Funding

- NRCS CBWI \$ 9,639,688
- NRCS EQIP \$ 12,750,000
- PENNVEST \$ 17,149,296 (awarded in 2010)
- Others Growing Greener, 319, NFWF, REAP, CREP, CRP, CSP, etc.

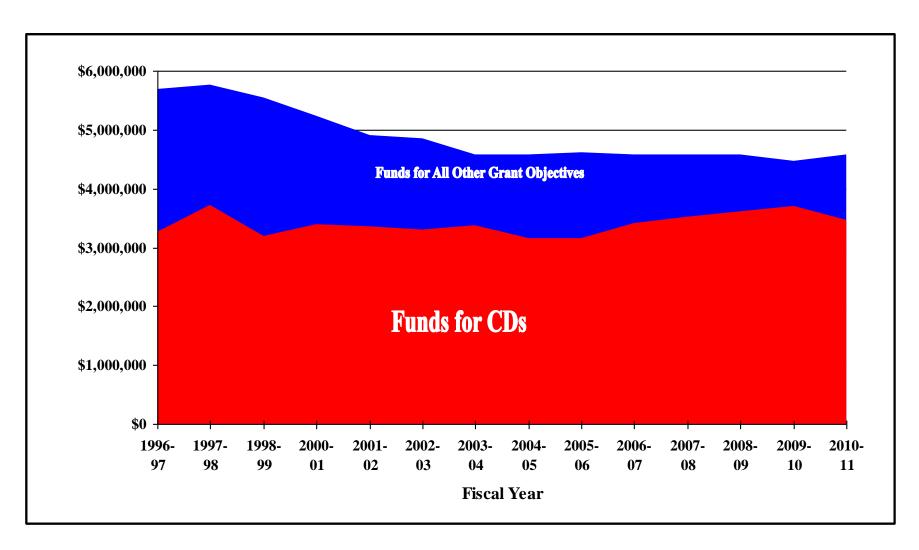
BMP Funds Available

But YOU have to find'em -

Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant 2010-11 Budget

<u>Objective</u>	<u>Federal</u>	<u>State</u>	Total Budget
Program Management	\$ 44,051	\$ 826,980	\$ 871,031
TMDL Development (SRBC)	\$ 205,500		\$ 205,500
Chesapeake Bay Education Office (PACD)	\$ 32,200		\$ 32,200
Technical Assistance: Conservation District Technicians and Engineers	\$ 1,176,218	\$ 1,460,020	\$ 2,636,238
BMP Implementation: Conservation District Projects, DEP Stream Bank Fencing/BMPs	\$ 829,031		\$ 829,031
TOTAL	\$ 2,287,000	\$ 2,287,000	\$ 4,574,000

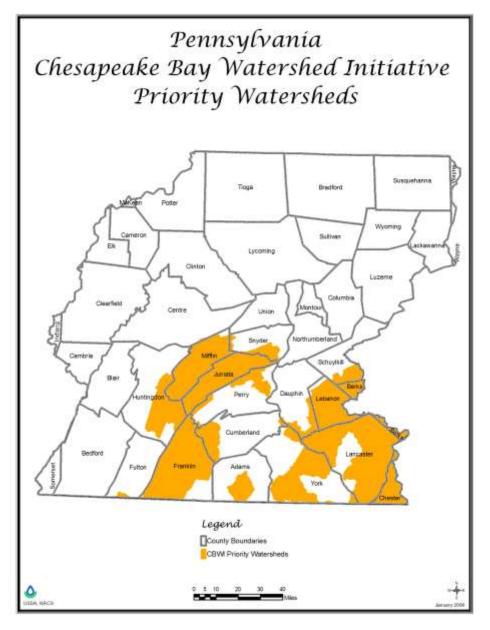
Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant FY 2010-11 = \$4.574 Million



2011-12 Special Project Funding Priorities

- Staff support of NRCS
- Priority to EPA Priority Watershed
- "Core Four"
 - No-Till
 - Buffers
 - Cover Crops
 - Planning (Conservation and Nutrient Management)
 - Streambank Fencing

EPA Priority Watersheds



Questions

