Financing to support Agricultural BMPs

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Applications
Applications are available for download at:
https://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/
CleanWaterFinancingAssistance/
AgriculturalBMP.aspx

Submit applications by email to:
CWFAP@deq.virginia.gov

or mail to:
Clean Water Financing & Assistance Program
Department of Environmental Quality
PO Box 1105, Richmond, VA 23218

Virginia Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund
Cost-Effective Financing for Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs)
The Virginia Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (VCWRLF) is a state financing assistance program. It is administered in the Commonwealth by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on behalf of the State Water Control Board. Since its creation in Virginia in 1987, the Virginia Resources Authority (VRA) has served as the VCWRLF’s financial manager.

Virginia’s Ag BMP Loan Program is one of a number of VCWRLF components eligible to utilize the Fund to provide a source of low cost financing to Virginia’s agricultural producers to assist in their efforts to reduce agricultural non-point source pollution.

The Ag BMP Loan Program was administered from 2000 to 2016. During this time, the Program provided $46 million in 491 loans for 615 Ag BMP projects throughout Virginia.

On July 1, 2019 the program resumed with additional incentives provided to Producers.

The State Water Control Board (SWCB) is responsible for developing the policies and procedures for VCWRLF, and for ensuring that the administration of the Fund complies with applicable federal and state laws and regulations. DEQ manages the day-to-day operation of the VCWRLF on behalf of the SWCB.

As the VCWRLF’s financial manager, VRA negotiates individual loans, makes disbursements to loan recipients, collects loan payments, and invests any uncommitted VCWRLF monies.

For more information about DEQ’s Ag BMP Loan Program contact Lars Bolton at (804) 698-4006 or lars.bolton@deq.virginia.gov.

**New Incentives**
- All loans at 0% interest
- Potential for principal forgiveness
- No long-term loan requirement
- Expanded list of eligible practices
- Expanded list of eligible applicants

**Application Process**
- Submit application to DEQ (accepted year round)
  - Projects reviewed monthly
  - Projects prioritized by DEQ
  - Tentative authorization granted
- Prioritized project list forwarded to VRA
  - Credit information submitted to VRA
  - Credit review completed
  - Approval recommendation submitted to DEQ
- Final loan authorization provided by DEQ following credit approval
  - Eligible expenses determined and other DEQ conditions satisfied prior to loan closing
  - Loan closing completed by VRA

**Loan Terms**
- Disbursements of loan proceeds made on a reimbursement basis
- Debt repayment begins 6 months after project completion
- 1 to 10 year repayment schedules available, depending on loan amount and asset useful life

**Eligible Applicants**
Any Virginia Producer wishing to implement eligible best management practices to reduce the amount of polluted agricultural runoff entering Virginia waters adjacent to their existing agricultural operation will be considered by DEQ for Ag BMP program assistance.

**Eligible Practices**
- Manure Composting*
- Woodland (Riparian) Buffer*
- Livestock Exclusion with Riparian Buffers*
- Livestock Exclusion with Reduced Setback*
- Shoreline Stabilization*
- Terrace System
- Grazing Systems*
- Alternative Water Systems
- Stream Exclusion
- Support Extension of Watering Systems*
- Animal Travel Lane Stabilization
- Sediment Retention
- Streambank and Channel Stabilization
- Stream Crossing
- Stream Protection with Fencing*
- Animal Waste Control Facility
- Dairy Loafing Lot Management System
- Composter Facilities
- Animal Waste Structure Pump Equipment
- Animal Mortality Incinerator Facilities*
- Stormwater Retention Pond
- Ag Chemical & Fertilizer Handling Facility
- Surface Water Runoff Impoundment
- Relocation of Confined Feeding Operations
- Water Table Control Structure
- Constructed Wetlands
- Wetland Restoration
- Irrigation Water Recycling System*
- Fuel Storage Treatment
- Agricultural Sinkhole Protection*
- Roof Runoff Management System*
- No-Till Planter/Drill

*New Practice