

FY-06 DELAWARE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM

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The Delaware EQIP Subcommittee of the State Technical Committee, using guidance in the proposed rule and suggestions from the Local Work Groups, developed the following materials.

EQIP applications will be ranked based on one or more of the following management systems.

- ◆ (AWMS) Agricultural Waste Management Systems **32%** of the allocation
- ◆ (ICMS) Integrated Crop Management Systems **20%** of the allocation
- ◆ Irrigation Water Management Systems **18%** of the allocation
- ◆ Erosion Control Management Systems **1%** of the allocation
- ◆ Biodiversity Management Systems **0.5%** of the allocation
- ◆ Planned Grazing Management Systems **1.5%** of the allocation
- ◆ Poultry House Windbreak Systems **0.5%** of the allocation
- ◆ Long term No-Till Pilot Project **10%** of the allocation
- ◆ Poultry Litter Amendment Pilot Project **15%** of the allocation

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Each management system has a list of approved practices, a funding allocation, cost-share and incentive rates and a ranking procedure based on a maximum of 200 points.

The first 100 points are location based and are identical for each management system.

Environmental Factors for All Management Systems

1	Highly Impaired TMDL established watershed ¹ (60 pts)	Impaired TMDL established watershed ² (50 pts)	TMDL to be developed for watershed by 2006 ³ (30 pts)
2	Tract is adjacent to or less than 250 feet from a stream, agricultural ditch, or waterbody (20 pts)		Tract is between 250 and 1000 feet from a stream, agricultural ditch, or waterbody (15 pts)
3	Tract is within or contains areas considered as excellent recharge area (20 pts)		Tract is within 1000 feet of an excellent recharge area. (15 pts)

¹ Areas where nonpoint source loading of nutrients (nitrogen or phosphorus) must be reduced by greater than 50% (Inland Bays Watershed High Reduction Zone; **Appoquinimink** River Watershed)
² Areas where nonpoint source loadings of nutrients (nitrogen or phosphorus) must be reduced by 1-50% (Inland Bays Low Reduction Zone (including the **Little Assawoman Bay**), Murderkill River, and Nanticoke River Watersheds)
³ All remaining watersheds except Delaware River, Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, and Delaware Bay

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The second 100 points are practice based and specific to each management system. Points are awarded based on the eligible conservation practices the participant chooses to apply.

Tiebreaker: Calculate the total number of life span years for all the conservation practices in the EQIP contract. The contract with the most years will be selected. Each conservation practice has a life span and one of the national ranking considerations is practice durability. This procedure would select the offer with the greatest longevity.

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¹ TMDL scheduled for promulgation at the end of 2005.