



USC
Upper Susquehanna Coalition

Ag Team Opportunities



2023 BMP Verification & Data Entry

- 2023 BMP Verification & Data Reporting (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)
 - BMP Verification Lists and contracts have been sent
 - \$1000 per farm on the Randomly Selected list.
- All BMP Verification and Data Entry is required to be input into the database by **June 30, 2023**
 - Randomly Selected List
 - Additional Farms List (if applicable to your county)
 - Resource Improvement (RI) Practice
 - RE-INSPECT List
 - 50% of CAFO List
 - ALL Annual Practices
 - ALL New Multi-year Implementation – Buffers, USC WQ Program Practices, AgNP/CRF Practices, Stream Work, etc.



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USC Cover Crop Implementation Program

Cover Crops

- \$460,000 available
- Goal:
 - 3,000 acres (NEW) implementation
- Requests due April 14th

- Previous USC Rates:
 - \$71/new acres
 - \$25/continued acres



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USC Expanding Nutrient Management

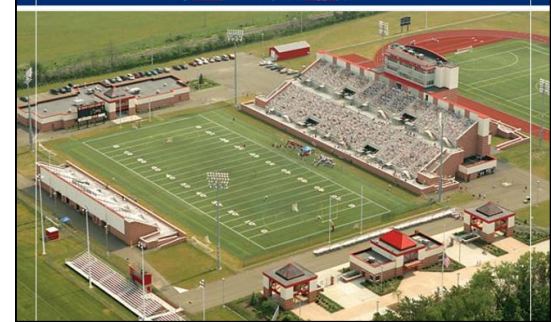
- Funding Information:
 - Expires January 1, 2024
 - Goal of 40,000 of Baseline NM planning (minimum level)
 - Identification and documentation of additional practices needed on planned farms
 - USC will pay \$10.00/ac planned
 - Development of Mobile Record Keeping App
- Reporting Information: (form will be provided)
 - AEMID, Farm Name/Landowner Name, Acres Planned, Type of Plan, # of Soil Tests, # of Manure Tests, Documented in USC Online Tool, if Record Keeping App was utilized.

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USC Expanding Nutrient Management

- Urban Nutrient Management
 - 1000 Urban Acres (15 sites) planned
 - Education & Outreach materials
 - Urban NM Plan Template (Developed)
 - Urban NM Guidance Document (Developed)
 - Landowner Pledge Cards



Top 10 Urban Nutrient Management Practices to Protect Water Quality, Use Fertilizer Sparingly, and Potentially Save \$

1. Work with a professional to develop an Urban Nutrient Management Plan based on soil test analysis.
2. Recycle clippings and mulched leaves. Do not leave them on lawns. They can help your lawn's fertility.
3. Avoid spillage of fertilizer and turfgrass clippings on paved surfaces and main drains.
4. Do not apply fertilizer within 20 feet of a water feature.
5. No P applications or secondary nutrients unless a soil test indicates a deficiency.
6. If turf has desirable function, growth, and quality, fertilizer (of any kind) is not necessary.
7. Get mower height at 3.5 inches or higher - 1/2 inch of leaf blade is needed for photosynthesis.
8. Fertilizer applications should not be made when soil temperatures are under 40 degrees F or during freeze/thaw. Heat when fertilizer can burn the lawn.
9. For efficient use of fertilizer, use slow-release N fertilizer, especially on shady soils.
10. Avoid late-season applications (after mid-October) of all N sources and avoid excessive early spring applications of water-soluble (quick-release) N sources. No prophylactic applications of any lawn fertilizer December 1-April 1.

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When to Fertilize Your Turf Grass
Does your turf have desirable function, growth, and quality?

yes → Fertilizer (of any kind) is not needed

no → Depending on your turf type, follow the instructions for N and P application below:

- Type 1: High traffic, and based (e.g., golf courses, athletic fields)**
 - Apply N at max rate of 0.5 lbs. water-soluble N or 0.7 lbs. slow-release N/1,000 ft² (not to exceed 1.5 lbs./1,000 ft²/year)
 - Conduct a soil test. Does your turf need P?
 - yes: Apply P according to MLSN Guidelines. Apply no more than 0.5 lbs. P/1,000 ft².
 - no: No supplemental P is needed.
- Type 2: Low traffic, native soil (e.g., all other mature turf)**
 - Apply N at max rate of 0.5 lbs. water-soluble N or 0.7 lbs. slow-release N/1,000 ft² (not to exceed 2 lbs./1,000 ft²/year)
 - Conduct a soil test. Does your turf need P?
 - yes: Apply P according to MLSN Guidelines. Apply no more than 0.5 lbs. P/1,000 ft².
 - no: No supplemental P is needed.
- Type 3: Newly established turf**
 - Apply N at max rate of 0.5 lbs. water-soluble N or 0.7 lbs. slow-release N/1,000 ft² during first 60 days (not to exceed 2 lbs./1,000 ft²/year)
 - Conduct a soil test. Does your turf need P?
 - yes: Apply P at a max of 1 lb./1,000 ft² before or within 60 days of seeding or follow directions for a "starter" fertilizer (typically 16-24-0).
 - no: No supplemental P is needed.

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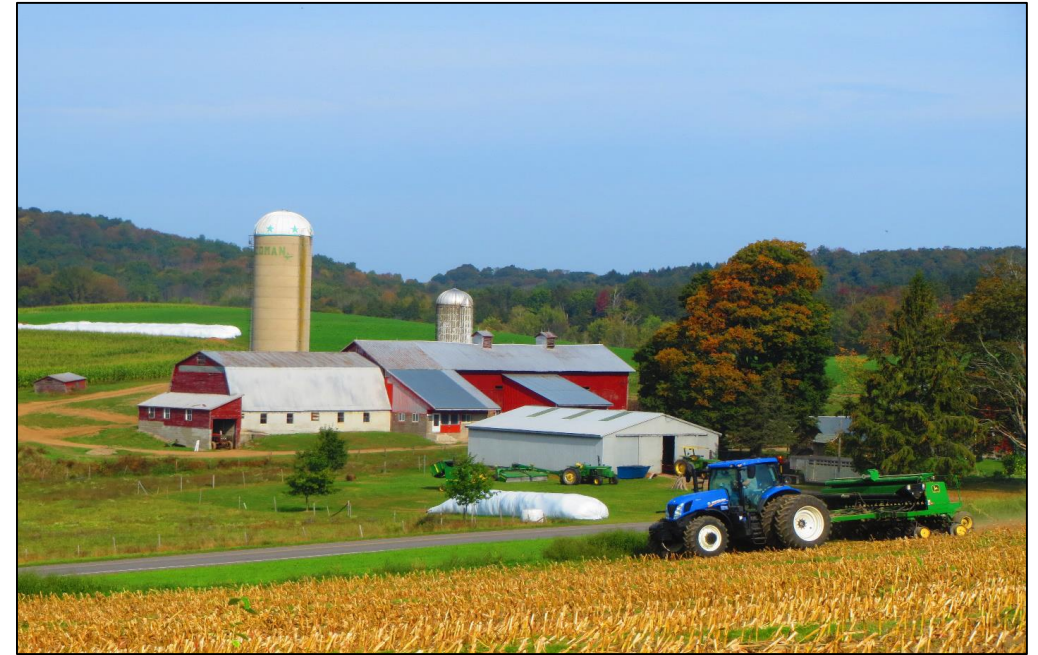
USC Ag Team

Landowner Cost Share Pilot Program

Funding provided annually through New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Project Criteria

- Project is within the boundaries of the Upper Susquehanna Watershed
- Project is currently funding under a state funding source (AgNPS, AEM, CRF, etc.)
- Only expenses eligible under the state funding contract
- Shovel Ready Projects with Permits Obtained



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Regional Conservation Partnership Program

- Financial Assistance Funding (FA):
\$2,458,965.00
 - This funding will be split into 3 funding rounds: Stream Restoration, Farmstead, and Grazing
 - This is the money that is available for practice implementation for farmer contracts
- Technical Assistance Funding (TA):
\$1,050,643.00
 - Implementation TA - \$631,557.00
 - Enhancement TA - \$243,433.00
 - NRCS TA - \$175,653.00
- USC Technical Assistance Activities:
 - Planning
 - Engineering/Design
 - Construction Inspection
 - Contract Development



- Partnership Communication
- Project Management
- Project Outcomes
- Education & Outreach

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Community Project Funding

“Natural Filter Restoration and Climate Resiliency Focusing on Watershed Community Resilience in the Upper Susquehanna River Watershed”

- Funding Award: \$1,580,628
- Congressionally Directed Funding
 - Was included in the House Bill by Congresswoman Claudia Tenney
 - Was voted into the final budget by Senator Gillibrand and Senator Schumer
- Funding will come directly through EPA
- 12 months to contract funding
- Deliverables
 - 100 Acres of Riparian Forest Buffer
 - 100 Acres of Wetland Restoration
 - 2,500 Feet of Stream Corridor Restoration
 - 200 Acres Permanently Protected

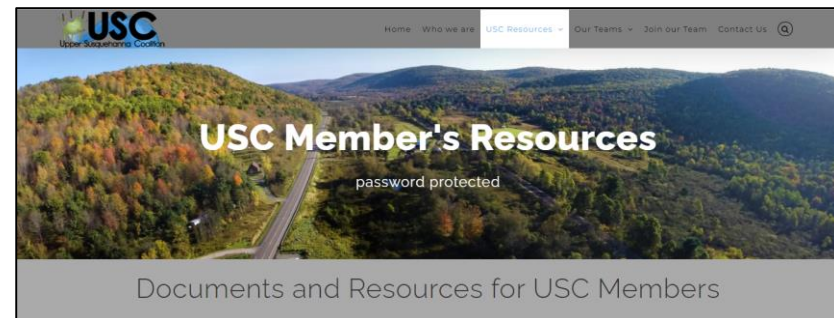
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USC Ag Team

USC Training, Engagement, Outreach

- USC Watershed Forum (Fall 2023)
- Ag Team Staff Trainings – looking for feedback/suggestions
- BMP Data Entry Guide
- Support SWCD Farmer Meetings/Workshops
- Record Keeping Assistance – USC Record Keeping App
- Urban Nutrient Management – Non Ag Landowner Engagement



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