

## District Offers Free Programs to Help Farmers



*This instrument is used by Cumberland County Conservation District to measure nitrates in soil as a free service to farmers.*

Cumberland County Conservation District offers two unique programs that help farmers free of charge. Both services test for harmful contaminants on the farms that could threaten the safety of our food and water.

Pre-Sidedress Nitrogen Testing (PSNT) on corn fields was recently offered to local farmers. The testing is funded by a grant through the Chesapeake Bay Program. In 2012, they completed testing on 136 fields totaling 2,000 acres. The results determine where there is a need for additional nitrogen fertilizer.

“PSNT testing is valuable in that it can save the farmer money and also prevent the excess application of nitrogen on the cornfields which in turn helps protect our

natural resources,” explains Carl Goshorn, District Manager of Cumberland County Conservation District.

The district also offers monthly water testing. District staff members test for coliform bacteria, e.coli, nitrates, lead, iron, sodium, and other harmful contaminants.

These services not only help local farmers, but also serve the greater community. For more information about these tests, visit <http://www.cumberlandcd.com/>

