

Resource Enhancement and Protection Program



Guidelines

Fiscal Year 2025

(July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026)

State Conservation Commission
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Program contact: (717) 705-4032
SCC Main office: (717) 787-8821



Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Program Guidelines 2025-2026

The REAP Tax Credit Program, established in 2007, incentivizes private investment in water quality best management practices (BMPs) on agricultural operations in compliance with the PA Clean Streams Law. The program protects natural resources - while enhancing farm productivity - by allowing farmers, landowners, and businesses to earn Pennsylvania state income tax credits for implementation of these BMPs.

For Fiscal Year 2025, \$13 million in REAP tax credits is available to eligible applicants. The Commission awards REAP tax credits on behalf of the PA Department of Revenue.

For a comprehensive list of REAP-eligible BMPs, please refer to Attachment 1.

A. Application Procedures

1. Equipment purchases must be completed by June 30, 2026; structural BMPs by June 30, 2027; and cover crop planting by June 30, 2028.
2. Tax credits are awarded after project completion and submission of paid receipts and signed project certification by a qualified professional.
3. Applications are accepted beginning August 1, 2025, and must be submitted by September 1, 2025:
 - By email: nbloom@pa.gov
 - By mail: State Conservation Commission, REAP Program
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110

B. Applicant Eligibility

1. The applicant must be an individual or business subject to Pennsylvania income taxation such as Personal Income Tax, Corporate Net Income Tax, or Bank Shares Tax. Non-Pennsylvania residents must confirm their PA tax status with the PA Department of Revenue before their application will be considered by the Commission.
2. An agricultural operation must have the following to be eligible to receive REAP tax credits:
 - Up-to-date Agricultural Erosion and Sediment Control (E&S) Plans for all acres operated - meeting Chapter 102.4 requirements of the PA Clean Stream Law.
 - A current Nutrient or Manure Management Plan meeting the standards of Chapter 83(Act 38) or Chapter 91 of the PA Clean Streams Law (*if animals are present or manure is applied*).
 - Full implementation of BMPs related to managing runoff from Animal Concentration Areas (ACAs), if applicable. ACA-related BMPs must be implemented before tax credits can be awarded for any other REAP-eligible BMPs (excluding planning).

If an operation lacks the required plans or full implementation of ACA BMPs, the REAP application must include documentation of designs and plan development for all operational acres.

The Commission reserves the right to assess an ag operation's compliance with the PA Clean Streams Law and ACA regulations.

C. Project Eligibility: Projects must mitigate nitrogen, phosphorus, or sediment runoff and are reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis.

1. Each agricultural operation is limited to one REAP-eligible project per funding round.
2. Tax credits may be awarded for proposed or completed projects (or a mix of both). Proposed projects must include industry standard cost estimates and an anticipated completion timeline.
3. Projects are eligible for REAP tax credits for up to three years post-completion or for their designated REAP lifespan – whichever is shorter. All projects must be maintained for their entire REAP lifespan. If a BMP is not maintained for its full lifespan, the recipient must return the awarded tax credit unless the Commission approves a prorated adjustment.
4. Projects involving public funding (e.g., ACAP, EQIP, Growing Greener) are eligible but cannot receive tax credits for the publicly funded portion.
5. High-priority BMPs, including planning and runoff management from ACAs, may qualify for a higher tax credit rate. Please see Att 1 for specific reimbursement rates.
6. Operations in watersheds impaired by agricultural sources may receive tax credits covering 90% of eligible out-of-pocket costs for certain BMPs, including:
 - Riparian buffers exceeding 50 feet in width.
 - Multi-species cover crops.
 - Cover crop roller/crimpers.
 - Stream crossings and livestock exclusion BMPs, including fencing, animal trails, and off-stream watering facilities.
 - Soil health testing.
7. A maximum of \$250,000 in REAP tax credits may be awarded per agricultural operation over any consecutive seven-year period (except as set forth in Paragraph D).
8. Agricultural operations expanding by more than 25% may have REAP-eligible costs reduced by 50%.

The Commission reserves the right to deny applications for BMPs that exceed fair market value or do not align with program objectives. Fraudulent activities, such as falsifying verification signatures or receipts, will result in program exclusion.

D. Sponsorship: A sponsor, such as banks, businesses, and individuals/family trusts, may fund a REAP-eligible project and receive the associated tax credits. Sponsored projects are exempt from the \$250,000 limit per seven-year period and the sponsored project does not count against cap amount set forth in paragraph C (7).

1. Sponsorship applies to proposed and recently completed projects.
2. The sponsored agricultural operation must meet all eligibility criteria outlined in Section B.
3. Sponsors and agricultural operators must sign an agreement confirming compliance with REAP requirements. A sample sponsor agreement is available upon request.

The Commission reserves the right to limit the amount of REAP tax credits awarded to a single sponsor per funding cycle.

E. REAP Tax Credit Information

1. The PA Department of Revenue must verify tax compliance before issuing REAP tax credits.
2. REAP tax credits reduce PA income tax liability dollar-for-dollar and can be carried forward for up to 15 years.
3. Pass-through entities, such as partnerships or S-corporations, may allocate credits to their individual members based on ownership share.
4. Applicants should submit the REAP tax credit claim form when filing their annual PA tax return to avoid delays.

F. Sale/Assignment of Tax Credits

1. REAP tax credits may be sold or transferred after claiming the REAP tax credits against any income tax liability in the year of issuance and/or one year from the date of issuance.
2. The seller must be tax-compliant before approval.
3. Buyers and transfer recipients must claim the tax credits in the year of acquisition. Tax credits cannot be resold, reassigned, or carried forward by the buyer.
4. Recipients may arrange tax credit sales independently or through brokers that are registered with the PA Department of Revenue.
5. The REAP Tax Credit Sale/Assignment Application packet is available upon request.

For additional information, refer to Act 13 of 2019, Sections 1701-E to 1710-E, or contact the State Conservation Commission at 717-787-8821. For specific tax-related inquiries, please consult a tax professional.

Attachment 1

REAP Best Management Practices (BMPs)

The following is a list of the most-commonly used REAP-eligible BMPs. *Please contact the SCC if you have questions regarding a specific BMP; or a water-quality BMP that is not listed below.*

Planning BMPs

Agricultural Erosion & Sedimentation Plan (acres)

<i>REAP Lifespan:</i>	3 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	75%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	The plan must meet the requirements of Chapter 102.4 of the PA Clean Streams Law.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	The plan shall be written by a person trained and experienced in the writing of Ag E&S Plans; and in the pollution control methods and techniques applicable to Chapter 104.4.

Conservation Plan (acres)

<i>REAP Lifespan:</i>	3 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	75%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	The plan must meet the requirements of Chapter 102.4 of the PA Clean Streams Law.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	The plan must be written by a NRCS-certified conservation planner.

Manure Management Plan (acres)

<i>REAP Lifespan:</i>	3 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	75%
<i>Additional Information:</i>	DEP Land Application of Manure – Manure Management Plan Guidance
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	The plan must meet the standards of Chapter 91 of the PA Clean Streams Law.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	The plan shall be written by a person trained and experienced in the writing of a MMP; and in the pollution control methods and techniques applicable to Chapter 91.

Nutrient Management Plan (acres)

<i>REAP Lifespan:</i>	3 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	75%
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	The plan must meet Act 38 Standards.
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	The plan must be written by an Act 38-certified specialist.

Variable Rate Nutrient Application Plan, Soil Health tests (acres)

<i>REAP Lifespan:</i>	3 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	75%
<i>Additional Information:</i>	Soil Health tests are eligible, e.g. Cornell, Haney, and Solvita. Variable rate nutrient application plans are eligible, e.g. precision grid soil sampling, data inputs for map-based and sensor-based site-specific variable rate application of nutrients

Equipment BMPs

Equipment Performance Upgrade Kits

<i>REAP Lifespan:</i>	3 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%; REAP-eligible cost capped at \$100,000 per purchase
<i>Additional Information:</i>	Refer to Attachment 2
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Upgrade kits must include precision nutrient placement capabilities
<i>Certification Requirements:</i>	Requires a qualified farm equipment dealer Certification form

Manure Injection Equipment – Low Disturbance

<i>REAP Lifespan:</i>	New Equipment - 7 years, Used Equipment - 3 years
<i>Tax Credit Rate:</i>	50%
<i>Additional Information:</i>	Refer to Attachment 2
<i>REAP Conditions:</i>	Equipment must be capable of shallow injection of manure and must be a contiguous part of a manure injection system. Equipment must be utilized on farm ground operated by the applicant.

Certification Requirements: Requires a qualified farm equipment dealer Certification form

No-Till Planting Equipment – Planter or Drill

REAP Lifespan: New Equipment - 7 years, Used Equipment - 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; REAP-eligible cost capped at \$250,000 per planter/drill
Additional Information: Refer to [Attachment 2](#)
Certification Requirements: Requires a qualified farm equipment dealer Certification form

Precision Nutrient Application Equipment

REAP Lifespan: 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; REAP-eligible cost capped at \$80,000 per purchase
Additional Information: Refer to [Attachment 2](#)
REAP Conditions: Nutrient application equipment components that enable automatic variable rate application. Autosteer is not eligible for REAP tax credits.
Certification Requirements: Requires a qualified farm equipment dealer Certification form

Waste Storage and Animal Concentration Areas

Access Road (ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 560
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: This practice shall only be applicable to those locations on the farm where an improved travel-way is needed to access newly established REAP-eligible BMPs. REAP tax credits will not be authorized for any portion exceeding 14 feet in width or 200 feet in length.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Anaerobic Digester

NRCS Practice Code: 366
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: REAP-eligible costs capped at \$500,000.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Animal Mortality Facility (no.)

NRCS Practice Code: 316
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; REAP-eligible costs may be reduced by 50% for new animal operations (built within 1 year of the new animal facility).
Additional Information: Applicants must include the REAP Storage Facility & Animal Heavy Use Area Protection Worksheet (p12 of the REAP Application).
REAP Conditions: The animal mortality composting facility must be part of a Manure/Nutrient Management Plan. The dead animals must come from the producer’s operation and may not come from outside sources.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Composting Equipment

REAP Lifespan: New Equipment - 7 years, Used Equipment - 3 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; REAP-eligible cost is capped at \$100,000
Additional Information: Screeners, turning equipment, rotary drums, etc. as approved by the Commission
REAP Conditions: Composting must be included in the operation’s Nutrient/Manure Management Plan.

Composting Facility (sq ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 317
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%

Additional Information: Applicants must include the REAP Storage Facility & Animal Heavy Use Area Protection Worksheet (p12 of the REAP Application).

REAP Conditions: The composting facility must be part of an up-to-date Manure/Nutrient Management Plan. Spreading of the composted material must be done in accordance with an up-to-date Manure/Nutrient Management Plan. The composting operation must meet all PA-DEP criteria for composting. Production of mushroom compost does not apply. For composting of animal mortalities, use **Animal Mortality Facility** guidelines.

Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Heavy Use Area Protection (sq ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 561

REAP Lifespan: 7 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50%; 75% - ACA treatment

Additional Information: Applicants must include the REAP Storage Facility & Animal Heavy Use Area Protection Worksheet (p12 of the REAP Application).

REAP Conditions: Animal feed/silage storage areas do not apply. Projects involving an operation expansion of greater than 25% are subject to a reduction in eligible costs of 50%.

Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Manure Separation Equipment (no.)

REAP Lifespan: 7 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50%

REAP Conditions: Manure separation must be included in the operation’s Nutrient/Manure Management Plan. Projects involving an operation expansion of greater than 25% are subject to a reduction in eligible costs of 50%.

Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Manure Separation Facility (no.)

Practice Code: 632

Lifespan: 7 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50%

Additional Information: Applicants must include the REAP Storage Facility & Animal Heavy Use Area Protection Worksheet (p11 of the REAP Application).

REAP Conditions: Manure separation must be included in the operation’s Nutrient/Manure Management Plan. Projects involving an operation expansion of greater than 25% are subject to a reduction in eligible costs of 50%.

Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Pumping Plant for Wastewater Control (no.)

NRCS Practice Code: 533

REAP Lifespan: 7 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50%

Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Poultry/Livestock Housing Vegetative Buffers (ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 380 (Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment)

REAP Lifespan: 7 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50%

Additional Information: Plantings must conform to USDA/NRCS Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)-Technical Note No. 1, SCC Odor Management BMP Guide

REAP Conditions: Establishment costs only. Plantings must be close to livestock housing and exhaust fans.

Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Roofs and Covers (sq ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 367
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; 75% - ACA treatment
Additional Information: Applicants must include the REAP Storage Facility & Animal Heavy Use Area Protection Worksheet (p11 of the REAP Application).
REAP Conditions: Practice applies to construction of roofing over Waste Storage Facility (313) and/or Heavy Use Area Protection (561). SCC staff site visit may be required. Projects involving an operation expansion of greater than 25% are subject to a reduction in eligible costs of 50%. Roofs over permanent animal housing (barns) are not eligible for REAP credits.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Roof Runoff Structure (ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 558
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; 75% - ACA treatment
REAP Conditions: This practice includes roof gutters, downspouts and outlets. Practice must include establishment of a stable outlet (see Underground Outlet). Repairs to a roof in preparation for this practice are not eligible for REAP tax credits.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Underground Outlet (ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 620
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; 75% - ACA treatment
REAP Conditions: This practice is to be used as a supporting practice to outlet water from other conservation practices such as roof runoff structure, terrace, and watering facilities. Pipes greater than 12" in diameter may require SCC site visit.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Waste Storage Facility (cu ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 313
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Additional Information: Applicants must include the REAP Storage Facility & Animal Heavy Use Area Protection Worksheet (p12 of the REAP Application). SCC staff site visit may be required.
REAP Conditions: Projects involving an operation expansion of greater than 25% are subject to a reduction in eligible costs of 50%. **Under-barn storages are not eligible for REAP tax credits unless certified by NRCS to be necessary for the treatment of an existing resource concern.** For storage of food waste, please refer to **Compost Facility** guidelines.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Waste Transfer (ft or no.)

NRCS Practice Code: 634
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Eligible in conjunction with Waste Storage Facility (e.g. reception pits). REAP tax credits are not authorized for: Portable pumps, pumping equipment, or other equipment for agitating, removing, distributing, or applying animal waste on farm ground.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Livestock Management/Rotational Grazing

Animal Trails and Walkways (sq ft)

NRCS Practice Code:	575
REAP Lifespan:	7 years
Tax Credit Rate:	75%
REAP Conditions:	Eligible in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. REAP tax credit not authorized for any portion exceeding 12 feet in width.
Certification Requirements:	Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Fence (ft) (see Riparian and Water Quality section below for stream-bank fencing)

NRCS Practice Code:	382
REAP Lifespan:	7 years
Tax Credit Rate:	50%;
Additional Information:	Fence that is part of an ACA-related BMP or is Waste Storage safety fence should be submitted as part of those BMPs.
REAP Conditions:	Used in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) Plan only. REAP tax credits will be authorized for establishing permanent or temporary fence; utilizing new materials – unless otherwise justified by Prescribed Grazing. GPS or solar-powered mobile fencing systems are also eligible for REAP tax credits. Fence surrounding equine riding rinks is not eligible for REAP tax credits.
Certification Requirements:	Any Conservation District technician, NRCS technician, or private sector Technical Service Provider, who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Livestock Shade Structure (no.)

NRCS Practice Code:	717
REAP Lifespan:	7 years
Tax Credit Rate:	50%
REAP Conditions:	Mobile shade structure eligible in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. May not be placed within riparian or environmentally sensitive areas.
Additional Information:	https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/Delete/2011-10-15/717_LS_shade_struct_stand.pdf
Certification Requirements:	Any Conservation District technician, NRCS technician, or private sector Technical Service Provider, who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Pipeline (ft)

NRCS Practice Code:	516
REAP Lifespan:	7 years
Tax Credit Rate:	50%
REAP Conditions:	Eligible as a component of livestock watering systems in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. Pipeline to a new barn, domestic water supply, or irrigation is not eligible.
Certification Requirements:	Any Conservation District technician, NRCS technician, or private sector Technical Service Provider with appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Silvopasture (ac)

REAP Lifespan:	7 years
Tax Credit Rate:	50%
Additional Information:	Contact SCC for more information.
REAP Conditions:	Practice applies to non-riparian areas only, in conjunction with rotational grazing systems (528). Establishment of new trees and other elements of the silvopasture system are eligible. No part of the silvopasture project may involve removal of existing trees.
Certification Requirements:	Any Conservation District technician, NRCS technician, or private sector Technical Service Provider, who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Spring Development (no.)

NRCS Practice Code:	574
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REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; **90% - with animal exclusion from streams in an ag-impaired watershed**
REAP Conditions: Eligible in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. Collection lines capped at 1,200 feet. For collection systems greater than 1,200 feet, SCC staff approval is required.
Certification Requirements: Any Conservation District technician, NRCS technician, or private sector Technical Service Provider, who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Watering Facility (no.)

Practice Code: 614
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; **90% - in conjunction with animal exclusion from streams in an ag-impaired watershed**
REAP Conditions: Eligible in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. REAP tax credits authorized for permanently or temporarily located facilities within grazing paddocks or pastures.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Water Well (no.)

NRCS Practice Code: 642
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Eligible in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) only. REAP tax credits not authorized for providing water for the farm headquarters or domestic use.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Erosion & Sediment Control

Critical Area Planting (ac)

NRCS Practice Code: 342
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; 75% ACA treatment
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Diversion (ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 362
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; 75% ACA treatment
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Grassed Waterway (sq ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 412
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%;
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Lined Waterway or Outlet (sq ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 468
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%;
REAP Conditions: Used where vegetation alone will not provide adequate stabilization.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Sinkhole and Sinkhole Area Treatment (no.)

Practice Code: 527

Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Structure for Water Control (no.)

NRCS Practice Code: 587
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%;
REAP Conditions: REAP tax credits not authorized for the installation of structures designed to impound water for irrigation, recreation, household water; or to create ponds.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Subsurface Drain (ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 606
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: Eligible as a companion practice for other REAP-eligible BMPs (except for Cover Crop).
Certification Requirements: Any Conservation District technician, NRCS technician, or private sector Technical Service Provider, who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Terrace (ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 600
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Underground Outlet (ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 620
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; 75% - ACA treatment
REAP Conditions: This practice is to be used as a supporting practice to outlet water from other conservation practices such as roof runoff structure, terrace, and watering facilities. Pipes greater than 12" in diameter may require SCC site visit.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Riparian & Water Quality Protection

Riparian Forest Buffer (ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 391
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50% rate when used in conjunction with the minimum width of the practice (35 feet); 75% in conjunction with 50+ foot width; **90% for 50+ foot width in an ag-impaired watershed.**
Additional Information: [NRCS Practice Guide for Riparian Forest Buffers](#), [PA DEP Riparian Forest Buffer Guidance](#)
REAP Conditions: Riparian buffer establishment only (see below). This practice is available to agricultural and non-agricultural operations.
Certification Requirements: Any Conservation District technician, NRCS technician, or private sector Technical Service Provider, who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Riparian Forest Buffer Maintenance (ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 391
REAP Lifespan: annual (FY)
Tax Credit Rate: 50% rate when used in conjunction with the minimum width of the practice (35 feet); 75% when used with 50 foot or greater width; **90% for 50+ foot width in an ag-impaired watershed.**

Additional Information: [NRCS Practice Guide for Riparian Forest Buffers](#), [DEP Riparian Forest Buffer Guidance](#)
REAP Conditions: Maintenance activities performed to ensure the survival and growth of riparian buffer plantings, in accordance with a long-term buffer operation and maintenance plan, are eligible (e.g: mowing, herbicide application, vegetation removal, control of noxious weeds, protections from competing plants/animals. This practice is available to agricultural and non-agricultural operations.
Certification Requirements: Any Conservation District technician, NRCS technician, or private sector Technical Service Provider, who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Riparian Herbaceous Cover (ac)

NRCS Practice Code: 390
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
REAP Conditions: 35+ buffer establishment only. This practice is available to agricultural and non-agricultural operations. Grazing of the buffer is not permitted.
Certification Requirements: Any Conservation District technician, NRCS technician, or private sector Technical Service Provider, who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Stream Crossing (no.)

NRCS Practice Code: 578
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; **90% - in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing and with animal exclusion from streams in an ag-impaired watershed**
REAP Conditions: Animal and agricultural equipment crossings are eligible. Culvert crossings are not eligible. REAP tax credits not authorized for any portion exceeding 12 feet in width.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Fence - Streambank (ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 382
Lifespan: 7 years
Reimbursement Rate: 50%; 75% - in conjunction with 35+ ft buffer; 90% - in conjunction with 50+ ft buffer from streams in an ag-impaired watershed; REAP-eligible costs capped at \$5.00/ft
REAP Conditions: REAP tax credits will be authorized for establishing permanent fence used for excluding animals from stream areas; in conjunction with Prescribed Grazing (528) Plan only. Utilizing new materials. REAP tax credits not authorized for removal and/or upgrade of existing fence.
Certification Requirements: Any Conservation District technician, NRCS technician, or private sector Technical Service Provider, who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Streambank and Shoreline Protection (ft)

NRCS Practice Code: 580
REAP Lifespan: 7 years
Tax Credit Rate: 50%
Additional Information: Applicant is responsible for all local, state and federal permits and approvals that may be required. This practice is available to agricultural and non-agricultural operations.
REAP Conditions: Used to stabilize stream banks eroded due to excessive water flow or livestock activity.
Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Cover Crops

Cover Crop (ac)

REAP Lifespan: Annual (FY)
Tax Credit Rate: 50%; **90% for multi-species Cover Crop in an ag-impaired watershed**
Additional Information: Refer to [Attachment 3](#).
REAP Conditions: Mechanical harvesting of cover crops is prohibited. REAP-eligible costs are capped at \$100,000.

Certification Requirements: Farmer Certification; Subject to random spot check by SCC staff; Applicants must complete Cover Crop Worksheet (p13 of the REAP Application).

Cover Crop Equipment

REAP Lifespan: New Equipment - 7 years, Used Equipment - 3 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50%; 90% for Cover Crop Rollers in an ag-impaired watershed

Additional Information: Refer to Attachment 2. Equipment used to enhance the use of cover crops on an ag operation, e.g., cover crop roller/crimpers, drones, other.

REAP Conditions: The equipment's primary use must be the establishment and management of cover crops. Broadcast seeders (except cover crop drones) are not eligible for REAP tax credits.

Integrated Erosion Control & Habitat Buffers

Vegetated Treatment Area (ac)

Practice Code: 635

Lifespan: 7 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50%; 75% ACA treatment

Certification Requirements: Must meet the standards and specifications of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide; certified by an individual with appropriate NRCS Job Approval Authority or Registered Professional Engineer.

Integrated Erosion Control & Habitat Corridor System (ac)

REAP Lifespan: 7 years

Tax Credit Rate: 50%; **90% for projects in ag-impaired watersheds**

Eligible Practices: Filter Strips (393), Field Borders (386), Contour Buffer Strips (332), Conservation Cover Areas (327), Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation (380)

Additional Information: This integrated system combats agricultural runoff to protect water resources while establishing wildlife corridors and pollinator habitats. It improves soil health through organic matter retention and compaction reduction while sequestering carbon through perennial vegetation growth. The approach addresses erosion control, water quality protection, biodiversity enhancement, and climate resilience in ag landscapes.

REAP Conditions: Grazing prohibited in designated buffer zones.

Certification Requirements: Any Conservation District technician, NRCS technician, or private sector Technical Service Provider, who has appropriate training and experience in the BMP planning, design and installation methods applicable to the size and scope of the BMP being certified.

Attachment 2

REAP Equipment Guidelines

The REAP Equipment Guidelines outline the eligibility criteria and requirements for agricultural equipment purchases under the FY 2025 program. This program is designed to support sustainable farming practices and includes no-till planters, precision nutrient application systems, manure injectors, cover crop tools, and precision upgrade kits. All equipment must be delivered by **June 30, 2026**, and must be used on farmland operated by the applicant.

Age Restrictions

- **No-Till Planters:** Equipment must be **20 years old or less** to qualify for funding. If the planter is older, it may still be eligible if it has been refurbished by a qualified dealer (with appropriate documentation provided).

Documentation: Refurbished equipment older than 20 years requires proof from the dealer to be REAP eligible.

- Equipment must be refurbished within 6 months of purchase and/or prior to use on the ag operation for the nearest respective planting season.
- Dealer must have business receipt/invoice, website, EIN, etc. to be considered a qualified equipment dealer.
- **Precision Nutrient Application Systems:** These systems must be **10 years old or less**, with similar refurbishment exemptions applicable.

Cost Caps

- For applicants who are not residents of Pennsylvania, the REAP-eligible cost is capped at **\$50,000 per piece of equipment**.
- REAP-eligible cost limits are set for different categories: **\$250,000** for no-till planters, **\$100,000** for PUKs, **\$80,000** for precision nutrient systems, and **\$20,000** for drones.
- Costs associated with self-installed parts, repairs, and refurbishing are **not eligible** for reimbursement.

Equipment Specifications

1. No-Till Planting Equipment

- **Purpose:** This equipment is intended for seed placement in untilled soil while maintaining residue cover to promote soil health.
- **Certification Requirement:** Requires a qualified farm equipment dealer Certification form (see p8 of the REAP Application).
- **Lifespan:** New equipment has a REAP lifespan of **7 years**, while used equipment has a lifespan of **3 years**.

2. Manure Injection Equipment

- **Requirement:** This equipment must perform shallow manure injection at a depth of **4 inches or less** to minimize soil disturbance and promote better nutrient absorption.
- **Certification Requirement:** Requires a qualified farm equipment dealer Certification form (see App p9).
- **Compliance:** Users must adhere to their Ag E&S Plans and Nutrient Management/Manure Management plans to ensure environmentally responsible practices.
- **Lifespan:** New equipment has a REAP lifespan of **7 years**, while used equipment has a lifespan of **3 years**.

3. Precision Nutrient Application Systems

- **Functionality:** These systems enable variable-rate nutrient application using sensors or computerized maps, thereby optimizing nutrient use and minimizing waste.
- **Eligible Components:** This includes control units, variable-rate drives, and upgraded nozzles that enhance application efficiency.
- **Certification Requirement:** Requires a qualified farm equipment dealer Certification form (see p10 of the REAP Application).
- **Exclusions:** Equipment such as manure spreaders and spinner-type spreaders, as well as subscription services for software, are not eligible for funding. Guidance systems are eligible with the purchase of other REAP-eligible equipment only (1 per eligible purchase).
- **Lifespan:** 3-years

4. Cover Crop Equipment

- **Eligible Tools:** This category includes rollers with chevron blades and drones specifically designed for seeding (spraying is not eligible). Broadcast seeders are not eligible (except for drones).
- **Certification Requirement:** Requires a qualified farm equipment dealer Certification form (see App p11).
- **Lifespan:** New equipment has a REAP lifespan of **7 years**, while used equipment has a lifespan of **3 years**.

5. Precision Upgrade Kits

- **Purpose:** These kits are designed to enhance the precision of existing planting or nutrient application systems, contributing to more efficient agricultural practices.
- **Installation Requirement:** All installations must be performed by a dealer to ensure compliance with program standards.
- **Certification Requirement:** Requires a qualified farm equipment dealer Certification form.
- **Lifespan:** Precision upgrade kits have a **3-year lifespan**.

Trade-In Policy

In some circumstances, an applicant may wish to sell or trade in a piece of equipment prior to the expiration of the required lifespan under the REAP program (7 years for new equipment, 3 years for used equipment). The equipment may be traded for REAP-eligible equipment under the following conditions:

- The trade-in policy requires prior approval from the Commission and mandates that any trade-in must be replaced with comparable equipment that meets the same or larger acreage capacity requirements.
- Applicants may claim tax credits for any cost differences incurred during the trade-in process, which will reset the lifespan of the new equipment.
- It is important to note that selling or trading equipment without replacement may result in a prorated repayment of tax credits previously claimed.

The SCC reserves the right to deny an application for equipment if the cost is not within fair market values as determined by the Commission.

The SCC reserves the right to deny an application that does not meet the intent of the standards set forth for the equipment by the Commission.

Attachment 3

REAP Cover Crop Guidelines

Cover crop establishment costs are eligible for REAP tax credits. Applicants may apply prior to planting based on a cost estimate. All invoices and receipts must be submitted upon completion of planting.

Completion of the REAP Cover Crop Worksheet (p13 of the REAP Application) is required. The REAP tax credit reimbursement rate for a single-species cover crop is 50%. REAP tax credit reimbursement rate for multi-species cover crops is 90% in an ag impaired watershed.

Applicants may apply for up to 3 years of proposed cover crop plantings on a single REAP application. Sponsored applicants are limited to applying for 1 year of cover crops.

- Multi-species cover crop definition: A seed mix that consists of a grass/small grain species plus a minimum of 2 broadleaf species; in which the cumulative **seeding rate** of the grass/small grain species does not exceed **1.5 bu/ac**; and the mix includes at least **5lbs/ac** of the broadleaf species.
- Total cost = seed cost + planting costs. Total costs are capped at \$50/acre for single-species plantings and \$70/acre for multi-species plantings. Please contact the Commission for information regarding planting cost via drone.

Restrictions

- Total REAP-eligible costs are capped at \$100,000 per applicant per round.
- Crops that are mechanically harvested for grain or forage are not eligible for REAP tax credits. Grazing of cover crops is permitted.
- The REAP lifespan for cover crops is 1 year – annual. Implementation costs are eligible only within the fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) in which they are incurred.
- All seed used for cover crops must be tested and properly labeled in accordance with the PA Seed Law and regulations. Seed grown by the applicant must be tested for purity, germination, and absence of noxious weeds by a recognized seed laboratory prior to seeding.

The Commission reserves the right to prioritize multi-species cover crop applications over single-species plantings; and to prioritize new applicants over applicants who have previously received REAP tax credits for cover crop plantings.

The Commission reserves the right to deny applications for multi-species cover crop that do not meet the Commission's intent set forth in the REAP Guidelines.

Attachment 4

Verification Signatures for REAP Eligibility

Applies to: REAP Application Section 2 (pp. 2–4)

Who Can Verify REAP Eligibility:

1. Conservation District technicians with appropriate training and experience in Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law compliance.
2. USDA/NRCS technicians certified in conservation planning, appropriate training and experienced in PA Clean Streams Law compliance.
3. Act 38-certified Nutrient Management Plan writers.

By signing, the verifier confirms that the applicant's answers on pp. 2–4 are accurate and truthful. Examples:

- If the applicant states that required plans exist on all acres operated and are fully implemented, the verifier may sign if they agree.
- If the applicant states that plans do not exist or are not fully implemented, the verifier may still sign—if they agree with the accuracy of that response, or if those plans are not needed for that operation, or in development.
- If the verifier does not agree that the answers are accurate or truthful, they must not sign that section.

Important Notes on Verification:

- Both Section 2A and Section 2B of the REAP application must be verified, even if the applicant has no animals present on their operation.
- For example, if an applicant answers “NO” to question B1, the verifier must confirm that the answer is accurate.

Conflict of Interest Policy:

Signers must have no conflict of interest, meaning they may not verify applications for:

- Their own farming operation
- A family member (parent, spouse, child, sibling, grandparent, cousin, etc.)
- A business with which they or their immediate family is associated

The Commission reserves the right to disqualify any individual from providing a verification signature.

Verification Signatures for Equipment Purchases

Applies to: REAP Application pp. 8–11

Who Can Sign Dealer Certification Forms:

1. Qualified equipment dealers (Dealer must have business receipt/invoice, website, EIN, etc.)
2. Other individuals as determined by the Commission (on a case-by-case basis)

Conflict of Interest Policy:

Signers must have no conflict of interest, meaning they cannot certify:

- Equipment they are selling to themselves
- Equipment purchased by a family member
- Equipment for a business connected to them or a family member

The Commission reserves the right to disqualify any individual from providing a verification signature.

Attachment 5

REAP Program Definitions

- **Agricultural Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan:**

A site-specific plan that:

- Meets Clean Streams Law & 25 Pa. Code Ch. 102
- Identifies BMPs to minimize erosion and sediment from an agricultural operation

- **Agricultural Operation:**

The managed property that produces crops, livestock, poultry, or for equine activities.

- **Animal Concentration Areas:**

Outdoor zones exposed to rainfall, (ie. barnyards, feedlots, loafing areas, exercise lots, etc.) where animals congregate, difficulty in maintaining green cover and/or manure accumulates

- **Best Management Practice (BMP):**

Practices approved by SCC/USDA-NRCS to manage nutrients and protect surface waters through technological, economic and institutional factors

- **Business Firm:**

Entity subject to PA taxes under Articles III, IV, VI, VII, VIII, IX, or XV.

- **Commission or SCC:**

The State Conservation Commission.

- **Conservation District:**

County-level agency under the Conservation District Law (May 15, 1945, P.L. 547, No. 217).

- **Conservation Plan:**

USDA-NRCS plan listing BMPs with an implementation schedule.

- **Department or DOR:**

Pennsylvania Department of Revenue.

- **Eligible Applicants:**

Business firms, individuals, or joint filers under the previously listed tax articles.

- **Equine Activity:**

Boarding, training, lessons, pasturing, riding of horses. Excludes racehorse operations under the Race Horse Industry Reform Act (P.L. 435, No. 135).

- **Food Processing Residual/FPR:**

This space is reserved for the working definition that is being defined currently within another division

- **Legacy Sediment:**

Eroded upland sediment occurring after early PA Settlement. Affects hydrology/ecology by deposition along streams and valley bottoms.

- **Manure Management Plan:**

Outlines manure/agricultural wastewater application practices per 25 Pa. Code § 91.36(b).

- **Nutrient Management Plan / Specialist:**

Defined under 3 Pa.C.S. Ch. 5 to align with nutrient/odor laws.

- **Pass-Through Entity:**

Partnerships or PA S corps per section 301(n.0)/(n.1).

- **Qualified Tax Liability:**

PA tax obligations under eligible articles (excluding payroll).

- **Riparian Forest Buffer:**

Tree/shrub zone near surface waters meeting SCC conservation standards.

- **Sponsor:**

Businesses subject to PA Taxes receiving REAP tax credits for funding eligible farm projects.

- **Technical Service Provider:**

Certified individual, entity or public agency on USDA-NRCS list for technical support.

- **TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load):**

The sum of pollutant load limits for water bodies from non-point sources.

- **USDA-NRCS:**

US Dept. of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Agricultural Operation for \$250,000/7-Year Cap

For the purpose of REAP applicant eligibility under Section 1703-E(B) of the ACT

- Operator of agricultural land is considered the property owner for REAP tax purposes.

- All tracts of land, whether contiguous or non-contiguous, are under the common ownership or common management control of the person; whether as an individual, corporation, partnership or other legal entity; applying for the REAP tax credit;

and have organizational structures that include or retain the same (or significantly similar) ownership, management, directors, officers or shareholders;

or which utilize substantially common management or production resources such as land, equipment, labor, accounting and business systems to support one or more farm enterprises, partnerships, corporations, or other farm-related entity.