



**Soil and Water
Conservation
Committee**

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

RICHARD A. BALL
Commissioner

DALE STEIN
Committee Chair

February 3, 2016

RE: Request for Proposals for the Implementation of the Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program

Dear Soil & Water Conservation District Directors and Staff:

We are pleased to announce that the Round 22 Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program Request for Proposals is now available on the NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee Sharepoint site:

<https://nysemail.sharepoint.com/sites/Agriculture/SWCC/layouts/15/start.aspx#/>.

The application and required uploads can be used to apply for funds from the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF).

All applicable materials must be submitted through the NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee Sharepoint site by the deadline, April 1, 2016, for the application to be considered complete.

The project application contains a blank for filling in the Project ID Number. Enclosed is a list of Districts in the State in alphabetical order. Assigned to each District is the first part of the Project ID Number (1-58). You can complete the remainder of the ID Number on the application form by placing the priority number of each project you submit after the Project ID Number which appears on the enclosed sheet. For example, the Project ID Number for the Number 1 priority project in Niagara County would be 30-1. Please include the Project ID Number on the top of the first page of each copy of the proposal.

If you need assistance or have questions about completing your application(s), contact the State Committee Office.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Ball, Commissioner
NYS Department of Agriculture and
Markets

Dale Stein, Chair
NYS Soil & Water Conservation
Committee

Enclosures

NYS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

County	Project ID #	Priority	County	Project ID #	Priority
Albany	1		Niagara	30	
Allegany	2		Oneida	31	
Broome	3		Onondaga	32	
Cattaraugus	4		Ontario	33	
Cayuga	5		Orange	34	
Chautauqua	6		Orleans	35	
Chemung	7		Oswego	36	
Chenango	8		Otsego	37	
Clinton	9		Putnam	38	
Columbia	10		Rensselaer	39	
Cortland	11		Rockland	40	
Delaware	12		St Lawrence	41	
Dutchess	13		Saratoga	42	
Erie	14		Schenectady	43	
Essex	15		Schoharie	44	
Franklin	16		Schuyler	45	
Fulton	17		Seneca	46	
Genesee	18		Steuben	47	
Greene	19		Suffolk	48	
Hamilton	20		Sullivan	49	
Herkimer	21		Tioga	50	
Jefferson	22		Tompkins	51	
Lewis	23		Ulster	52	
Livingston	24		Warren	53	
Madison	25		Washington	54	
Monroe	26		Wayne	55	
Montgomery	27		Westchester	56	
Nassau	28		Wyoming	57	
New York City	29		Yates	58	



JANUARY 28, 2016

Governor Cuomo Announces \$11 Million Available to Assist Farmers with Water Quality Protection Projects

Governor Proposes Funding Increase for Program in 2016-2017 Executive Budget through Historic Investment in Environmental Protection Fund

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced \$11 million is available to protect soil and water resources through the Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program. These grants will assist farmers in implementing the best management practices to address water quality challenges in priority watersheds throughout New York State while increasing productivity and economic activity.

“The agricultural industry is a major economic driver in New York and our farmers must have access to the resources they need to grow and improve their operations,” **Governor Cuomo** said. “By providing this critical funding to farms across the state, we are helping this industry remain competitive, while protecting our natural resources and continuing our production of quality agricultural products in New York.”

The Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program is funded through the New York State Environmental Protection Fund, which the Governor proposes to increase to \$300 million in this year's Executive Budget. This proposal would more than double the level of the EPF since 2011, and increase funding for agricultural water quality programming by nearly \$5 million.

Grants will be awarded to County Soil and Water Conservation Districts for environmental planning or to implement best management practices such as agricultural waste storage systems, riparian buffer systems, conservation cover crops and structural soil conservation practices.

The program is administered by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee. It is a part of the Agricultural Environmental Management framework, a broader effort that helps farmers achieve better water quality and more effective farming systems. The Districts use the AEM framework to assist farmers with the planning and implementation of environmental improvement projects in a cost effective manner. As a result, farmers are able to meet business goals while protecting and conserving the State's natural resources.

State Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball said, "This program received a record number of applications in the last round, demonstrating the agricultural community's growing commitment to environmental stewardship. These important projects help prevent water pollution, reduce erosion and limit harmful sediments and other nutrients in New York's waterways, while supporting the growth of the agricultural community. Looking forward, we're excited that this program will also be a critical component in helping the State advance the Governor's newly proposed New York Certified High Quality Foods initiative."

Department of Environmental Conservation Acting Commissioner Basil Seggos said, "County soil and water conservation districts play a vital role in helping New York's farmers implement best management practices to protect the state's waterways while allowing farmers to provide families across the state with fresh, local food. These funds will provide farmers the tools they need to continue the important services they provide, while ensuring the environment is protected."

Chair of the NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee Dale Stein said, "The AgNPS Program is a stable funding source that provides important resources to New York State farmers for projects that greatly benefit soil and water quality. New York State Soil and Water Conservation Districts appreciate this funding as well as increased funding each year to the Environmental Protection Fund."

County Soil and Water Conservation Districts can now apply for the AgNPS Program through the Department of Agriculture and Markets website [here](#). All appropriate materials must be submitted through the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee Sharepoint website by April 1, 2016.

For additional details about this program and other natural resource protection programs, please contact the local County Soil and Water Conservation District. A complete listing of County Soil and Water Conservation Districts can be found [here](#).

Contact the Governor's Press Office

NYC Press Office: 212.681.4640

Albany Press Office: 518.474.8418

 **Contact us
by email:**

press.office@exec.ny.gov