Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative

The Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative (CBWI) is a new conservation provision authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill.

CBWI provides technical and financial assistance to agricultural producers to implement conservation practices to minimize nutrient and sediment losses in order to restore, preserve, and protect local water quality and the Chesapeake Bay.

CBWI in Pennsylvania will focus on conservation practices that can be adopted in a short time frame. Other practices are also available.

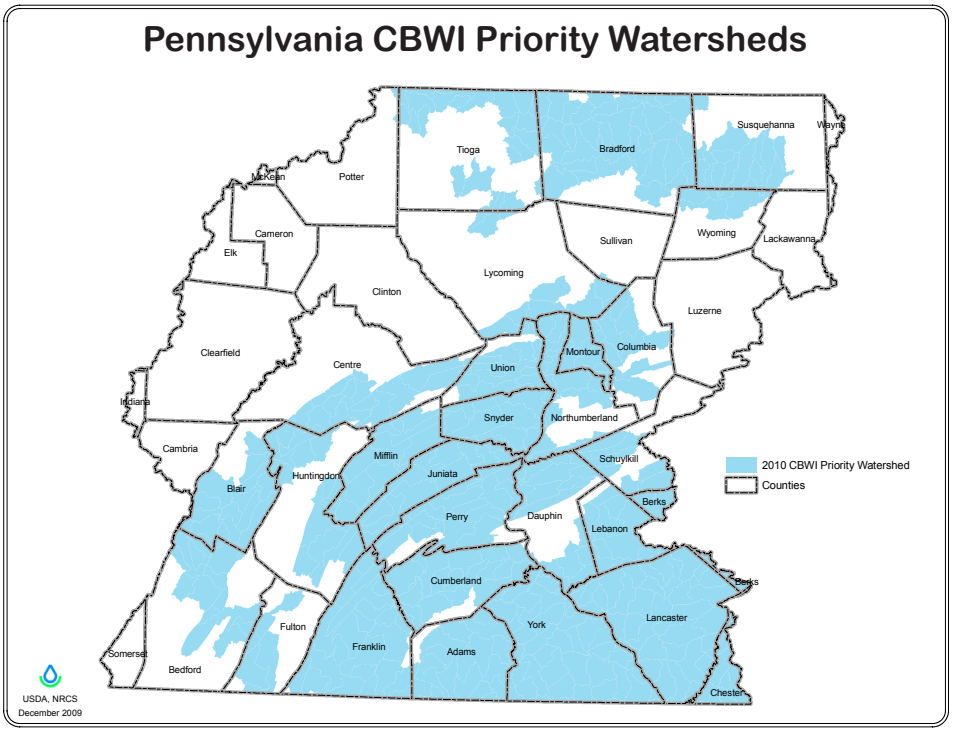
USDA NRCS
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov

Agricultural land located within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed is eligible for a new conservation opportunity. Farms located within designated priority watersheds will receive additional consideration in the program ranking.

NRCS will offer practice payments for conservation practices that reduce sediment and nutrient losses from fields and pastures, such as improved nutrient management, residue and tillage management, cover crops, and conservation buffers.

Sign up now in local NRCS field offices. NRCS will evaluate, rank, prioritize, and select applications for funding on a monthly basis.

Pennsylvania CBWI Priority Watersheds



A more detailed map and application materials can be found at www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov

Conservation Practices

Erosion and Sediment Control

- Residue and Tillage Management (No-Till, Mulch Till, Conservation Tillage)
- Cover Crops
- Grassed Waterways
- Terraces
- Diversions
- Vegetative Cover

Nutrient Loss Reduction

- Basic Nutrient Management Implementation
- Advanced Nutrient Management Techniques
- Precision Application Techniques
- Feed Management
- Cover Crops

Stream Corridor Protection

- Stream Bank Fencing
- Riparian Buffers

Additional Practices

- Waste Storage Facilities
- Heavy Use Area Protection
- Prescribed Grazing Systems
- Manure Management Systems

If Your Farm is Located Anywhere in Pennsylvania

You may be eligible for financial assistance, provided by various Farm Bill programs, to implement conservation practices to address resource concerns on cropland, pastureland, forestland, or land used for wildlife habitat.

If Your Farm is in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

You may be eligible for CBWI to implement conservation and associated practices to protect, enhance, and restore water quality.

If Your Farm is in an NRCS Priority CBWI Watershed

You will receive additional consideration in the ranking process for CBWI.

You may sign up for multiple programs but you cannot have the same practice on the same land under multiple USDA contracts.

For additional information or to apply for CBWI contact your area NRCS Service Ctr.

Clarion NRCS: 814-226-8160 x 4
Somerset NRCS: 814-445-8979 x 6
Lebanon NRCS: 717-274-2597 x 5
Bloomsburg NRCS: 570-784-4401 x 6

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