2016 Kentucky Soil & Water State Cost Share Program Manual

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Soil & Water Conservation Commission Administrative Regulations

416 KAR 1:010. Administration of Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost-share Fund.

RELATES TO: KRS 146.080-146.121, 224.71-100-224.71-140, Chapter 262
STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 146.110-146.121
NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 146.110 to 146.121 authorize the Soil and Water Conservation Commission to promulgate administrative regulations governing administration of the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost-share Fund. The fund provides cost-share assistance to persons engaged in agricultural and silvicultural production for implementation of best management practices for such purposes as providing cleaner water through the reduction in the loading of sediment, nutrients, and pesticides in Kentucky streams, rivers, and lakes; and reducing the loss of topsoil vital to the sustained production of food and fiber; and preventing surface water and groundwater pollution. This administrative regulation establishes criteria for participation in that cost-share program.

Note: This is only the first, descriptive paragraph of this regulation. For the complete regulation, please visit: http://www.lrc.ky.gov/kar/416/001/010.htm

For regulations referencing Agricultural Water Quality Plans, please reference **KRS Chapter 224.71**, found online at: http://www.lrc.ky.gov/Statutes/chapter.aspx?id=38338

For regulations referencing Conservation Districts, please reference **KRS Chapter 262**, found online at: http://www.lrc.ky.gov/Statutes/chapter.aspx?id=38498

Notable Changes to the 2016 Kentucky State Cost Share Manual

1. The Best Management Practices have been re-numbered to provide more consistency in dealing with the program day to day.
2. Some example documents were moved from the body of the manual to the appendices.
3. The working definition of a sinkhole has been slightly changed. A sinkhole no longer has to have an "open throat" or visible hole in the bottom. Any sinkhole may be considered for protection (specifically in KCP9). See Appendix A for definition.
4. There is new policy on Page 13 of this document under the section: New Policy for Practices versus Contracts. Due to inconsistency across the state, and interpretation of our governing regulation, this is a needed change to the program.
5. There is more specific information on *Ineligible Persons*, or "Bad Actors", and their eligibility, on the following page and on page 10.

Eligibility Requirements

Producer Eligibility

Eligible Persons - Persons conducting agricultural or silvicultural production are eligible to receive Kentucky State Cost Share assistance for best management practices if the following conditions are met:

(1)The person has had prepared a conservation plan, a compliance plan, a forest management or forest stewardship plan, or an agriculture water quality plan; and

(2)The person agrees to perform and to maintain best management practices for the period of time specified by the commission.

Tenant Farmers - Any tenant farmer should supply a copy of their Schedule F as well as written permission from the landowner in order to apply and install State Cost Share practices. The landowner must agree to continue the best management practices for the life span of the practice in the event that the tenant farmer cancels their land usage agreement.

Ineligible Persons - A person engaged in agricultural or silvicultural production who has failed or refused to comply with agriculture water quality planning and has been deemed a "bad actor" under KRS 224.71-130 shall lose eligibility for further cost share assistance.

Any applicant that has any type of existing easement, or is a part of another program, on the property for which they are applying for a Kentucky State Cost Share practice shall inquire with that governing agency/entity to ensure that the installation of the practice is legal and practical.

Any applicant that has a previously funded Kentucky State Cost Share practice that is not being maintained according to the Operation and Maintenance Agreement and the practice is still within the useful life span for required maintenance.

Best Management Practice Eligibility

Purposes of Best Management Practices- The Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Funds shall be used to provide cost share assistance for development and implementation of best management practices for the following purposes:

(1) Providing cleaner water through the reduction of sediment loading

of Kentucky streams, rivers, and lakes.

(2) Reducing the loss of topsoil vital to sustain production of food and fiber.

(3) Preventing surface water and groundwater pollution.

Approved Best Management Practices- Complete listings of eligible best management practices are contained in this document entitled Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Manual, on the following pages.

Unlisted BMP/Environmental Grants - A district may request the Commission's approval of best management practices not included in the Commission's list of approved practices if those best management practices solve a problem unique to the requesting district and conform to one or more of the purposes listed above in Purposes of Best Management Practices. A request shall be filed in writing with the Commission in time for the Commission to review the request and to notify the district of its decision prior to the advertisement of the program for the next program year. Conservation practices may be included in a district's list of eligible practices offered for cost share assistance only if approved by the Commission in accordance with this subsection. Unique conservation issues may also be addressed by applying for KCP1 – Conservation District Environmental Grants.

Application Procedures

Solicitation of Applications: The Commission shall establish, for each program year, a deadline for submittal of applications for cost share assistance. Each conservation district shall provide an opportunity for persons within the district to submit applications in time for the next program year by advertising the availability of cost share assistance in appropriate news media such as local newspapers, local radio stations, and any newsletters published by the district.

All applications, except the KCP1 Environmental Grant, shall be completed online. Once your applications are saved online they will be considered submitted to the Kentucky Division of Conservation.

Contents of Applications: In order to apply for cost share assistance, an applicant shall submit the current producer application located in Appendix C of this administrative manual to the conservation district in which the eligible land is located. The applicant shall append the following to the application:

(1) Any conservation plan, compliance plan, forest stewardship plan, or agriculture water quality plan in effect for the eligible land.
(2) If known to the applicant, or made in consultation with the appropriate technical agency, the anticipated total cost of the best management practice to be implemented and the percentage, if any, of the cost which the applicant proposes to bear, which percentage shall not be less than minimums established by the Commission for the particular best management practice.

Completion of Applications: An applicant who does not have a conservation plan, compliance plan, forest stewardship plan, or agriculture water quality plan in effect for the eligible land; or who has not determined the anticipated total cost of the requested best management practice, may request technical assistance from the conservation district in developing a best management practices plan and determining costs. When the best management practices plan has been developed and the anticipated total cost determined, the application will be reviewed in accordance with the eligibility and prioritization criteria established by this administrative regulation.

Review of Applications: Each conservation district shall review and determine the eligibility of all applications that are submitted by the established deadline. The board of supervisors for the district shall vote upon the eligibility at a meeting conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Law, KRS 61.805 to 61.850, and record the outcome in the minutes for that meeting of the board of supervisors. A district supervisor who is also an applicant for cost share assistance shall not vote on eligibility. The district shall approve the applications for database entry within fifteen (15) days after determining eligibility. A district may approve both individual applications for eligible lands within the district and watershed-based applications for eligible lands within the district.

Approval Procedures

Prioritization of Applications: The Commission shall prioritize the applications of persons determined by the conservation districts to be eligible for cost share assistance and shall make the final award of cost share assistance.

(1) Classification of Priorities- Applications shall be prioritized based on the following criteria:

(A) Applicants conducting agricultural or silvicultural production needing animal waste management systems where animal waste

has been identified by the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet as a water pollution problem.

(B) Applicants who are members of Certified Agricultural Districts.

(C) Applicants who have implemented a conservation plan, a compliance plan, an agriculture water quality plan, or a forest stewardship plan and are part of a watershed where the ecosystem-based assistance process in ongoing.

(2) Applications within each classification identified under the Classification of Priorities, shall be prioritized based on the following criteria:

(A) Presence of water pollution based on:

(1) Notification by a local, state, or federal agency that the applicant's agricultural or silvicultural production has caused or contributed to water pollution.

(2) Determination by the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet that surface water affected by the applicant's agricultural or silvicultural production is not meeting its designated use.

(3) Identification by the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet of a water priority protection region encompassing the location of the applicant's agricultural or silvicultural production.

(4) Other documentation of water pollution, such as a biological assessment.

(5) Potential for development of water pollution from agricultural or silvicultural production in the watershed in which the applicant's agricultural or silvicultural production is being conducted.

(B) Types of water pollutants based on:

(1) Animal waste.

(2) Sediment run-off.

(3) Nutrient loading.

(4) Pesticide application, storage, and disposal.

(C) Proximity of pollutant to groundwater or surface water.

(D) Magnitude of water pollution.

(E) Location in designated water quality planning area based on the existence of one or more of the following:

(1) An ecosystem-based assistance process.
(2) A Federal Clean Water Act Section 319(h) watershed plan area.
(3) A wellhead protection area.
(4) An agriculture water quality protection region.

Allocation of Cost Share Assistance: The available funds received by the Commission for the cost share program shall be allocated to the conservation districts based on requests from districts approved by the Commission prior to each program year. The districts shall receive a share of the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Fund based on the Commission's approval of a district's initial request based on the objectives and prioritization detailed under the section titled "Approval Procedures" in this administrative manual.

The Commission shall retain ten percent (10%) of the available funds in contingency fund to be allocated to assist persons engaged in agricultural or silvicultural productions and implementing the agriculture water quality program mandated by KRS 224.71.

Any funds allocated by the Commission to a district for a program year shall revert to the Commission if the district has not obligated the funds within one (1) year from allocation. The Conservation District may make a request to the Commission for up to a (2) 6 month extensions to complete the practice if circumstances merit.

Best Management Practices Designs: Once cost share assistance has been approved by the Commission, the conservation district shall designate a technician to develop final design and layout for the approved best management practices.

Funding Guidelines

Execution of Performance and Maintenance Agreements: After an applicant has been approved for cost share assistance and before the applicant receives payment of the cost share funds, the applicant and the conservation district shall execute a performance and maintenance agreement.

(1) Requirements of Performance and Maintenance Agreements: The performance and maintenance agreement shall require the applicant to meet the following requirements:

(A) The applicant shall agree to perform those best management practices approved in accordance with this administrative document.

(B) The applicant shall agree to maintain approved best management practices for the expected life of each practice agreed upon in the performance and maintenance agreement.

(C) Upon completion of the approved best management practice, the applicant shall notify the district that the practice has been installed and shall provide to the district for its inspection all vouchers, bills, and receipts associated with the practice when required.

(D) The applicant shall agree that at the time of transfer of ownership of land where a best management practice has been applied using cost share assistance and the expected life assigned the practice has not expired, the applicant shall execute a contract with the transferee requiring continuation of those practices until completed.

(E) The applicant shall agree that if the applicant destroys the best management practice installed or voluntarily relinquishes control or title of the land on which the installed practice has been established, and the new owner, heir, or operator does not agree in writing to properly maintain the practice for the remainder of its specified life span, the applicant shall refund all or part of the cost share assistance as determined by the district.

(F) The applicant shall agree that if the applicant does not maintain the approved best management practices according to the operation and maintenance agreement, the applicant shall forfeit the cost share assistance and the Commission shall be authorized to recover the funds disbursed. The applicant shall remain ineligible for future cost share funding until the practice is maintained in accordance with the performance and maintenance agreement, cost share funds are recovered by the Conservation Commission, or the useful life span of the practice expires.

(2) Effect of Performance and Maintenance Agreement: Requirements for performance and maintenance of best management practices applied using cost share assistance shall be established in the performance and maintenance agreement and reviewed with the applicant at the time of application submittal and before completion of a certification of practices.

(3) Refund of Funds Disbursed: The district may require a refund of cost share when an approved best management practice has not been performed or maintained in compliance with approved design standards

and specifications for the practice during its expected life as agreed in the performance and maintenance agreement.

(4) Application for Future Cost Share Assistance: Best management practices that have been successfully completed and which later fail as the result of floods, drought, or other natural disasters, and not through any fault of the applicant, shall not prohibit the applicant from applying for additional cost share assistance to restore the practices to their original design standards and specifications.

(5) Certification: Upon notification by the applicant that the approved best management practice has been completed and before disbursement of funds from the district, the appropriate technical agency shall certify to the district that the practice has been installed in accordance with the document entitled Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Manual.

(6) Limitations on Awards: Cost share assistance to an applicant shall be limited to 75% of the actual cost, not to exceed the maximum payment rate approved by the Commission, for each best management practice. These practices are governed by a maximum of seven thousand, five hundred dollars ($7,500) per program year to each applicant or operation for all practices except, KCP3, KCP12, KCP16, and KCP17, which have a maximum of twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) per program year to each applicant or operation, and KCP2B which has a maximum of $15,000 per program year to each applicant or operation. Cost share assistance may be used with other federal or local cost share funds on the same practices as long as the total cost share payment does not exceed 75% of the practice cost.

Cost share assistance awarded to any one applicant or operation shall be limited to a maximum of twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) per program year. Applicant is defined by use of Social Security/Tax ID number, operation is defined by Farm number. Example: FSN # 1234 combined with SS Number 987-65-4321 would discontinue the eligibility for both the FSN & SS Number for additional funding.

Cost share will be provided only for components included in the minimum design needed to solve or prevent the resource concern.

Cost share assistance shall not be awarded to best management practices *in progress prior to* cost share approval or practices previously installed by the applicant.

Funding Request from the Kentucky Division of Conservation: *After the applicant completes the approved practice*, the conservation district will then be responsible for requesting the individual funds from the Kentucky Division of Conservation. Payment will be certified on the 5th and 15th of the month. Please be sure to use the most current form available when submitting requests.

Administrative Guidelines

District Reporting and Accounting: A district shall conduct the following reporting and accounting procedures:

(1) Maintain an electronic control ledger showing the current request to the Commission and cost share funds obligated for approved applications, based on estimated costs.

(2) Submit a monthly report to the Commission indicating the obligated and unobligated balance of the practices of active years to the Commission.

(3) Submit an annual progress report to the Commission showing accomplishments "to date" for the current program year.

(4) Assemble case files for each approved application, filed by program year, to contain the following:

(A) The approved application for allocated funds.
(B) A copy of the estimated cost sheet detailed on the worksheet printed from the online program. (Page 3 of the Kentucky State Cost Share Application)
(C) Certification of practice completion.
(D) Applicant's vouchers, bills, or receipts.
(E) Final designs for best management practices.
(F) The performance and maintenance agreement.
(G) Any amendments to the performance and maintenance agreement.
(H) A map locating the practices.

Commission Reporting and Accounting: The Commission shall conduct the following reporting and accounting procedures:

(1) Receive and maintain reports from districts showing the obligated and unobligated balance of allocated and disbursed cost share funds as shown on each report.

(2) Submit consolidated quarterly reports based on the reports from districts on the obligated and unobligated balance of the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Fund.

Closing Out Individual Applications: After the cost share payment has been made to the approved landowner the Conservation District is responsible for forwarding pages 3, 4, 5 & 6 of the application in question to the Kentucky Division of Conservation. These pages can be scanned and emailed, mailed hard copy, or faxed. Please be sure that all of the appropriate information is correct to the best knowledge of the District, and has been signed off on by the responsible parties. Please be sure to keep a copy of this information also in the individual landowners' case file.

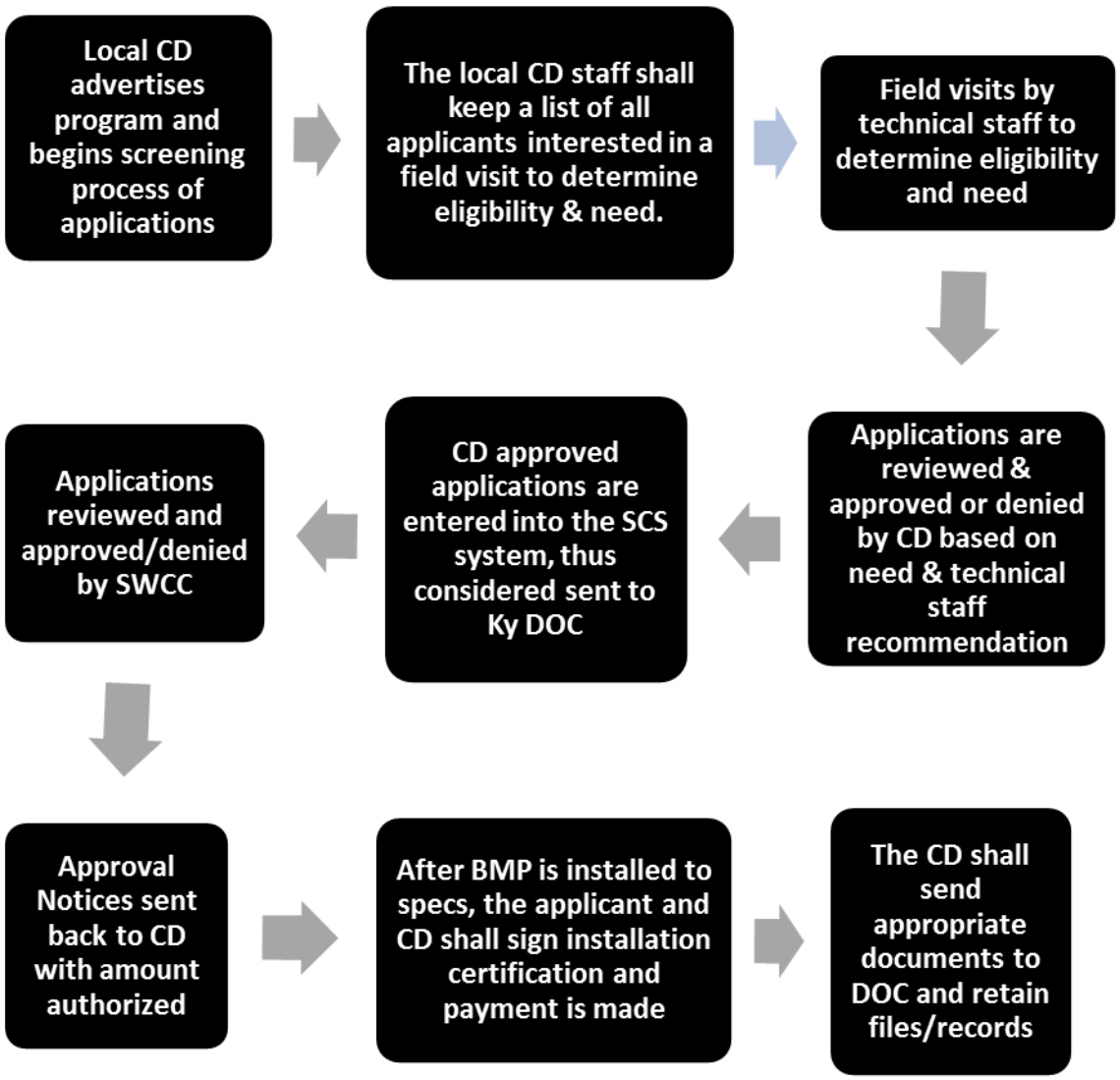
Tax Information: Each landowner who receives $600 or more shall be supplied an IRS form 1099 or equivalent tax accounting documentation. The Conservation District is responsible for distributing the necessary tax information.

Procedure for Filing an Appeal: Please refer to regulation 416 KAR 1:010, Section 12, if inquiries are made about appealing any decisions within the Kentucky State Cost Share process.

New Policy for Practices versus Contracts: Due to many questions and discrepancies statewide in the past few years on the topic of partial payments on contracts, a review was conducted on the topic. Due to the language used in reference to the Kentucky State Cost Share Program in 416 KAR 1:010, specifically on *practice* guidelines, it has been determined that from this point forward, when an applicant is seeking more than one practice within this program, that each independent practice on that operation be entered into the system as a separate contract for that landowner, i.e. one practice per contract. This method has been used successfully by some counties in the state for some time, and this is the most consistent option to stay within our regulatory limits while being able to best manage this program. The ONLY exception that would be considered on this guideline would be if an operation needs multiple practices that are dependent upon one another to be deemed practical to resolving the natural resource problem. If this situation occurs, please contact the KDOC for discussion and approval.

Guidance to Kentucky State Cost Share Procedures

General Flow Chart of Process:



Specific Steps and Policy:

1. Local conservation districts will advertise the program, then begin to screen interested applicants based on approved criteria established by the Commission. Note: Please see Appendix D for guidance on filling out the application. (Conservation district office completes Page 1, in a hard copy form, of Form SCP-245 with interested applicants.)

2. Conservation District personnel shall compile a tracking list of applications who wish to have a field visit and have started the application process.

3. Appropriate technical agency and/or conservation district staff visits potential applicants to evaluate practices and complete cost share application. (Technical agency completes page 2 of Form SCP-245)

4. It should be re-stated from earlier in this document: Cost share assistance shall not be awarded to best management practices in progress prior to cost share approval or practices previously installed by the applicant.

5. Applications are reviewed, and approved or denied, by the local conservation district. This is a mandatory step required by 416 KAR 1:010, Section 6.

6. Locally approved applications are filed at the office, and then entered into the State Cost Share system within the data entry period when notified by KDOC, thus being considered forwarded to the Kentucky Division of Conservation.

7. The Commission will evaluate applications based on established criteria and earmarked funds for qualified applications as funds are available.

8. An approval or disapproval notice is sent back to the conservation district with appropriate funds to install approved practices.

9. Once the practice is installed to specifications, the landowner and the conservation district will co-sign the installation form and payment will be made from district to the landowner. Final cost share payment cannot be paid to the applicant/landowner until completed, inspected, and approved by the technical agency. The applicant shall submit bills/receipts for work performed to determine actual cost, and the appropriate amount to be paid we be determined from this information. After all bills/receipts are submitted, and payment amount is determined, the conservation district may request the proper funds from the KDOC. The maximum payment rate percentages (75% of actual) are set by the Kentucky State Legislature. Thus,

exceeding the payment rate as stated for each practice in this manual is a violation of 416 KAR 1:010 Section 10(6).

10. Partial Payments: The KDOC discourages making partial payments on contracts. If a conservation district feels it is a financial hardship on a landowner to wait until the entire contract is complete before making any payment, then that conservation district may vote to allow a contractual partial payment. This only applies to contracts that have multiple practices, and funds can ONLY be requested after an individual practice is complete; i.e. partial payments cannot be made within individual practice components. Example: If a landowner has a contract in which both a KCP2A and a KCP3 were approved in that contract, then that landowner could only receive a partial payment, with the conservation district's approval, when the first of these practices were totally completed. It should be noted that if a conservation district votes to approve a partial payment on a contract, and for some reason that contract is never completed, then it will be the sole responsibility of that conservation district to recover the funds already paid and reimburse the Commission the total amount. Please see page 13 for further information on the differences in contracts and practices.

11. Approved applicants have one (1) year from the date of approval to complete the practice. Extensions will be granted for intervals of six (6) months with a maximum of two (2) extensions per approved application. After two extensions have been granted and expired, the landowner forfeits the rights to the funds and the conservation district.

12. Contract modifications due to errors or omissions must be justified, in writing, to the Commission. Requests for contract modification that will increase cost share funding must be recommended to the commission by the local district board and the engineer/technician. The approval of the funding for the contract modifications will be decided on by the Commission and are subject to the practice being eligible to receive additional assistance and the availability of funds.

13. Approved and completed cost share practices are subject to inspection by members or designees of the local conservation district and/or the Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

14. Applicants shall agree to maintain approved, completed conservation practices according to the provisions as defined in the Performance and Maintenance Agreement and the defined life span of the specific practice according to the technical agency's standards.

15. Conservation practices that are approved and completed are subject to an engineering spot check by the technical agency for design standards and specifications.

Specific instructions on how to fill out the application form SCP 245 can be found in Appendix F of this document.

Kentucky State Cost Share Best Management Practices

KCP1 Conservation District Environmental Grants

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to reduce agricultural non-point source pollution of surface or groundwater. This practice exists to be able to address specific, local environmental issues on the ground that do not fit into the other practices listed in this manual. This practice is intended for creativity in solving local, unique environmental issues.

Application:

This grant should be used for:

- Encouraging the adoption of new management techniques or measures that reduce the impact of agricultural pollutants on surface and groundwater.
- Educating the public about pollution problems while demonstrating effective alternatives to non-point source pollution practices.

Eligibility:

- Any applicable permits and renewals will be the responsibility of the landowner or conservation district prior to the receipt of cost share funds.
- Project funding must be requested with written documentation of community need, water quality or biological monitoring data to validate pollution problems.
- Projects should be submitted on a watershed or multi-watershed basis.

- Applications must identify pollutants that can be measured. Applicants should complete the cost share form to provide information about the project. If project pollutants are not addressed on this form, then a summary of pollutants and estimated quantities must be attached.
- Educational activities that support the proposed project should be addressed in the project application. The report should include targeted audience, material development, time schedules, etc.

Cost Share Policy:

1. Cost sharing is authorized for components necessary to implement an approved project. If the project includes existing BMPs, then applicable standards, specifications, and identified components will be followed.
2. In most cases, cost sharing is not authorized for the purchase of equipment. Equipment necessary for project implementation may be obtained through other programs.
3. Cost sharing is not authorized for duplicating future projects within the same watershed or community.
4. Requests for cost share may only be partially funded at the discretion of the Commission.
5. Cost share recipients must sign performance and maintenance agreements prior to payment.

Environmental Concerns:

Consideration shall be given to wildlife and environmental protection during project development.

Practice Life Span:

Practices implemented under KCP1 shall be maintained for a minimum of 10 years.

Program Development:

The conservation district shall provide conditions required for cost sharing.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense of project implementation, not to exceed $7,500 per program year.

Example Projects:

- Dead animal disposal programs
- Innovative resource protection programs
- Integrated crop management workshop
- Oil collection program
- Pesticide container recycling
- Rural household chemical recycling
- Rural septic installation workshop
- Constructed wetlands
- Composting demonstration/utilization
- And other innovative ideas will be considered

KCP2A Heavy Use Area Protection

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to reduce soil erosion, soil degradation, and pollution caused by concentrated livestock traffic or other agricultural heavy use activities in grazing or pasture based livestock systems.

Application:

Apply this practice under one or more of the following conditions:

- Winter hay feeding is causing soil degradation and animal waste issues.
- Concentrated livestock traffic is causing rill or gulley erosion.
- Erosion at the requested site is greater than soil loss tolerance.
- Soil movement or other non-point source pollutants constitute surface or groundwater pollution hazards.
- To protect heavy traffic areas around livestock watering facilities.
- To further prevent future soil degradation, the farming operation will also meet these criteria:

- Locate Heavy Use Area (HUA) feeding pads a minimum of 150 feet from streams, natural drains, or open sinkholes to minimize runoff from the area from causing degradation of water quality.
- To be eligible for an HUA feeding pad, stocking rates may not exceed 130% of the carrying capacity of the grazing operation, based on forage production as calculated using the KY-Graze Spreadsheet.
- Operations that meet the Kentucky Division of Water definition of an animal feeding operation are ineligible for this practice unless specifically recommended in a CNMP.

Cost share assistance under this practice is not authorized for a Heavy Use Area (HUA) under any existing, or planned, roofed structure.

Where conditions allow, the use of portable/movable feeding structures can be a preferred and cost-effective alternative to permanent feeding areas and should be considered during the planning process.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
• Soil Degradation Prevention • Soil Stabilization • Water Pollution Prevention	To prevent reoccurring pollution problems that cannot be fixed by a change in management.	✓	
• Maintain or improve existing roads. • Provide access roads.	Better support of agricultural equipment.		✓
• Critical Area • Diversions • Filter Strip • Permanent Fence	To protect agricultural heavy use areas from overland surface flow; to provide a filter strip to trap nutrients and/or sediments.	✓	
• Area through gate openings	Maximum size: 600 Square feet A gate opening with a resource concern that needs to be addressed.	✓	
• Heavy Use Area (HUA) under any existing, planned, and/or roofed structure.			✓

Requirements:

State Cost Share funds will not be available for Heavy Use Areas (HUAs) installed in conjunction with KCP16 dry stack facilities.

Authorization of cost share is not approved for applicants who are resubmitting requests for the same location on behalf of the same person.

The applicant/landowner must comply with sitting requirements and agree to follow needed cultural or management practices that extend the life of the heavy use area protection practice as defined in the NRCS standard and specifications practice code (Heavy Use Area Protection 561).

Program Development:

Conservation Districts shall provide conditions required for cost sharing.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost share limitation per program year: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Animal Trails and Walkways	575	10 years
Critical Area Planting (no trees or shrubs)	342	10 years
Diversion	362	10 years
Fence	382	20 years
Filter Strip	393	10 years
Heavy Use Area Protection	561	10 years

KCP2B Winter Feeding Use Area

Purpose:

These structures are intended to be small and placed in a strategic location based on current natural resource problems related to winter feeding sites. The objective is to reduce soil erosion and better manage animal waste occurring on winter feeding sites. The concept here is to promote rotational grazing and better planning.

Application:

Apply this practice under one or more of the following conditions:

- Erosion at the requested site is greater than soil loss tolerance.
- Soil movement or other non-point source pollutants constitute surface or groundwater pollution hazards.
- To prevent degradation of areas suitable for the winter-feeding of cattle:
    - Locate Winter Feeding Heavy Use Area (HUA) feeding pads a minimum of 150 feet from streams, natural drains, or open sinkholes to minimize runoff from the area from causing degradation of water quality.
    - To be eligible for a Winter Feeding Heavy Use Area, stocking rates may not exceed 130% of the carrying capacity of the grazing operation, based on forage production as calculated using the KY-Graze Spreadsheet.
    - Grazing duration and stocking rates will be managed by the participant on pastureland to maintain minimum grazing heights to prevent overgrazing.

Where conditions allow, the use of portable/movable feeding structures can be a preferred and cost-effective alternative to permanent feeding areas and should be considered during the planning process.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
• Soil Degradation Prevention • Soil Stabilization • Water Pollution Prevention	To prevent reoccurring pollution problems that cannot be fixed by a change in management.	✓	
• Maintain or improve existing roads. • Provide access roads.	Better support of agricultural equipment.		✓
• Winter Feeding Area	The concrete-floored, unroofed structure (50-foot X 36-foot, approximately) will be used for groups of a maximum of 35 cows or equivalent. (If the operation has 50 cows, then divide the herd in half. This will allow one structure to be utilized by two groups) It is NOT intended for a feeder calf operation.	✓	

Requirements:

State Cost Share funds will not be available for Heavy Use Areas (HUAs) installed in conjunction with KCP16 dry stack facilities.

Authorization of cost share is not approved for applicants who are resubmitting requests for the same location on behalf of the same person.

Please see Appendix M (page 123) of this document for technical guidance sheet and producer management agreement for this practice to be supplied to the producer.

A holistic approach to this structure should include the proximity or location of hay storage structures. Producers should also be encouraged to develop a fully integrated operation around this structure by incorporating handling facilities, creep feeding areas, and a lot of close or sick cows. The Winter Feeding Area must service a minimum of two (2) pastures and include enough pastureland acres to reduce heavy livestock traffic damage to the land during the winter feeding months. It is preferred to have more than two pastures serviced by the Winter Feeding Area. Location must meet the same requirements as animal waste facilities. The entire structure is NOT designed to be covered, it is intended for the cattle to eat and get back into the field. The idea is to keep it simple to avoid cost

over runs. A water source should not be installed within the structure or within 150 feet (approximately) of the structure. Additional requirements may be deemed necessary at the discretion of the Conservation Planner; this includes but is not limited to, the requirement of a Kentucky Nutrient Management Plan. Reference UK Publication ID-188 (http:www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/id/id188/id188.pdf).

Program Development:

Conservation Districts shall provide conditions required for cost sharing.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost share limitation per program year: $15,000 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Animal Trails and Walkways	575	10 years
Critical Area Planting (no trees or shrubs)	342	10 years
Diversion	362	10 years
Fence	382	20 years
Filter Strip	393	10 years
Heavy Use Area Protection	561	10 years
Winter Feeding Area	561*	10 years

*Concrete, instead of geotextile and gravel, will be utilized for the feeding structures.

KCP3 Rotational Grazing System Establishment

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to protect grazing land, vegetative cover, and encourage plant diversity. It also makes practical use of the land for vegetative cover to control soil erosion and reduce water, air or land pollution from agriculture or silviculture non-point sources.

Application:

Apply this practice where its adoption will achieve erosion control to meet tolerable soil loss levels through better distribution or proper rotation of grazing. Apply where it will result in better grassland management and protection of surface and/or groundwater from non-point source pollution.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
• Constructing wells • Deepening wells • Well casings (wells must have adequate pumping equipment)	To make the conversion to a rotational grazing system	✓	
• Dry wells • Pipe installed in the well • Pumping equipment • Pumps	To make the conversion to a rotational grazing system		✓
Develop: • Springs or seeps utilizing livestock ramps	Protect the development from pollution by livestock	✓	
Fence	Property boundary		✓
Dugouts: • Dams • Permanent pipelines, tanks, and fountains • Portable watering facilities • Pits • Ponds	To make the conversion to a rotational grazing system	✓	

Permanent fence (for cross-fencing)	To convert to an approved rotational grazing system by permanently cross- fencing paddocks that are ten (10) acres or larger.*A Minimum of four (4) paddocks required	✓	
Permanent fence (for use exclusion)	To protect developed or existing water supplies from pollution by livestock	✓	
Portable Fence	To convert to an approved rotational grazing system by expanding existing pastures to a minimum of four paddocks. Eligibility will be limited to no more than 1000 feet of temporary fence.	✓	
Conservation Activity Plan - NMP	Nutrient Management Plan	✓	

Requirements:

- Expand existing pastures to a minimum of four paddocks that are managed according to an approved rotational grazing plan. A NRCS grazing plan must be developed using the KYGraze software.
- Livestock numbers must be adequate to justify conversion to a rotational grazing system, based on the stocking rate as outlined in the NRCS rotational grazing plan.
- Landowners or operators must not have adopted a rotational grazing system previously. NOTE: If an existing rotational grazing system is in place, and only a livestock watering system is needed to provide an adequate water supply, the existing rotational grazing system must meet NRCS standards and specifications in order to be eligible, cost share will be available only for the necessary livestock watering system components.

Environmental Concerns:

Consideration should be given to the need of wildlife and enhancing the natural appearance of the area.

Program Development:

- Conservation districts shall provide local oversight of the cost share program in accordance with the Cost Share Manual.
- Permanently installed tanks, troughs, fountains and pipelines shall follow USDA, NRCS Technical Practice Codes 614 and 516.
- For portable watering facilities, eligibility will be limited to two (2) tanks and necessary conveyances (pipe, hose, valves, etc.)
- If the applicant is receiving an incentive payment for the prescribed grazing practice in a current EQIP contract, then portable fence and portable watering facilities are not eligible components under the state cost share program.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $20,000 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Fence	382	20 years
Pipeline	516	20 years
Pond	378	20 years
Spring Development	574	10 years
Trough or Tank	614	10 years
Water Well	642	20 years
Stream Crossing	578	20 years

KCP4 Water Well Protection

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to protect the quality of groundwater and well water supplies from contamination by agricultural non-point source pollution.

Application:

Apply this practice where active or abandoned water wells are being contaminated by agricultural non-point source pollution.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
• Diversion channels • Fence • Land shaping,leveling,filling • Seed/seeding on critical areas around active or abandoned wells. • Waterways	To protect areas around a well.	✓	
Water testing	To evaluate the conditions of an active well.	✓	
• Formed concrete • Rebar • Sealant	Prevention of contaminants from entering a well.	✓	
• Construction of new wells • Casing, pumps, pipelines • Well houses or other storage areas for pumps & equipment			✓
	Repetition of this measure which was approved for the same person on the same acreage.		✓

Requirements:

- The producer must agree to comply with all federal, state, and local environmental laws.
- The landowner must agree to follow needed cultural or management practices that extend the life of a water well protection practice.

- When the water from the well is utilized for human consumption or dairy livestock watering, the requirements of the Kentucky State Health Department shall be met.
- Each well shall be provided with a watertight cover to prevent contaminated water or other objectionable material from entering the well.
- Before issuing state practice specifications, approved state offices shall consult representatives of the Kentucky State Health Department and CES.

Program Development:

The conservation district shall provide conditions required for cost sharing.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Critical Area Planting (no trees/shrubs)	342	10 years
Diversion	362	10 years
Fence	382	20 years
Filter Strip	393	10 years
Grassed Waterway	412	10 years
Subsurface Drain	606	20 years
Underground Outlet	620	20 years
Well Decomissioning	351	20 years
Water Well Testing	990	1 year
Water Well	642	20 years

KCP5 Animal Waste Utilization

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to safely use wastes as fertilization for crop, forage, or fiber production while improving or maintaining soil structure, preventing erosion, and safeguarding water resources.

Application:

By applying this practice to soil and vegetation, it will utilize the waste as fertilizer; minimize pollution of ponds, streams, lakes, wells, and sinkholes; and reduce the use of chemical fertilizers.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Completing soil tests and manure analysis.	Necessary to determine waste application rates.	✓	
Waste Application	Waste Application according to CNMP	✓	

Cost Share Prerequisites:

1. A KY NRCS approved CNMP or NMP must be developed prior to receiving technical or financial assistance.
2. An approved waste storage facility must be in place prior to disbursement of cost share funds for animal waste utilization.
3. Any applicable permits and appropriate renewals will be the responsibility of the landowner or operator prior to receiving cost share funds.
4. Authorization for cost share is not permitted for applicants who have been previously approved for the same parcel of land.
5. A Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan must be developed, to achieve the level of nutrients required by the crop, balancing nutrients in the soil and from other sources applied in the form of fertilizer and animal manure. Incorporate technical references as required.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of $15 per acre as an incentive payment for conversion to an approved waste utilization program based on rates specified in the nutrient management plan.

Additional incentive payments are not to exceed $10 per acre, for two consecutive years following the initial year of adoption. Rates will be based on those specified in the nutrient management plan.

Animal waste rates, placement, timing, and setbacks will be based on the Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan. Manure analysis and soil testing, as recommended by the technical agency, will be cost shared at a maximum of 75% of actual cost. Total cost of practice, including incentive payments for all three years, cost of soil testing and manure testing shall not exceed $7,500.00.

Program Development:

The conservation district shall provide the conditions for meeting cost share requirements. Technical specifications may be incorporated by reference.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Filter Strip	393	No cost share
Nutrient Management Plan	590	1 year
Waste Utilization: • Manure Analysis • Soil Testing • Waste Application	633	1 year
Vegetated Treatment Area	635	10 years

KCP6 Forest Land Erosion Control System

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to protect the resource base by reducing erosion and sedimentation while enhancing water quality on forestland where disturbances are caused by silviculture or other activities.

Application:

This practice should be applied to forestland that is subject to any of the following:

- Erosion which is greater than soil loss tolerance.
- Soil movement that constitutes a surface or groundwater pollution hazard.
- Negatively impacted soil and water resources as a result of silvicultural practices.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
• Critical area protection • Stream crossing • Diversion • Fence • Filter strip • Grade stabilization • Water bars	Serves as a remedy to existing erosion caused by agricultural or silvicultural activities and to prevent erosion from silvicultural activities.	✓	
Fence	Property boundary		✓

Requirements:

This practice may be used in conjunction with other federal, state, or local programs to address silvicultural activities. However, it will not duplicate or supply additional payments for components previously paid for by other cost share funds.

Practice Lifespan:

The forestland erosion control system shall be maintained for at least 10 years after the calendar year of practice implementation.

Program Development:

- Conservation districts shall provide conditions required for cost sharing. Any technical specification may be included or incorporated by reference.
- Development of an agricultural water quality plan, silvicultural activity section, and a timber harvesting plan is recommended. Landowners may use private consultants or contact the Kentucky Division of Forestry for assistance.
- The Conservation Commission has established a cost of components in the current average statewide cost list maintained by NRCS and Farm Service Agency. Practice may not exceed $7,500 in total cost share funds per program year. Landowners may not receive more than 100% of the actual cost incurred.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office or reference to the KY Division of Forestry, Kentucky Forest Practice Guidelines for Water Quality Management and refer to appropriate Best Management Practices. It should be noted that Kentucky Division of Forestry BMP's are applicable, but they are non-cost shared items. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Critical Area Planting (no trees/shrubs)	342	10 years
Critical Area Planting (with trees/shrubs)	342A,612	15 years
Diversion	362	10 years
Fence	382	20 years
Filter Strip	393	10 years
Grade Stabilization Structure	410	15 years
Road/trail/landing Closure & Treatment	654	NA
Tree & Shrub Establishment	612	15 years
Stream Crossing	578	20 years

KCP7 Strip Cropping System

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to reduce water, air, or land pollution from agricultural non-point sources. It also should increase plant diversity in order to improve pest control, fertilizer efficiency, and better utilize solar energy to produce food.

Application:

Apply this practice to cropland that is subject to either:

1. Erosion greater than soil loss tolerance.
2. Soil movement that constitutes a surface or groundwater pollution hazard.
3. Mono-culture crop productions that create pest and disease problems, resulting in excessive pesticide applications.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Establishment of contour or field strip intercropping system.	• To reduce soil erosion to "T" or below. • Protect water from pesticides or sedimentation.	✓	
	Repetition of this measure which was approved for the same person on the same acreage.		✓

Requirements:

For contour strip intercropping systems, cultural operations must be performed on the contour, as nearly as practical.

Practice Lifespan:

The strip intercropping system shall be maintained for at least 5 years after the calendar year of implementation.

If subsurface drains and obstruction removal are installed as the sole component according to cost share policy, the strip cropping system and subsurface drains shall be maintained for at least 10 years after the calendar year in which the drains were installed.

Program Development:

Conservation districts shall provide minimum specifications upon which cost sharing is conditioned, such as strip width, spacing, qualifying crops, uses, and minimum quantity of different crops. Technical specifications may be incorporated by reference.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of $12 per acre as an incentive payment for conversion to the strip intercropping system. Additional incentive payments are not to exceed $8 per acre. These will be paid for two consecutive years following the initial year of establishment. The conservation district will receive these additional incentive payments at the time of approval. However, distribution of funds will occur at the end of each of the following two crop seasons.

For other approved practices, such as obstruction removal and subsurface drainage: The Commission has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Strip Cropping	585	5 years

KCP8 Stream Crossing

Purpose:

To improve water quality by removing access to the stream except where livestock, people or equipment must cross the stream by providing a single, stable crossing.

Application:

Apply this practice where livestock, people, or equipment must cross an intermittent or perennial watercourse.

Cost sharing is restricted to ford type crossings using geotextile and rock.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
• Excavation • Site preparation	To permit installation of entrance/exit ramps and trenching for geotextile.	✓	
Fencing: Post, high tensile wire or other NRCS approved material.	Exclusion of livestock from stream bank, upstream and downstream crossing. Use specifically technical practice code 382.	✓	
Geotextile: (filter fabric) base and surfacing material (rock), anchoring pins.	Used for entrance and exit ramps, following NRCS standard and specifications. Use specifically technical practice Code 578.	✓	
Seeding: fertilizer, seed, and mulch.	Disturbed areas impacted by installation of this practice. Use specifically technical practice Code 342.	✓	
Fence	Property boundary fencing		✓

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Practice and components must conform to NRCS standards and specifications in electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. The landowner will be responsible for obtaining any applicable permits or certifications prior to construction. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Critical Area Planting	342	10 years
Fence	382	20 years
Stream Crossing (interim)	578	20 years

KCP9 Sinkhole Protection

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to reduce the direct pollution of groundwater from sediment, animal waste, pesticides, or other agricultural pollutants.

Application:

Apply this practice in karst areas where sinkholes are causing or have potential to pollute groundwater supplies.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
• Prevention of sediment from entering groundwater supply through sinkholes. • Stabilization of soil.	Stop or reduce erosion, which is actively occurring at greater than tolerable levels.	✓	
	• Improve farm aesthetics • Improve wildlife habitat • Improve drainage in sinkhole basins • Prevent livestock or human injury		✓
Reduction of: • Animal waste • Chemicals • Fertilizers • Other pollutants	Stop pollutants from entering the groundwater supply through open sinkholes.	✓	

Requirements:

- Landowners must agree to any changes in management necessary to improve effectiveness of the practice.
- Landowners or operators have the responsibility of obtaining any applicable permits prior to the receipt of cost share funds.

Program Development:

Conservation districts shall provide conditions required for cost sharing. Technical specifications may be incorporated by reference.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Critical Area Planting	342	10 years
Critical Area Planting (with trees/shrubs)	342A, 612	15 years
Diversion	362	10 years
Fence	382	20 years
Filter Strip	393	10 years
Grade Stabilization Structure	410	15 years
Grassed Waterway	412	15 years
Obstruction Removal	500	10 years
Tree Planting	612	15 years
Vertical Drain*	630	10 years

*Note: Vertical drains are classified as a Class V injection well and require notification to the US Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV, Atlanta, Georgia. Notifications are for inventory purposes only. Applicant must furnish Latitude and Longitude coordinates or a USGS 7.5' topographic map identifying the Quadrangle name and identifying mark of the Class V injection well site.

KCP10 Cropland Erosion Control Systems

Purpose:

The application of this practice is for the planning and installation of erosion control practices on cropland only fields as identified in the conservation plan.

Application:

This practice should be applied to cropland fields that were in crops the year prior to application for the purpose of controlling soil erosion, water disposal, and for excess surface water from natural concentrations within cropland fields without causing erosion. The practice is also intended for the prevention/formation of gullies in crop fields, to reduce pollution potential, and for the enhancement of environmental quality benefits. Use of this practice is restricted only to cropland and is **not to be utilized on pastureland**. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following section and in the section entitled "Specifications" below.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Land shaping, leveling, filling, excavation, site preparation, tile or pipe installation.	Construction of one of the eligible listed practices in Specifications Table.	✓	
Geotextile: (filter fabric), rock (only as designed for specific practice), CPDT (only for design of waterway), plastic PVC pipe (only for use as inlet or outlet in practice design).	Component identified in design standard for one of the eligible listed practices in Specifications Table.	✓	
Seeding materials (seed, lime, fertilizer, mulch, netting)	Seeding required to vegetate disturbed area during construction and is necessary to control erosion of eligible listed practices in Specifications Table.	✓	
Construction of any practice listed in Specifications Table that is:	**Installed on land that is devoted to permanent pasture or land that is devoted to hay**		✓

Practice Eligibility Requirements:

This practice is not to be used on pastureland, hayland or in other areas that are not cropland. Fields that are in need of treatment and may be rotated back to grassland are eligible if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The field was planted to a listed crop in the year previous to sign-up (i.e. tobacco, soybeans, corn [grain or silage], vegetables, wheat, canola, sunflowers, potatoes, barley, oats).

2. The field must be planned to a Resource Management System (RMS) level of treatment, meeting the quality criteria for soil erosion planned at "T" (soil loss tolerance level) or below using NRCS Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation "RUSLE2".

3. For conservation treatment in fields that are eligible and will be rotated back to grassland the treatment area (i.e. Grassed Waterway, Diversion, Terrace, Water and Sediment Control Basin) must be protected from livestock by fencing, cost shared or non-cost shared, until vegetation is established. Local conservation district official and local NRCS District Conservationist shall verify livestock exclusion before cost share payment is received.

4. The formula to be utilized for calculation of gully erosion rates will be the same as EQIP Gully Erosion Worksheet.

   Top Width (TW) + Bottom Width (BW) / 2 x Length (L) x Depth (D) x 100 lbs./2000 lbs. / 1 year = Gully Erosion. If more than one gully exists in the treatment field, calculate erosion using the same formula and enter the total in the appropriate column in item C. Gully Erosion Sediment (Other Erosion) in the application form. Utilize the worksheet for gully erosion and file with applicant's copy.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. The practice must be maintained for the lifespan as indicated by the appropriate Practice Code listed in the following table, and is subject to periodic inspection by local conservation district personnel and NRCS representatives. The following table lists the companion or supporting practices:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Diversion	362	10 years
Fence	382	20 years
Grade Stabilization Structure	410	15 years
Grassed Waterway	412	10 years
Mulching	484	1 year
Sediment Basin	350	20 years
Subsurface Drain	606	20 years
Terrace	600	10 years
Water & Sediment Control Basin	638	10 years
Lined Waterway or Outlet	468	NA

The 2016 KCP10 Gully Erosion Worksheet can be found in **Appendix I** of this document.

KCP11 Pasture/Hay Forage Quality/Quantity and Erosion Control

Purpose:

The application of this practice is for the planning and installation of erosion control practices on pasture and hayland and the improvement of forage quality/quantity on previously established pasture and hayland areas.

Application:

This practice should be applied to pasture and hayland fields that were in that use the year prior to application for the purpose of controlling soil erosion, water disposal for excess surface water from natural concentrations within fields without causing erosion, and the improvement of forage quality/quantity. For the prevention/formation of gullies in pasture and hayland fields, to reduce pollution potential, for the enhancement of environmental quality benefits and forage improvement.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Land shaping, leveling, filling, excavation, site preparation, tile or pipe installation.	Construction of one of the eligible listed practices in the following section in Specifications Table.	✓	
Geotextile (filter fabric), rock (only as designed for specific practice), CPDT (only for design of waterway), plastic PVC pipe (only for use as inlet or outlet in practice design), riser inlet kits.	Component identified in design standard for one of the eligible listed practices in Specifications Table in the following section.	✓	
Fencing material.	Property boundary fencing.		✓
Permanent fence for use exclusion only.	Exclusion of livestock to areas needing grazing protection or to restrict access to areas by people or equipment or as needed to technically protect the practice.	✓	

Seeding materials (seed, lime, fertilizer, mulch, netting)	Seeding required to vegetate disturbed area during construction and is necessary to control erosion or to improve forage quality/quantity.	✓	
*Seeding materials (legume seed, lime and fertilizer)	Seeding required for renovating existing pasture and hayland. To improve forage quality/quantity.	✓	
Construction of any practice listed in Specifications Table that is:	Installed on land that is devoted to permanent cropland.		✓

Requirements:

Overseeding: Requires a soil test taken within the last 12 months, and legume seed must be certified to be eligible for cost share.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Practice and components must conform to NRCS standards and specifications in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. The landowner will be responsible for obtaining any applicable permits or certifications prior to construction.

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Critical Area Stabilization	342	10 years
Fence	382	20 years
Grade Stabilization Structure	410	15 years
Grassed Waterway	412	10 years
Mulching	484	1 year
Subsurface Drain	606	20 years

*Forage and Biomass Planting-Overseeding Only	512	5 years
Lined Waterway or Outlet	468	NA

*Use overseeding existing pastures with legumes: Job Sheet (O and M 512) Date: April 2011

KCP12 Stream Bank Stabilization/Restoration

Purpose:

The application of this practice is for the planning and installation of erosion control, bioengineering practices, native material revetments, channel stability structures, and/or the restoration or management of riparian corridors up-gradient from streams, restoring the natural function of the stream corridor, and improving water quality.

Application:

This practice should be applied to agriculture operations where the natural stream bank has been severely damaged by livestock access, or other activities associated with agricultural operations.

* KSW12 is only authorized for stream bank protection measures on streams with a drainage area of 390 square miles (250,000 acres) or less. In addition, all Stream bank Protection (580) sites will require either a Filter Strip (393) or a Riparian Forested Buffer (391) be installed, or maintained, in conjunction with the installation of the stream bank protection measures. To determine drainage area from a specific point on stream: Go to Kentucky Watershed Viewer at http://eppcgis.ky.gov/flexviewers/watershed/. Zoom in to your site, and click on the stream. A pop up box will appear with several pages of data. Scroll through until you see a page called "Peak Flow Data". SQMI is the square miles this point drains.

** If application is in conjunction with CP21 Filter Strip under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), please note in an email and send, along with the electronic application, to the Division of Conservation.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Filter fabric, riprap, bioengineering components, gabion baskets.	Construction of Stream Bank and Shoreline Protection (580) and any of the associated or component practices Specifications Table below.	✓	
Earthmoving (grading, shaping, site preparation).	Construction of Stream Bank and Shoreline Protection (580) and any of the associated or component practices in Specifications Table below.	✓	
Clearing and snagging.	To increase flow capacity of a channel by removing snags, drifts, or other obstructions.	✓	
Fencing material	Property boundary fencing		✓
Permanent Fence (for use exclusion)	Exclusion of livestock to areas needing grazing protection or to restrict access to areas by people or equipment or as needed to technically protect the practice.	✓	
Seeding materials (seed, lime, fertilizer, mulch, netting)	Seeding required to vegetate disturbed area during construction and is necessary to control erosion of any eligible listed practices in Specifications Table below.	✓	

Program Development:

- Conservation districts shall provide local oversight of the cost share program in accordance with the Kentucky State Cost Share Manual.
- Planned practices require a contract with the Kentucky Division of Water for all proposed sites for a Water Quality Certification or other permit determinations.
- On livestock operations, fencing off the stream and installation of either a filter strip in accordance with the Kentucky Nutrient Management Plan.
- On cropland, installation of either a filter strip with a minimum width of 20 feet or a riparian forest buffer with a minimum width of 50 feet is mandatory.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $20,000 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Practice and components must conform to NRCS standard Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580) in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. The landowner will be responsible for obtaining any applicable permits or certifications prior to construction. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Clearing and Snagging*	326	5 years
Critical Area Stabilization	342	10 years
Fence	382	20 years
Riparian Forest Buffer	391	15 years
Filter Strip	393	10 years
Grade Stabilization Structure	410	15 years
Livestock Exclusion/Access Control	472	10 years
Stream Crossing	578	20 years
Tree Planting	612	15 years
Mulching	484	1 year
Stream Bank & Shoreline Protection	580	NA

*To be used as a component of a complete Streambank Stabilization practice.

KCP13 Vegetative Filter Strips

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to control and prevent soil erosion. Additionally, installing this practice should reduce water, air or land pollution from agricultural non-point source.

Application:

Apply this practice to cropland or other sensitive areas that are subject to erosion, soil, and nutrient or pesticide movements which constitute a pollution hazard.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Establishment of permanent herbaceous vegetative barriers (selected perennial seed varieties need to attain sufficient height, thickness, and stiffness to retard erosion and filter runoff water)	To reduce soil erosion. To prevent water pollution.	✓	
• Minerals • Seed • Seedbed preparation • Seeding/fence	To establish/maintain filter strip.	✓	

Requirements:

1. Weeds shall be controlled within the vegetative strips by mowing or with chemicals the year that the filter strips are seeded.
2. At least 1 mowing or chemical application on filter strips shall be performed without cost sharing in each subsequent year.
3. Chemicals used must be federally, state, or locally registered and applied strictly according to authorized registered uses on the label and other federal and state policies and requirements.
4. Vegetated Filter Strips installed immediately below heavy use areas used for feeding or as a component of a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan

(CNMP) shall be designed according to the NRCS standard Vegetated Treatment Area (635), Filter Strip (393), and/or Field Borders (386).

Environmental Concerns:

Consideration shall be given to wildlife and environmental protection when designing this practice.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Fence (permanent only)	382	20 years
Filter Strip	393	10 years
Field Borders	386	10 years
Grade Stabilization Structure	410	15 years
Vegetated Treatment Area	635	10 years

KCP14 Integrated Crop Management

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to prevent water quality degradation by using nutrients and pesticides in an environmentally friendly manner.

Application:

Applies to cropland where nutrients and pesticides are utilized for production.

Cost Share Policy:

If component is:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Nutrient applications are according to a 2013 NRCS CNMP or NMP, and pesticide use is in accordance with NRCS Integrated Pest Management standard (595).	✓	
Nutrient applications according to a pre-2013 NRCS CNMP or NMP, an older NMP plan, or no plan at all.		✓
Pesticides utilized according to a crop management plan without assessing potential water quality impacts.		✓
Pesticide assessment completed through WINPST and water quality impacts do not require mitigation of the pesticides used on the operation.		✓

Requirements:

1. A 2013(or newer) NRCS CNMP or NMP, and NRCS IPM plan (if needed) must be in place before Nutrient Management (590) and Pest Management (595) can be applied.
2. The application of nutrients must follow the NRCS CNMP or NMP plan.
3. The application of pesticides will occur after a NRCS WINPST assessment has been used to analyze the pesticides used by the operation.
    - If pesticide risk does not need to be mitigated, then the requirements of NRCS Integrated Pest Management have been met.
    - If mitigation is needed then a NRCS IPM plan must be developed to determine application methods, rates, and or pesticide changes that will need to be made.

Cost Share Rate:

A $15.00 per acre incentive payment will be made to implement practice codes 590 and 595.

The maximum cost share rate is 75% of expenditures, not to exceed $7,500 total, including incentive payments. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Practice components are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Nutrient Management: Nutrients applied according to NRCS NMP or CNMP: • Soil tests • Crop requirements • Manure tests • Nitrogen & Phosphorous risk assessments • Required setbacks • Other techniques mentioned in NRCS 590	590	1 year
Pest Management: Pesticides applied and: • NRCS WINPST determines mitigation is not needed (or) • Mitigation practices and/or techniques completed according to NRCS IPM plan.	595	1 year
Record keeping	991	Duration

KCP15 Pesticide Containment Facilities

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to reduce pollution of water, land and air by pesticides.

Application:

Apply this practice where the current method of handling pesticides is polluting or potentially polluting the soil and water resources. The facility must use over 100 pounds of active ingredients per person or farm.

Cost Share Policy:

If component is:	Authorized	Not Authorized
• Diversions, channels, waterways, outlet structures • Fence • Formed concrete, rebar, and sealant • Land shaping, leveling and filling to permit installation • Liners, soil sealant, and bentonite • Permanent pumps, pipes, valves, and storage tanks • Seed and seeding on critical areas	✓	
• Construction of walls • Disposal of rinsate or spillage • Remedial action to correct soil, water, or other resources affected by pesticide spillage		✓

Requirements:

1. Before issuing state practice specifications, approved state offices shall consult representatives of the State Water Quality Agency, NRCS, and CES. Approved state offices must obtain concurrence in writing from NRCS and the state water quality agency of their agreement with the practice specifications. If changes to the specifications are requested, the Commission must approve them before the practice can be offered in the state.
2. A producer must agree to allow USDA representatives access to the site to review and evaluate KCP15.

3. The producer must implement a crop management system that uses pesticides in the most efficient and environmentally sound manner that is economically practicable. The producer must also agree to comply with all federal, state and local environmental laws and secure all necessary permits before starting construction.
4. The structure shall be made of sealed concrete or other similar material that will provide an impervious surface to minimize the potential for leaching and will provide functional and structural integrity for the design life.
5. An operation and maintenance plan for the facility must be developed. The system must be maintained for the functional life of the practice.
6. Rinsate and spillage must be disposed of according to the pesticide labeling requirements.
7. Any pipe must be entirely visible for inspection. A pipe may not pass through the concrete or equivalent material structure.
8. The structure must be situated to minimize any potential contamination of surface or ground water.
9. The structure must meet all state and local prescribed isolation distances.
10. Back-flow preventers must be installed if a water supply is available.
11. The system must be designed to contain at least 125 percent of the volume of the largest chemical tank that will be placed on the structure.
12. Using the pad for mixing or storage and handling of fertilizers is prohibited unless the operation and maintenance of the system is specifically designed for these purposes.
13. Protective runoff measures prescribed for the area on which these facilities are constructed must be performed before or concurrently with the installation of the facility.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Diversion	362	10 years
Heavy Use Area Protection	561	10 years
Agrichemical Handling Facility	309	20 years
Roof Runoff Management	558	15 years
Subsurface Drain	606	20 years
Critical Area	342	10 years

KCP16 Agricultural Waste Control Facilities

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to reduce existing water, land, or air pollution caused by agricultural waste.

Application:

Apply this practice to areas of farmland where agricultural waste from the farm constitutes a significant pollution hazard.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Waste storage facilities such as: aerobic or anaerobic lagoons, channels, diversions, dry stacks, holding ponds, land shaping, liquid manure tanks, outlet structures, piping, poultry composting facilities, livestock waste composting facilities, settling or collection basins, waterways.	Part of a system to manage agricultural wastes which contributes significantly to maintaining or improving soil or water quality. *See note 1 at end of this chart.	✓	

Permanently installed equipment for transportation of waste to storage structures. Example: lift pumps for transfer of liquid waste to the waste storage facility.	This is an integral part of a waste control facility. *See note 1 at end of this chart.	✓	
Electrical wire, electrical switches, control panels, micro-switches or labor for electrical contractor for wiring and installation	Transferring electrical current to operation.		✓
• Critical area planting • Mulching • Fencing	Protection of the facility.	✓	
• Filling • Leveling	To permit installation of an effective system.	✓	
Waste storage facilities **See note 2 at bottom of chart	Storing, handling, or disposal of chemicals used in farming operations.		✓
Waste storage facilities **See note 2 at bottom of chart	Newly converted livestock, poultry, or other operation.	✓	
• Agricultural waste spreading • Buildings • Irrigation pipelines as distribution systems • Modification of buildings • Portable pumps & equipment	Primarily for prevention of air pollution with no soil and water conservation benefits.		✓
Travel lanes, trails, or walkways	Provide movement for livestock through sensitive areas	✓	
Miscellaneous activities	Installations which are primarily for the operator's convenience		✓
Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan - CNMP	Necessary for proper handling and use of waste.	✓	

*Note 1: Cost Share shall be limited to the minimum size needed to solve or prevent the conservation problem.

**Note 2:State cost share funds will be available for dry stack facilities used in conjunction with existing feeding facilities, or non-cost shared newly constructed feeding facilities. In order for the dry stack facilities to be eligible for State Cost Share funds, the construction of any new non cost shared feeding facility must be completed prior to or in conjunction with the completion of the cost shared dry stack facility. Roofing components of the cost shared structure may not be attached to the non-cost shared structure(s).

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $20,000 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Program Development:

- Conservation districts shall provide local oversight of the cost share program in accordance with the Kentucky Cost Share Manual.
- Cost share will be allowed for travel lanes, trails, or walkways for the movement of beef and dairy livestock to minimize erosion and to protect sensitive areas.
- The operation that is applying for cost share must have livestock or poultry present at the time of application. (If poultry consult section below).
- All permitting procedure guidelines with Division of Water must be followed.
- Electrical wiring may be attached to the structure only after the practice has been certified by NRCS.
- No other structures may be attached to the cost-shared structure.
- The eligible cost share components necessary to fabricate the covered portion of the dry stack facility include: trusses, posts, purlins, nails, bracing and supports, roofing material consisting of the roof surfacing (metal or other approved material) and the sheeting attached to the trusses, guttering and downspouts, overhang fascia board, and guttering supports.
- An approved Waste Storage Facility must be in place prior to disbursement of cost share funds for animal waste utilization.
- If KYNRCS determines that the operation meets the definition of an AFO (Animal Feeding Operation), a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) is required before release of the design, or construction of any animal waste structures. If NRCS determines that the operation is not an AFO, then a KYNMP must be in place before release of design, or construction of any animal waste practice.
- Cost share assistance is available for construction of poultry litter storage sheds on a farm(s) or tract(s) with the following conditions:
    - All litter storage sheds are required to be maintained and used for the purpose of storing waste during periods identified in the Waste Management Plan in accordance with USDA NRCS standards and specifications and are to be maintained for the life span of the practice.
    - In order to receive state cost share funds, poultry litter storage sheds must be needed to store litter on a farm/tract where the applicant owns the

poultry production facilities generating the poultry litter/waste, and the litter/waste must be utilized on that same farm/tract through a nutrient management plan.

Practice Maintenance:

The practice must be maintained and used throughout its normal life span for the conservation purpose for which cost sharing was approved. This includes performing normal repairs, upkeep, and maintenance. Destruction of or substantial damage to the practice, discontinuing use of the practice before the lifespan expires, converting the practice to uses other than the conservation purpose, or any other use or misuse of the practice so that it fails to meet its conservation purpose shall be considered a violation of the Performance and Maintenance Agreement. An example of a violation would be using the practice to store farm equipment at any time period during the year or storing hay without an appropriate practice maintenance waiver on file (see Practice Maintenance Waiver section in Appendix H of this document).

Practice Maintenance Waiver:

Local conservation district boards of supervisors have the authority to grant a "practice maintenance waiver" on an applicant's request to temporarily use a manure dry stack facility or an existing covered feeding structure to store hay. Note that this waiver only applies to the storage of hay. Also note that litter storage sheds are not eligible for practice maintenance waivers. A waiver would have to be in writing by the applicant to the local board of supervisors. This would consist of a waiver from the applicant requesting a temporary change in the cost share contract for a set period of time and if granted by the local board of supervisors, they would check applicant's sites to ensure that the waiver conditions had been adhered to and followed. It is the responsibility of the local board to police and enforce the waiver conditions they have granted and take appropriate actions to recover cost share funds if the applicant violates the conditions of the cost share contract and waiver. This waiver cannot be granted during periods when the structure is required to fulfill its intended purpose. For covered feeding structures, that period would be between November 1st and April 30th. (see Practice Maintenance Waiver section in Appendix H of this document).

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Composting Facility	317	15 years
Critical Area Planting	342	10 years
Dike	356	20 years
Diversion	362	10 years
Fence	382	20 years
Filter Strip	393	10 years
Grassed Waterway	412	10 years
Mulching	484	1 year
Pond Sealing or Lining	521	See applicable Life Span
Roof Runoff Management	558	15 years
Animal Trails & Walkways	575	10 years
Sediment Basin	350	20 years
Underground Outlet	620	20 years
Waste Storage Facility	313	15 years
Waste Treatment Lagoon	359	15 years
Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan - CNMP	102	NA

Note:

For 2016 Performance and Maintenance Agreement and Waiver forms, please see Appendix H, on page 113 of this document.

KCP17 Closure of Agricultural Waste Impoundment

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to protect water resources and eliminate a potential safety hazard.

Application:

Apply this practice to areas of farmland where agricultural waste impoundments are no longer utilized as a part of a waste management system, are to be permanently closed or abandoned, and constitute a significant pollution and/or safety hazard.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
• Critical area planting • Fencing • Mulching	Protection of the disturbed areas.	✓	
• Filling • Leveling	To permit effective closure of system.	✓	
Agricultural Waste Spreading	Primarily for prevention of air pollution with minimal soil and water conservation benefits	✓	
	Activities which are primarily for the operator's convenience		✓

NOTE: All authorized cost share items above shall be limited to the minimum needed to solve or prevent the conservation problem.

Requirements:

Technical and financial assistance from this practice is appropriate to ensure water quality protection in situations where farmers are going out of business or where a landowner who was not an operator has an abandoned waste storage/treatment system on his/her property. All applicants who are closing an existing operation, one that has recently gone out of business or correcting water quality concerns on an abandoned operation must follow these guidelines:

1. The cooperator/landowner did not receive any State Cost Share funds to install the system.
2. The applicant demonstrates clearly in the application provided to the Division that the proposed facility or abandoned system is in a condition that is creating a water quality problem or presents a potential water quality problem if not corrected.
3. Each application must contain the following information and must be received by the Division prior to approval:
    a. Length of time system has been abandoned.
    b. Indication of status with Division of Water (i.e. has farm received a Notice of Violation or operational permit.)
    c. Volume of system based on length, width, depth of liquid/sludge and slopes.
    d. Describe the method that will be used to empty the waste and transfer the waste from the impoundment and when/where land application will occur. In situations where pumping is impractical because of consistency of sludge (i.e. solid), sludge may be excavated. Estimates should include information regarding how waste is to be removed (i.e. drag line, agitate and pump, etc.)
    e. Surface acreage of the lagoon.
    f. A profile of the dam and how it is to be breached, if applicable.
    g. A statement signed by the applicant/landowner that he/she will not re-implement the system and that no confined animal operation will be started on that farm for five years.
4. Cost share program funds will be used for the removal of waste only (not for the removal of fill or foreign materials), and for stabilization of site. Removal of foreign materials will be at the landowner's expense and must be removed according to state and federal guidelines. Cost for closure is not to exceed a total of $20,000 per applicant. Receipts and a copy of the waste analysis report must accompany the Request for Payment form.

5. Breaching of any diked or dammed structures is optional; however all disturbed areas will be vegetated to permanent grass, trees, or wildlife plantings. NRCS Standards will apply to all vegetated areas.

Program Development:

Conservation districts shall provide local oversight of the cost share program in accordance with the Kentucky Cost Share Manual.

A KY NRCS Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) or a KY NRCS Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) will be required depending on the operation. Operations that are no longer deemed to be AFO's will need a NRCS Nutrient Management Plan for closure.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $20,000 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Critical Area Planting	342	10 years
Land Application	633	1 year
Diversion	362	10 years
Closure of Waste Impoundment	360	10 years
Filter Strip	393	10 years
Grassed Waterway	412	10 years
Mulching	484	1 year

KCP18 Riparian Area Protection

Purpose:

The purpose of riparian area protection is to remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, and pesticides from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, denitrification, and other processes. This results in reducing pollution and protecting surface and subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystem.

Application:

Apply this practice to land adjacent to or surrounding: permanent or intermittent streams, lakes, ponds, and intermittent or permanently flooded wetland, sinkholes, karst areas, and other groundwater recharge areas.

The adjacent contributing land must be one of the following: cropland, pastureland, hayland, or woodland.

Cost Share Policy:

1. The practice must meet all federal, state, and local environmental laws.
2. The participant must agree to allow USDA personnel access to the site to review and evaluate the practice. The participant must also be implementing a conservation plan on the contributing area. Additionally, the participant must also secure all necessary permits before starting construction of practice.
3. The use of fertilizers and pesticides is only permitted if covered by an operations and maintenance plan developed for the practice by the designated technician.
4. Livestock crossing facilities that will prevent sedimentation and pollution. The installation of crossings is limited to small streams where flooding is not a serious problem. Refer to practice KCP8.
5. The requirements for this practice, including eligible seed mixtures, nutrients and limestone must be specified in the practice specifications as developed by the designated technician.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Fence (non-boundary)	382	20 years
Pipeline	516	20 years
Pond	378	20 years
Riparian Forest Buffer	391	15 years
Spring Development	574	10 years
Trough or Tank	614	10 years
Field Borders	386	10 years

KCP19 On-Farm Fallen Animal Composting

Purpose:

The application of this practice is for the composting of fallen animals on an impervious surface. This practice is only for disposal of animal mortality that occurs on the applicant's farm.

Application:

This practice should be applied to any animal operation as an alternative method for the disposal of animal mortalities.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Land shaping, leveling, filling, excavation, site preparation.	Construction of one of the eligible listed practices in Specifications Table below.	✓	
Equipment Rental (vibratory roller, etc.)	Construction of one of the eligible listed practices in Specifications Table below.	✓	
Establishment of permanent herbaceous vegetative barriers (selected perennial seed varieties need to attain sufficient height, thickness, and stiffness to retard erosion and filter runoff water)	To reduce soil erosion. To prevent water pollution.		✓
Seeding materials (seed, lime, fertilizer, mulch, netting)	Seeding required to vegetate disturbed area during construction and is necessary to control erosion of an eligible listed practices in Table 1		✓
Cement	Construction of one of the eligible listed practices in Specifications Table below.	✓	

Requirements:

Composting operations are required to submit a permit application to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Office of State Veterinarian (502-564-3956).

Bin Size – Should be a 15 feet wide to accommodate different size loading buckets and height of the compost bin should accommodate a maximum compost pile height of 6 feet depth.

Small operations could get by with a single bin, medium operations should use two bins, and large operations should use a 3 bin system.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Small Operations	≤ 100 head - Estimated payment rate $2,500
Medium Operations	≤ 200head - Estimated payment rate $5,000
Large Operations	≤ 300 head - Estimated payment rate $7,500

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Composting Facility	317	10 years

KCP20 Soil Health/Quality Management

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to encourage the adoption of a soil quality cover crop system.

Application:

A soil quality cover crop system is designed to obtain maximum soil cover that will improve soil's physical, biological and chemical properties, control weeds, limit soil erosion, limit runoff of fertilizers/chemicals, conserve moisture, cycle nutrients, etc.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Management incentive payment	Incentive for continuing a soil quality cover crop system.	✓	

Requirements:

To be eligible for this management payment a producer must be currently approved under EQIP for the Soil Health Cover Crop option. EQIP payments must be paid prior to receiving state cost share management payment.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of $15.00 per acre as an incentive payment for conversion to a soil quality cover crop system.

Additional incentive payments are also approved for two consecutive years following the initial year of adoption. Payments for year two are not to exceed $20.00 per acre, and year three not to exceed $25.00 per acre.

Cost Share Limitation: $7,500 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 11, "Limitation on Awards" if clarification is needed.

Specifications:

Practice and components must conform to NRCS standards and specifications in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office.

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Soil Health/Quality Management Payment	997	3 years

KMRBI 1 Precision Nutrient Management Initiative

Purpose:

The precision farming incentive payment is to encourage the adoption of variable-rate application of nutrients and pesticides while also promoting the use of GPS-enables precision agricultural technology and equipment.

Application:

Application available to cropland producing annually planted crops and located within the Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watershed Initiative pre-selected 12 digit-HUC watersheds.

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Soil test requirements	Used to determine the variable rate application (VRA)	✓	
Precision Nutrient Management Plan	To delineate and prescribe precision application of plant nutrients	✓	
Documentation and records of actual applications made based on the Precision Nutrient Management Plan	To certify the adoption and use of Precision Nutrient Management on applicable acres	✓	

Requirements:

To be eligible for nutrient or pest management precision agriculture incentives, a producer will be in one of the following categories: 1) not currently applying these practices on cropland at the minimum levels as described; or 2) be willing to apply the practice(s) at a higher level as described.

Certification requirements:

1. Soil sampling maps with soil test recommendations (grid or zone) along with as-applied nutrient maps (map not required if no nutrients recommended) must be supplied to the NRCS District Conservationist for certification.

Maps will include field boundaries, product applied, rate and date applied and a map legend.
2. Nutrient Management plan developed by NRCS or TSP that meets requirements set forth by NRCS Nutrient Management Standard.
3. Precision agriculture equipment for GPS-enabled navigation must be installed on predominate nutrient application equipment.
4. District Conservationist must certify application that producer has installed the required bundle/suite of best management practices to eligible for this practice incentive and receive payment.

Cost Share Rate:

Practice requirements, plus VRA must be conducted using a vehicle equipped with a GPS enabled guidance correction service. Incentive is $27.00/acre and total cost of practice shall not exceed $20,000 per operation. Approved applicant will be eligible for three consecutive year incentive payments and first payment will not be made until the bundle of require practices have been installed and certified by NRCS. Also, required is a copy of the previous year nutrient application records or self-certification by applicant of these rates.

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Nutrient Management	590	1 year

Nutrient Management (590): At least one variable-rate application (VRA) of nutrients has been made according to fertilizer recommendations based on grid soil samples representing areas no greater than 2.5 acres OR zone soil sampling representing areas of no greater than 20 acres. Zones must be based on soil survey data in addition to (a) yield data, (b) soil electrical conductivity data, and/or (c) aerial or satellite images.

KMRBI 2 Soil Health Cropping System

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to develop and implement a soil health cropping system that works to stop existing soil degradation and improve the soil's physical, biological, and chemical properties. These cropping systems should result in substantial fertilizer and chemical savings to landowners and an improved environment for the soil, water, air, plants, animals, and humans.

Application:

This practice applies to any and all cropland where:

1. Landowner is already implementing a complete no-till system on their cropland (landowner no longer uses cultivation or tillage as part of their cropping operation).
2. Landowner wishes to improve the physical, biological, and chemical properties of their soils.
3. Landowner wishes to reduce commercial inputs (fertilizer and chemical usage).

Cost Share Policy:

Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Soil Health Conservation Plan	• To reduce soil erosion to "T" or below. • To protect air, water, plants, animals, and humans from unneeded usage of fertilizers and chemicals.	✓	
Exclusive no-till cropping system	• To stop degradation of existing physical, biological, and chemical soil properties. • To create a soil environment where soil properties can be improved.	✓	
Maximize organic matter and residues on/in the soil and its surface	• Provide microbial food. • Cycle nutrients. • Self-microbial police.	✓	

	• Keep soil surface covered. • Increase cation exchange capacity of soil to hold cycled nutrients. • Improve soil filtration.		
Maximize live root at all times	Home for microbes that rebuild soil aggregates/soil structure/ soil pore space (improve soil water holding capacity), increase infiltration and permeability, and soil gaseous exchange.	✓	
Appropriate animal waste applications (NMP or CNMP)	Animal waste additions create a synergetic effect among soil microbes causing them to perform at their optimum,	✓	
Apply plant diversity in cropping system- cool season broad leafs, cool season grasses, warm season broad leafs, warm season grasses	• Heals/rebalances microbial food web by attracting beneficial diverse microbes. • Causes the soil microbial food web to cycle more nutrients and improve self-microbial policing.	✓	
Use cover crop mixtures	• Use multi species cover crops. • Plant cover crops in a timely manner (earlier than usual). • Kill cover crops at appropriate time (later than usual).	✓	
Roll down cover crop mixtures before planting of cash crop	Cover crop mixtures will be rolled down in the spring before planting by using a cultipacker, stalk chopper, or roller crimper.	✓	
Self-microbial food web analysis	Tracks nitrogen availability, bacteria, fungi, protozoa, and nematodes in soil systems.	✓	
Traditional soil test (UK Extension)	Needed during initial years of cropping system.	✓	
Cultivation of any kind	No conventional or minimum tillage practice of any kind will be allowed for life of practice.		✓

Requirements:

- Landowner must already be using a complete no-till system in his existing crop fields.
- Cover crop mixtures must be sown by: September 10th through 30th west of Interstate 65; and by September 1st through 15th east of Interstate 65. Landowner may be required to grow shorter growing season cash crops.

Conservation districts shall provide minimum specifications upon which cost sharing is conditioned. Practice will be based on a mutually developed soil health plan. NRCS personnel will assist landowners (and if applicable- Conservation District Employees) in the development of individual soil health plans. Landowners MUST HAVE OWNERSHIP AND INVOLVEMENT IN ALL ASPECTS OF PLAN DEVELOPMENT.

Cost Share Rate:

The SWCC has established a maximum of $30.00 per acre as an incentive payment for conversion to a soil health cover cropping system. This $30.00 per acre incentive payment is for: using a no-till drill, no-till planting of cover crop mixtures, ensure cover crops are planted on time, ensure cover crops are allowed to grow later in spring of year, and for the use of shorter growing season cash crops if needed. Additional incentive payments are not to exceed $30.00 per acre. These will be paid for two consecutive years following the initial year of establishment (for a maximum total of 3 years). The conservation district will receive these additional incentive payments at the time of approval. However, distribution of funds will occur in the spring of the following year after roll down and no-till planting of cash crop into heavy residue has occurred.

For other approved practices, such as cover crop seed mixtures, soil microbial food web analysis testing , UK soil test, and roll down will receive a maximum of a 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate.

Cost Share Limitation per program year: $6,667 for each applicant or operation (for a total of $20,000 for 3 years).

Specifications:

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Cover Crop	340	1 year
Nutrient Management Plan	104	1 year
Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan	102	1 year
No-Till	329	1 year
Conservation Crop Rotation	328	1 year
Nutrient Management	590	1 year

Practice life span is for one year with the option of signing up for this practice for 3 consecutive years in a row. It is highly suggested that after three years of practice implementation landowner continue using their soil health cropping system to maintain and improve their soil's physical, biological, and chemical properties.

KCREP1 Conservation Cover

Purpose:

To establish and maintain perennial vegetative cover to protect soil and water resources on land retired from agricultural production.

Application:

The purpose of this practice is to reduce soil erosion and sedimentation, improve water quality, and create or enhance wildlife habitat.

Cost Share Policy:

Eligible Components:	CREP Practices:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Components as defined in the FSA National CRP Manual, 2-CRP, Exhibit 9 for respective practices.	• CP1 Introduces Grasses/Legumes • CP2 Native Grasses • CP3 Tree Planting • CP3A Hardwood Tree Planting	✓	

Requirements:

1. Eligible lands are restricted to areas approved by USDA for participation in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) using Farm Service Agency program guidelines.
2. Program participants must have a current CREP contract approved by the FSA county committee.
3. Program participants must be in compliance with CREP contract provisions as determined by FSA.
4. This practice is eligible under continuous sign-ups of the Green River CREP program.

Environmental Concerns:

Consideration shall be given to wildlife and environmental protection when designing this practice.

Cost Share Rate and Incentive Payments:

Cost share will be based on 25% of the actual installation cost as determined by FSA according to the AD-245 used for CREP payments. Incentives will be based on 25% of practice installation cost. Cost share and incentive payments combined cannot exceed 100% of the total installation cost, and a total sum of $7500 per practice. Incentives will be based on 75% of the practice installation cost when enrolled into a permanent easement.

Specifications:

Practices must meet the NRCS standard for Conservation Cover (327) or Tree/Shrub Establishment (612) as specified in the technical guide on file in the office of the local NRCS District Conservationist. The practice lifespan shall be consistent with USDA CREP Guidelines. Associate practices are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
CP1 Introduced Grasses & Legumes	327	See Contract
CP2 Native Grasses	327	See Contract
CP3 Tree Planting	612	See Contract
CP3A Hardwood Tree Planting	612	See Contract

KCREP2 Conservation Buffers

Purpose:

To provide wildlife habitat and to remove sediment and other pollutants from runoff by filtration, deposition, infiltration, adsorption, absorption, decomposition, and volatilization.

Application:

Apply this practice to cropland, marginal pastureland, or other sensitive areas that are subject to erosion, soil and nutrient or pesticide movements that constitute a pollution hazard.

Cost Share Policy:

Eligible Components:	CREP Practices:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Components as defined in the FSA National CRP Manual, 2-CRP, Exhibit 9 for respective practices.	• CP8A Grassed Waterways • CP15A Contour Grassed Strips • CP21 Filter Strips • CP22 Riparian Forest Buffers • CP29 Marginal Pastureland Wildlife Habitat Buffer	✓	

Note: Fence is only eligible under KCREP4.

Requirements:

1. Eligible lands are restricted to areas approved by USDA for participation in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) using Farm Service Agency program guidelines.
2. Program participants must have a current CREP contract approved by the FSA county committee.
3. Program participants must be in compliance with CREP contract provisions as determined by FSA.
4. This practice is eligible under continuous sign-ups of the Green River CREP program.

Environmental Concerns:

Consideration shall be given to wildlife and environmental protection when designing this practice.

Cost Share Rate and Incentive Payments:

Cost share will be based on 25% of the actual installation cost as determined by FSA according to the AD-245 used for CREP payments. Incentives will be based on 25% of practice installation cost. Cost share and incentive payments combined cannot exceed 100% of the total installation cost, and a total sum of $7500 per practice. Incentives will be based on 75% of the practice installation cost when enrolled into a permanent easement.

Specifications:

Conservation buffer practices must be established in accordance with the following NRCS practice standards and any practice establishment guidelines specific to CREP.

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
CP8A Grade Stabilization Structure/Grassed Waterways	410/412	See Contract
CP15A Contour Grassed Strips	332	See Contract
CP21 Filter Strips	393	See Contract
CP22 Riparian Forest Buffers	391	See Contract
CP29 Marginal Pastureland Wildlife Habitat Buffers	386	See Contract

KCREP3 Livestock Watering Systems

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to provide alternative water sources for livestock in situations where streams are accessed and pollution potential exists.

Application:

Apply this practice as an alternative water supply when current livestock water has been displaced by the implementation of a conservation buffer.

Cost Share Policy:

Eligible Components:	CREP Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Components as defined in the FSA National CRP Manual, 2-CRP, Exhibit 9 for respective practices.	Install pipelines, tanks, or limited access points in streams.	To provide livestock water.	✓	
	Ponds, wells, and spring developments.	To provide livestock water source.	✓	
	Pumps, electrical Accessories.	To pump water from wells, streams and other sources.		✓

Note: Cost share on stream limited access points is restricted to the ford type crossings using geotextile and rock. Fence needed for Stream Limited Access is cost-shared under KCREP4.

Requirements:

1. Eligible lands are restricted to areas approved by USDA for participation in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) using Farm Service Agency program guidelines.
2. Program participants must have a current CREP contract approved by the FSA county committee.
3. Program participants must be in compliance with CREP contract provisions as determined by FSA.
4. This practice is eligible under continuous sign-ups of the Green River CREP program.

5. This practice is only eligible in conjunction with a Conservation Buffer (CP21, CP22, or CP29).

Environmental Concerns:

Consideration shall be given to wildlife and environmental protection when designing this practice.

Cost Share Rate and Incentive Payments:

Cost share will be based on 25% of the actual installation cost as determined by FSA according to the AD-245 used for CREP payments. Incentives will be based on 25% of practice installation cost. Cost share and incentive payments combined cannot exceed 100% of the total installation cost, and a total sum of $7500 per practice. Incentives will be based on 75% of the practice installation cost when enrolled into a permanent easement.

Specifications:

Watering facilities must be established in accordance NRCS standards and specifications. Practice components are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Pipeline	516	See Contract
Trough or Tank	614	See Contract
Stream Crossing (Limited Access Points)	578	See Contract

KCREP4 Fence

Purpose:

The purpose of this practice is to exclude livestock from conservation buffers to improve water quality and wildlife habitat.

Application:

Apply this practice when livestock need to be excluded from conservation buffers installed through the CREP.

Cost Share Policy:

Eligible Components:	CREP Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Components as defined in the FSA National CRP Manual, 2-CRP, Exhibit 9 for respective practices.	Fence	Exclude livestock from stream or karst area to prevent erosion and improve water quality.	✓	
	Fence	Exclude livestock from pond to improve water quality, or as a property boundary.		✓

Note: KCREP4 should be used for all fencing used in conjunction with buffers, stream crossings, or stream limited access points.

Requirements:

1. Eligible lands are restricted to areas approved by USDA for participation in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) using Farm Service Agency program guidelines.
2. Program participants must have a current CREP contract approved by the FSA county committee.
3. Program participants must be in compliance with CREP contract provisions as determined by FSA.
4. This practice is eligible under continuous sign-ups of the Green River CREP program.
5. This practice is only eligible in conjunction with a Conservation Buffer (CP21, CP22, or CP29).

Environmental Concerns:

Consideration shall be given to wildlife and environmental protection when designing this practice.

Cost Share Rate and Incentive Payments:

Cost share will be based on 25% of the actual installation cost as determined by FSA according to the AD-245 used for CREP payments. Incentives will be based on 25% of practice installation cost. Cost share and incentive payments combined cannot exceed 100% of the total installation cost, and a total sum of $7500 per practice. Incentives will be based on 75% of the practice installation cost when enrolled into a permanent easement.

Specifications:

Permanent fence must be installed in accordance NRCS standards and specifications. Practice components are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Fence	382	See Contract

KCREP5 Stream Crossing

Purpose:

To improve water quality by removing access to the stream except where livestock, people or equipment must cross the stream by providing a single, stable crossing.

Application:

Apply this practice where livestock must cross an intermittent or perennial watercourse.

Cost sharing is restricted to the ford type crossings using geotextile and rock.

Cost Share Policy:

Eligible Components:	CREP Procedure Needed:	Procedure Purpose:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Components as defined in the FSA National CRP Manual, 2-CRP, Exhibit 9 for respective practices.	Install stream crossing for livestock.	Provide crossing for livestock to be moved from one side of the buffer to the other side for grazing.	✓	

Note: Fence associated with the Stream Crossing should be cost-shared under KCREP4.

Requirements:

1. Eligible lands are restricted to areas approved by USDA for participation in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) using Farm Service Agency program guidelines.
2. Program participants must have a current CREP contract approved by the FSA county committee.
3. Program participants must be in compliance with CREP contract provisions as determined by FSA.
4. This practice is eligible under continuous sign-ups of the Green River CREP program.
5. This practice is only eligible in conjunction with a Conservation Buffer (CP21, CP22, or CP29).

Environmental Concerns:

Consideration shall be given to wildlife and environmental protection when designing this practice.

Cost Share Rate and Incentive Payments:

Cost share will be based on 25% of the actual installation cost as determined by FSA according to the AD-245 used for CREP payments. Incentives will be based on 25% of practice installation cost. Cost share and incentive payments combined cannot exceed 100% of the total installation cost, and a total sum of $7500 per practice. Incentives will be based on 75% of the practice installation cost when enrolled into a permanent easement.

Specifications:

Practice and components must conform to NRCS standards and specifications. The landowner will be responsible for obtaining any applicable permits or certifications prior to construction. Practice components are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span
Stream Crossing	578	See Contract

KRCPP1 Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) Assistance

Purpose

The purpose of this practice is to provide financial assistance to producers/landowners to complete a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) as a first step in implementing their obligations under RCPP.

Application

This practice will be considered for any landowner that is referred to the Division of Conservation for participation in the RCPP and that does not currently have a CNMP. Since funding for this specific program has been set aside, this practice will not be limited by traditional Kentucky State Cost Share annual deadlines, but will be considered on an ongoing basis.

Cost Share Policy

Procedure Needed	Procedure Purpose	Authorized
CNMP Development	Needed for Conservation Activity Plan development	✓

Requirements

The landowner/producer applying for this practice must have a written recommendation from RCPP partner agencies.

Environmental Concerns

RCPP aims to increase the restoration and sustainable use of soil, water, wildlife, and related natural resources.

Cost Share Rate

The Kentucky SWCC has established a maximum of 75% cost share rate based on actual expense not to exceed the estimated payment rate on cost of a CNMP.

Cost share limitation per program year: $7,500.00 for each applicant or operation. Please see page 10, “Limitation of Awards”, if further clarification is needed.

Specifications

Specifications, plans, and constructions must conform to the standards set in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) located on the NRCS website or available in the local NRCS office. NRCS technical practices for this state cost share practice are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life Span of Practice
CNMP – Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan	590	1 Year

Appendix A

Soil & Water Conservation Commission Administrative Definitions

Agricultural or Silvicultural Production: Any farm operation on a tract of land, including all income-producing improvements and farm dwellings, together with other farm buildings and structures incident to the operation and maintenance of the farm, used for the production of livestock, livestock products, poultry, poultry products, milk, milk products, or silviculture products or for the growing of crops such as, but not limited to tobacco, corn, soybeans, small grains, fruit and vegetables, or devoted to and meeting the requirements and qualifications for payments to agriculture programs under an agreement with the state or federal government.

Agriculture Water Quality Plan: A document incorporating the conservation plan, compliance plan, or forest stewardship management plan as necessary to prevent ground water and surface water pollution from an agricultural or silvicultural production. *Acronym*: AWQP.

Applicant: A person or organization who applies for cost share assistance from the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Fund.

Available Funds: Monies budgeted, unobligated, and approved by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission for cost share assistance.

Best Management Practices: The most effective, practical, and economical means of reducing and preventing water pollution for agricultural or silvicultural production provided by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Best management practices shall establish a minimum level of acceptable quality for planning, siting, designing, installing, operating, and maintaining these practices. *Acronym*: BMP.

Case File: The collection of materials that are assembled and maintained for each application for cost share assistance.

Compliance Plan: A conservation plan containing best management practices developed for persons engaged in agricultural production by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in conjunction with local conservation districts as required for eligibility under the Federal Food Security Act.

Conservation District (or just District): A subdivision of state government organized pursuant to KRS 262 for the specific purpose of assisting persons engaged in agricultural or silvicultural production in solving soil and water resources problems, setting priorities for conservation work to be accomplished, and coordinating the federal, state, and local resources to carry out these programs.

Conservation Plan: A plan describing best land management practices, including an installation schedule and maintenance program which, when completely implemented, will improve and maintain soil, water, and related plant and animal resources of the land in accordance with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Technical Guide or developed by others in accordance with the Technical Guide and in cooperation with a conservation district.

Cost Share Assistance: Cost share funds awarded by the Commission from the Kentucky Soil and Water Quality Cost Share Fund.

District Supervisor: A member of a conservation district's governing board.

Ecosystem-Based Assistance Process: A specific application of a planning process that considers the integration of ecological, economic, and social factors to maintain and to enhance the quality of the environment to best meet current and future needs, which may include the following components:

1. Inclusion of private land and public land within the watershed.
2. Identification of and suggested solutions for various resource problems within the watershed.
3. Establishment of opportunities for public participation in plan development and implementation.
4. Inclusion of mechanisms for developing a comprehensive resource plan for the watershed and for reporting conservation accomplishments within the watershed.
5. Identification and prioritization of local resource concerns and inclusion of mechanisms to address these concerns within the watershed.
6. Development within current conservation district boundaries with coordination of plans across county lines for protection of the watershed.

Eligible Land: Land on which agricultural or silvicultural production is being conducted.

Eligible Person: A person eligible to apply for cost share assistance.

Eligible Practices: Those best management practices that have been approved by the Commission and are outlined in this manual.

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) Piggyback: An incentive that is offered with an EQIP contract that is designed to promote faster installation of best management practices. These funds are available to contracts that the Division of Conservation has deemed a soil and/or water quality issue that is of priority in being addressed. This funding is available for two years after the EQIP contract is signed. At the end of the two year period this incentive is no longer available to the applicant.

Forest Stewardship Management Plan: A plan developed by the Kentucky Division of Forestry or other cooperating entities that establishes practices for a person engaged in an agricultural or silvicultural production to manage forestlands in accordance with sound silvicultural and natural resource principles.

Groundwater: Subsurface water occurring in the zone of saturation beneath the water table and any perched water zones below the B soil horizon.

Karst: Karst is a landscape formed from the dissolution of soluble rocks including limestone and/or dolomite. It is characterized by sinkholes, caves, and underground drainage systems that are more prone to surface contamination than more traditional aquifers.

Obligated Funds: These are funds that have been sent to the district for a particular applicant that are being held in the districts account as an incentive payment, or funds that will be used for that applicant following final approval of the practice for cost share assistance.

Performance and Maintenance Agreement: A written agreement between an eligible person and the district in which the eligible person agrees to implement and to maintain the best management practices for which cost share assistance is being awarded.

Program Year: The period of time from July 1 to June 30; also referred to as the state fiscal year (SFY).

Sinkhole: A natural depression in a land surface coinciding with a subterranean conduit, generally occurring in limestone regions and formed by dissolution of bedrock, from which water cannot escape in overland drainage. Both open and closed sinkholes are included in this classification.

Soil and Water Conservation Commission (or Commission): The commission established by KRS 146.090.

Surface Water: Those waters having well-defined banks and beds, either constantly or intermittently flowing: lakes and impounded waters, marshes and wetlands, and any subterranean waters flowing in well-defined channels and having a demonstrable hydrologic connection with the surface. Effluent ditches and lagoons used for waste treatment which are situated on property owned, leased, or under valid easement by a permitted discharger shall not be considered to be surface waters of the Commonwealth.

Tenant Farmer: An applicant that signs up for State Cost Share who does not own the land in which the practices will be conducted.
Unobligated Funds: These are funds that have been sent to the district for a particular applicant that will not be used for that applicant after final approval of the practice for cost share assistance.

Water Priority Protection Region: An area specifically delineated where water pollution from agricultural or silvicultural production has been scientifically documented.

Watershed: All the area from which all drainage passes a given point.

Appendix B

Acronyms List

AFO	Animal Feeding Operation
AWQP	Ag Water Quality Plan
BMP	Best Management Practice
CAP	Conservation Activity Plan
CNMP	NRCS Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan
CREP	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
FSA	Farm Services Agency
HUA	Heavy Use Area
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
KAR	Kentucky Amended Regulation
KRS	Kentucky Revised Statute
KDFWR	Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources
KDOC	Kentucky Division of Conservation
KDOF	Kentucky Division of Forestry
KCP	Kentucky Conservation Practice
KMRBI	Kentucky SCS practice for the MRBI Program
KCREP	Kentucky SCS practice for the CREP Program
KYNMP	Kentucky Nutrient Management Plan
MRBI	Mississippi River Basin Initiative
RCPP	Regional Conservation Partnership Program
NMP	NRCS Nutrient Management Plan
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
SCS	State Cost Share
SWCC	(Kentucky) Soil & Water Conservation Commission
TA	Technical Assistance
TSP	Technical Service Provider
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
VRA	Variable Rate Application
WINPST	Windows Pesticide Screening Tool

Appendix C

Kentucky State Cost Share Application

The Kentucky State Cost Share application form begins on the next page of this document. It may be printed from this document and used by the applicant/office to fill out prior to entry into the system. It should be noted that entry into the online system is the ONLY way to submit an official state cost share application. This document is for guidance and signatures only.

The first page is to be completed by the applicant/office staff for later entry into the system. The second page is to be filled out by NRCS or District Office Technicians.

The third page will be generated in the system and will need to be printed for signatures.

The fourth, fifth, and sixth pages will be filled out by district office staff, and proper signatures obtained.

Detailed instructions on filling out this application can be found in Appendix D of this document (located immediately after the application).

Kentucky State Cost Share Application

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Application ID:_____-_____-_____

Name:_____
Last First M.I.

Mailing Address:_____ Farm Address:_____
_____ _____
_____ _____
State Zip Code State Zip Code

Home Phone:_____ Cell Phone:_____

Farm County:_____ Farm Number:_____
GPS Coordinates:_____ Tract Number:_____

Is applicant member of a KDOC certified Ag District?_____Yes_____No
Is this a new farm operation?_____Yes_____No
Does applicant own other farms?_____Yes_____No
Does this contract involve a partnership or joint venture with others?_____Yes_____No
Is applicant willing for cost share practice to be part of a field day/demonstration?___Yes___No
Does applicant have an existing conservation, compliance, or forest stewardship plan?_____Yes_____No
Does applicant have an Ag Water Quality Plan on file in the Conservation District Office?_____Yes_____No. If so, how many years since plan has been updated?_____
Has applicant requested other financial/cost share assistance on this practice?_____Yes_____No
If yes, what other sources of funding has been requested?_____319(h)_____EQIP_____ACEP _____CRP_____MRBI_____RCPP(EQIP)_____Local Programs_____Other
Had applicant received state cost share funds previously?_____Yes_____No
Number of years application has been filed and not received approved cost share?_____years
Is request for a Corrective Measures Action or due to a Notice of Violation (NOV)?_____Yes_____No

Animal Numbers:

Type of Animal	Quantity

Practice Requested:

Practice #	Practice Name

I request cost share assistance under this program described above. The practice is needed to conserve soil and water resources on the property identified above and could not be performed to the extent requested and needed without state cost share. I understand that in order to receive state cost share funds, the practices must be installed to NRCS standards and specifications and must be certified by an NRCS engineer. If cost sharing is approved for the practice requested, I agree to refund all of part of the cost share assistance paid to me, as determined by the local conservation district, if before the expiration of the specified practice life span I(a) destroy the approved practive, (b) cease to use the practice for its intended purpose, or (c) voluntarily relinquish control of title to the land on which the approved practice has been established and the new owner and/or operator of the land does not agree in writing to properly maintain the practice for the remainder of its life span.

Applicant Signature:_____Date:_____

Kentucky State Cost Share Application

(Page 2)

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Application ID:_____-_____-_____

1. Location:

   a. 14 Digit Watershed (HUC)_____
   b. Distance to sinkhole: Open throat_____Outer rim edge_____
   c. Watershed or Area Special Designation:_____
   d. Latitude:_____Longitude:_____

2. Problem:

   a. Problem Type:_____b. Type of Water Body_____
   c. Pollution Severity:_____d. Distance FromWater Body:_____

3. Extent:

a. Animal Waste:_____

Livestock Type:	
Confinement Months:	
Animal Units:	
AUM Confinement:	

b. Sediment (sheet & rill):_____

Before(tons/ac/yr):	
After(tons/ac/yr):	
Acres to which rate applies:	
Total soil savings (tn/yr):	

c. Gully Erosion (other erosion):_____

Before(tn/ac/yr):	
After(tn/ac/yr):	
Acres affected:	
Total soil savings (tn/yr):	

d. Nutrients (inorganic-N,P,K):_____

Before(N,P,K ac/yr);	
After(N,P,K ac/yr):	
Acres Affected:	
Nutrient Reduction(N,P,K):	

e. Pesticide/Toxins:_____

Crop Code:	
Tillage Code:	
Acres Affected:	
Rating:	

4. Is livestock present on this operation? _____Yes_____No

5. This practice is needed and is practical to solve the problem identified and can be installed according to NRCS conservation practice standards and specifications?_____Yes_____No

Kentucky State Cost Share Application

(Page 3)

<u>NOTE</u>: This third page is the page that will be generated automatically by the system. The text on this page is only used as a guide as to what will be shown on this generated page.

Name:_____ Application #:_____

Address:_____ Farm #:_____
_____ Tract #:_____

Phone:_____

County:_____ Watershed (HUC):_____

GPS Coordinates:_____

Practice(s) Requested:

Practice	Code	Practice/Activity Type	Unit	#	Cost

Eligible Cost Share Amount: $_____

_____

Applicant Signature Date

_____

NRCS Representative Signature Date

_____

Conservation District Supervisor Signature Date

Kentucky State Cost Share Application

(Page 4)

Name:_____Farm #:_____Tract #:_____Application ID#:_____

A. Practice Approval Information

Funds Requested: $_____ Funds Approved: $_____

Practice Installation Deadline: _____/_____/_____

B. Installation Information

1. Practice and components actually installed: NRCS representative complete page 6 (final payment information) of this application that identifies the conservation practice, units applied, estimated payment, actual cost, and actual payment information. The estimated payment rate will be supplied from the online version of the State Cost Share application. This payment estimate is for comparison to the actual bills furnished to the district by the applicant for the practice.

2. Performance Report: The conservation practices and components listed on page 3 and/or 6 of this application have been inspected by NRCS personnel. This practice installation meets NRCS technical standards, specifications, and is completed in accordance with approved plans furnished for this practice?_____Yes_____No

3. Date Performed: The practice was completed to NRCS technical standards on:_____/_____/_____.

_____

NRCS Representative Signature Date

Total Installation Cost: $_____ Cost Share Payment: $_____

Check #:_____

Social Security # or Tax ID # of recipient of funds:_____-_____-_____

C. Conservation District Payment Approval

Following a review of technical certification, cost comparison figures furnished by NRCS and the applicant's receipts furnished to the District, this practice has been performed to the extent required by the policy set forth in the Administrative Regulations established for the Kentucky Soil Erosion & Water Quality Cost Share Program, and is approved for the cost share payment as shown.

_____

Chairman, Conservation District Date

Kentucky State Cost Share Application

(Page 5)

D. Certification and Maintenance

1. Did you bear all the expenses (except for program cost sharing) of performing this practice? _____Yes_____No

   If No, report name and address of the other person(s) or agency who bore any part of the expenses. Also show kind, extent of, and value of their contributions:

   _____
   _____
   _____
   _____

2. Performance Maintenance Agreement:

   I certify that the above information is true and correct. I further certify that the entries on page 4 of this application show the practice was performed in accordance with the practice specification and other program requirements. I hereby apply for payment to the extent the Conservation District had determined that the practice has been performed. I agree to maintain this practice for at least _____ years following the year that the practice is completed. I agree to refund all or part of the cost share assistance paid to me as determined by the Conservation District if, before the expiration of the practice's life span specified above, I (a) destroy the practice installed, (b) cease to use the practice for its intended purpose, or (c) voluntarily relinquish control or title to the land on which the installed practice has been established and the new owner and/or operator of the land does not agree, in writing, to properly use and maintain the practice for the remainder of its specified life span.

   _____

   Signature, Approved Applicant Date

Kentucky State Cost Share Application

(Page 6)

Final Payment Information

Name:_____Application #:_____

Practice Code	Component Description	Units Applied	Estimated Payment	Actual Cost	Actual Payment

Appendix D

How to Fill Out the Kentucky State Cost Share Application

The following instructions are based on how to fill out the hard copy State Cost Share Application found on the previous pages. Remember that this information will then be entered into the application system for submission.

Page 1

Previously, the application ID was produced and filled out by office staff. Now, that number is generated for you by the system when the complete application is entered. So, you will take that application ID from the system and place it on the hard copy application. For reference: the number it broken down into 3 sections of numbers. The first is the program year of the application, i.e. 2015. The second is a county code number assigned to your specific county. The table for those codes is included below for reference. The third number is simply a system-generated identification number unique to that application.

001 Adair	031 Edmonson	061 Knox	091 Nicholas
002 Allen	032 Elliott	062 Larue	092 Ohio
003 Anderson	033 Estill	063 Laurel	093 Oldham
004 Ballard	034 Fayette	064 Lawrence	094 Owen
005 Barren	035 Fleming	065 Lee	095 Ohio
006 Bath	036 Floyd	066 Leslie	096 Pendleton
007 Bell	037 Franklin	067 Letcher	097 Perry
008 Boone	038 Fulton	068 Lewis	098 Pike
009 Bourbon	039 Gallatin	069 Lincoln	099 Powell
010 Boyd	040 Garrard	070 Livingston	100 Pulaski
011 Boyle	041 Grant	071 Logan	101 Robertson
012 Bracken	042 Graves	072 Lyon	102 Rockcastle
013 Breathitt	043 Grayson	073 McCracken	103 Rowan
014 Breckinridge	044 Green	074 McCreary	104 Russell
015 Bullitt	045 Greenup	075 McLean	105 Scott
016 Butler	046 Hancock	076 Madison	106 Shelby
017 Caldwell	047 Hardin	077 Magoffin	107 Simpson
018 Calloway	048 Harlan	078 Marion	108 Spencer
019 Campbell	049 Harrison	079 Marshall	109 Taylor
020 Carlisle	050 Hart	080 Martin	110 Todd
021 Carroll	051 Henderson	081 Mason	111 Trigg
022 Carter	052 Henry	082 Meade	112 Trimble
023 Casey	053 Hickman	083 Menifee	113 Union
024 Christian	054 Hopkins	084 Mercer	114 Warren
025 Clark	055 Jackson	085 Metcalfe	115 Washington
026 Clay	056 Jefferson	086 Monroe	116 Wayne
027 Clinton	057 Jessamine	087 Montgomery	117 Webster
028 Crittenden	058 Johnson	088 Morgan	118 Whitley
029 Cumberland	059 Kenton	089 Muhlenberg	119 Wolfe
030 Daviess	060 Knott	090 Nelson	120 Woodford

Continue on Page 1 by filling out the personal information on the landowner. If applying for an Environmental Grant (KCP1), this information may be that of the Conservation District Office which is applying. It should be noted that all applications for KCP1 Environmental Grants will also need to be submitted by hard copy to the KDOC Frankfort office.

If a practice covers more than one Farm # and/or Tract #, enter the farm or tract most affected by the practice.

Continue by answering the series of questions on Page 1.

On the question "Had applicant received state cost share funds previously?" - If the applicant has previously been approved for cost share and cancelled or not completed the practice in the required time, the question should be answered "Yes".

On the question "Number of years application has been filed and received approved cost share?" - Indicate number of years application has been filed and not received approved cost share. If applicant has been approved for cost share in some years but has applied and not been approved in other years, enter the number of years the applicant has not been approved since the last time the applicant was approved. For example, if the applicant was approved for cost share in 2012, but applied and was not approved in the years of 2013 and 2014, then for a 2015 application, the answer would be "2". If the applicant was approved in 2014, then the answer would be "0".

On the section "Animal Numbers", indicate the type and quantity of animals on the operation. *Note*: See animal listing located in Appendix G of this document. This information is required for all applicants regardless of resource concern.

On the section "Practices Requested", Indicate the practice symbol and practice name that the *applicant* is seeking to correct resource concerns on the farm listed above. *Note*: This may differ from the practices that are actually recommended by the technical field staff.

The signature at the bottom of the page is for the applicant to sign up for this program and that there is a basic understanding of the obligations. This is a separate signature than is needed in Page 6 under "Performance Maintenance Agreement".

Page 2

The second page is to be filled out by the technical representative assigned to the application for review (i.e. NRCS or district personnel).

Entry 1(a): Enter the 14 digit watershed or HUC (Hydrologic Unit Code). When entering into the system, there is a drop down county map with HUC's outlined for general assistance; or follow the instructions below to determine the HUC number:

1. Go to the Kentucky Watershed Viewer at http://gis.gapsky.org/watershed/.
2. Review licensing statement and click "Agree" if you wish to continue.
3. Click the "Locator" button on the top bar (it looks like a mailbox).
4. Enter the address of the location where practice will be installed and click "Locate".
5. Choose correct location from the Find Address results box.
6. Click "Zoom to" on the box including that address in the middle of the screen.
7. Click the Mailbox on the screen and use the arrows and the top of the pop-up box to scroll to the 14 Digit Hydrologic Unit window.
8. Record the HUC14 from this pop-up window.

Note: (1)If practice is located on the boundary of two watersheds, enter the number of watershed most affected by practice. (2) If multiple practices are requested please use the location information on the requested practice with the highest priority. See page 7 for priority descriptions.

Entry 1(b): When entering the distance from a sinkhole: Remember, the criteria has changed somewhat for this category from previous years. There are two spaces in this entry now. If there is an open throat in the sinkhole, enter that distance accordingly. If there is not, enter the distance to the approximate edge/rim of the sinkhole.

Entry 1(c): Enter the appropriate watershed or area special designation for practice location if it has received special designation as one of the following: Watershed Plan, Outstanding State Resource Water, EQIP Watershed, AWQA Priority Protection Area, Sourcewater Protection, Local Project, Federal Wild River, Outstanding National Resource Water, State Wild River, Federal Scenic River, Federal Recreation River, USDA/EPA Unified Priority Watershed.

If you do not know if your stream is a special use water, you can find that information on the Kentucky Water Health Portal at:
http://watermaps.ky.gov/WaterHealthPortal/

1. Review disclaimer and click "Accept" to continue.
2. Enter location information in one of the boxes just below the blue menu bar (county, stream name or street address).
3. Zoom in to that point using the + button on the left of the screen. You should continue to zoom in until you see small blue lines for creeks and not just major rivers.
4. Purple stars are used to designate Outstanding State Resource Waters.

If you do not know if your stream is on the list of impaired streams, you can find that information on the Kentucky Water Health Portal at:
http://watermaps.ky.gov/WaterHealthPortal/

1. Review disclaimer and click "Accept" to continue.
2. Enter location information in one of the boxes just below the blue menu bar (county, stream name or street address).
3. Zoom in to that point using the + button on the left of the screen. You should continue to zoom in until you see small blue lines for creeks and not just major rivers.
4. To determine if a stream is impaired, click on the stream near where you would like to apply the practice.
5. When you click on a stream, a "Water Health Status" window pops up. The following steps will indicate pollution severity under item 2(C).
6. If all of the boxes are white, the stream is unassessed and should be entered as Code 3.
7. If any of the boxes are red, the stream is impaired and should be entered as Code 1.
8. If boxes are yellow, green and white, the stream is threatened and should be entered as Code 2.
9. If the boxes are all green and white, the stream is meeting uses and should be entered as Code 4.

Entry 1(d): Enter the latitude and longitude for the property. If a large area is cover in the practice, simply pick a point in the middle of the most affected field.

Entry 2(a): Enter the type of water problem code from the following list:

1. Sediment
2. Animal Waste

3. Inorganic Nutrients
4. Pesticides/Toxins
5. Salinity
6. Other

Entry 2(b): Enter one of the following codes to identify the type of water body treated/protected:

1. River, stream, or creek-perennial, flowing freshwater streams
2. Lake, reservoir, or pond-inland bodies of water including lakes
3. Wetland, swamp, or freshwater marshlands that have a predominance of hydric soils and that is inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater such that under normal circumstances it supports a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions
4. Groundwater (area)-the surface area that feeds an aquifer or other groundwater basin including sinkholes

Entry 2(c): See instructions on previous page for the water health portal.

Entry 2(d): Enter the approximate distance in feet from the pollution problem to the water body protected as identified in 2(b).

Entry3- Extent: After each of the chart heading descriptions, i.e.(A) Animal Waste, please enter the code number of the practice for which is being applied for. (Example: 3(a) Animal Waste: KCP2A).

Entry 3(a): Enter the name of livestock type that will be addressed, and enter the corresponding animal units (see Appendix G of this document for weight charts). If it is a composting facility, estimate the number of animals that will be composted annually. Enter the number of months identified livestock or poultry are or will be confined annually. (Leave blank if applying for poultry composting facility.) *Note*: For poultry, only the greatest number of birds present at any one time during the year should be used for calculating animal units.

Entry 3(b): Enter in whole numbers the sheet and rill erosion rate, estimated in tons per acre per year, before practice installation. Enter in whole numbers the sheet and rill erosion rate, estimated in tons per acre per year, after planned practice installation. Enter the acres to which sheet and rill erosion rate applies.

Entry 3(c): Enter in whole numbers any other erosion that may be occurring before practice installation. (Examples: gully, stream bank, etc.) Enter in whole

numbers other erosion, estimated in tons per year, after planned practice installation. Enter the total acres to which erosion rate applies.

Entry 3(d): Enter in whole numbers the units of N-Nitrogen, P-Phosphorus, and K-Potassium being applied per acre, per year before practice implementation. (Average the annual application of nutrients if various crops are being grown in a specific rotation.) Enter in whole numbers the estimated units of N, P, and K applied after planned practice installation. Enter the total acres to which nutrient rate apply. Enter the estimated total nutrient savings for the acres affected to determine total nutrient savings. Multiply the estimated nutrient savings by the acres affected.

Entry 3(e): Enter the code below for the predominant crop being grown:

1. Alfalfa
2. Corn
3. Soybeans
4. Wheat or Small Grain
5. Tobacco
6. Vegetable Crops
7. Ornamental Crops
8. Other

Enter the predominant tillage being used annually:

1. Conventional (<30% cover)
2. Minimum (30%-90%)
3. No till (>90%)
4. Permanent Cover

Enter the total acres to which pesticide is being applied.

Enter the current conditions of pesticide application using the following categories:

Good: Applies according to label recommendations and little risk exists for groundwater or surface water contamination.

Fair: Applies according to label recommendations, but fields are located near surface water or in areas dependent on groundwater supply or with Karst features.

Poor: Application exceeds label recommendations and fields are located near surface water or in areas dependent on groundwater supply or with Karst features.

Entry 4: Enter whether livestock is present on the operation.

Entry 5: Is this practice needed and is it practical to solve the problem identified and can be installed according to NRCS conservation practice standards and specifications? This should be answered yes or no by the technical employee reviewing the application.

Page 3

Enter the information into the electronic application to determine the eligible maximum cost share amount. The figures are contained within the application, and according to the practices that are input, the maximum cost share amount is determined.

- A signature is required from the NRCS representative.
- If the Conservation District Board approves the request, the Board's Chairman Signs, dates, and files within the applicants' case file.
- Application Rating will be determined by the Division of Conservation.

Page 4

Section A. Practice Approval Information:

The Conservation District shall complete this section. Fill in the appropriate amounts for the original funds requested, and the funds approved for the practice, also the estimated deadline for the practice to be installed.

Section B. Installation Information:

Entry B(1): NRCS representative complete page 6 of the SPC 245 application that identifies the conservation practice, units applied, estimated payment, actual cost, and actual payment information. The estimated payment rate will be supplied from the online version of the State Cost Share application. This payment estimate is for comparison to the actual bills furnished to the district by the applicant for the practice.

Entry B(2): Technical Agency enters "Yes" or “No” following a construction check that verifies if practice meets technical standards.

Entry B(3): Technical agency enters the date when practice was completed to technical standards.

An NRCS representative must sign and date to signify the installation information and the determination made on page 2, question 5 of the producer application are correct to their knowledge.

Total Installed Cost: Following the review of the applicant’s receipts, the Conservation District enters the approved cost of installation.

Cost Share Payment: Enter the approved payment submitted from conservation district to applicant.

Check Number: The conservation district should enter the check number with which payment was made to applicant.

Applicant's Social Security or Tax ID Number: Fill in applicant's social security number or Tax ID Number.

Section C. Conservation District Payment Approval:

The Chairman of the conservation district should sign and date here following the approval of cost share payment by the conservation district board.

Page 5

Certification and Maintenance:

Section 1: Enter "Yes" if applicant installed practice alone and paid all expenses. If "No" use space provided or attach sheet with other parties listed as explained.

Section 2: Applicant should read maintenance requirements and sign and date prior to receiving payment from the conservation district. The years of required maintenance should be entered for the specific practice code as specified in the Cost Share Manual.

Page 6

Final Payment Information: This page should be filled out by the technical agency. List the applicant's individual bills, as presented to the Conservation District. Page 6 must be completed before applicant is eligible to receive cost share payment.

Appendix E

Example News Release

Conservation District Cost Share Program Announced

The _____ County Conservation District will be accepting requests for cost share funding under the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program extending through_____ .

The Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program was created to help agricultural operations protect the soil and water resources of Kentucky. This program is a result of House Bill 377 that was passed in the 1994 General Assembly. This bill established annual cost share funds to be administered by conservation districts with priority given to animal waste related problems and agricultural district participants where pollution problems have been identified.

Funding for practices will be approved by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission at the Kentucky Division of Conservation, located in Frankfort, as funds are available. For more information, please contact your local conservation district office located at _____.

.

You may inquire in person Monday through Friday from ____ a.m. to _____ p.m.

Or by phone at:_____ .

Note: A printed advertisement shall be prominently displayed in the county's newspaper. A copy of the advertisement shall be kept on file in the Conservation District office.

Appendix F

Frequently Asked Questions

General questions:

Q. In determining needs, is there a definition such as minimum number of animals, proximity to streams, etc.?
A. There is no definition in quantifiable terms. Technical determinations need to be made to assess the present or potential for effects of the operation on water quality. NRCS should base their decision in regard to whether or not the planned work solves the resource problem and if it is a practical solution to the resource concern.

Q. Animal Unit Calculations for Poultry: Whose figures do you use?
A. For purposes of filling out the state cost share application, use 250 birds per animal unit as listed in the State Cost Share Manual for program consistency and equity in applications. When designing the system and for land application purposes, use actual weights and management information to determine appropriately sized structures.

Q. If NRCS does not recommend a practice is needed and practical, do we sign the application?
A. To more clearly indicate what NRCS is certifying, the "NO" block would be checked on page 2 of the application, and NRCS would sign as an indication that the practice is not needed and practical.

Q. If a practice is needed and practical, but the landowner has requested a design that includes components which exceed the minimum needed to solve or prevent the conservation problem, will State Cost Share fund the practice?
A. State Cost Share will pay an amount equal the minimum cost needed to solve or prevent the conservation problem, not to exceed $7,500 or $20,000. Cost of additional materials or services, or the cost difference for materials that exceed the minimum design need, will be the landowner's responsibility.

Q. Is the landowner required to insure his State Cost Share practice?
A. No, but the landowner is responsible for the structure for its entire lifespan and will be required to fix or replace the structure if it is damaged or destroyed.

Q. If a practice is funded that was determined as not needed by NRCS, does NRCS furnish technical assistance in installation of the practice?
A. Yes, NRCS will provide technical assistance, which is consistent with our partnership relationships with districts. As a reminder, practices must meet FOTG requirements when NRCS provides assistance.

Q. Are applications driven by farm number and/or tract?
A. Yes, this information needs to be on the electronic application submittal. Remember that state cost share has a maximum or cap of $20,000 per individual or operation in any one program year. See page 11, #6 in the cost share manual for more details.

Q. A related question to the one above – Can more than one participant make an application on the same operation? (Situation: A poultry operation has three buildings and an application is filed for a litter storage building that will cost $26,000. The operation is going to expand by two buildings. Can a second application be filed by another person (such as a family member) during the same sign-up for a litter storage building to support the other two houses on the same operation to get another $20,000?)
A. No. The Commission looks at applications that have not received funding in the past as a high priority. We need to close this problem to state that the maximum or cap is for each individual and/or farming operation in any given program year.

Q. Does the NRCS Waste Management Plan need to address the resource problem fully? Situation: A beef producer is operating a pasture feedlot that supports 500 animal units. The producer wants a covered feeding area w/stack pad to solve the resource concern. The producer wants to size the structure according to the state cost share limitation of $20,000.
A. NRCS should plan/design a system to effectively address the entire operation. If state cost share can provide some cost assistance, that's great. NRCS should not simply design a $26,000 system to address a $100,000 problem!

Specific Questions on Litter Storage Buildings:

Q. What about previous designs based with posts on top of concrete?
A. If funds have already been approved, it is permissible.

Q. What about non-NRCS designs such as Agri-Vision?
A. Non-NRCS designs are acceptable for state cost share as long as a non-NRCS engineer (PE) certifies that the structure meets the structural loading requirements as stated in the 313 standard.

Q. When cost estimate is over $20,000, is an as-built comparison still needed? Agri-vision may not separate costs of trusses, tin, 2 x 4's etc.
A. Yes, You can use the typical cost estimate that is on the on-line application.

Q. As far as tin on building sides, can state cost-share be paid if not on a NRCS design such as Agri-Vision?
A. Yes, most NRCS designs require siding to be placed to within 2' of girders to prevent rain blowing in on litter and increasing the fire hazard.

Q. In reference to the six types of litter storage buildings in Kentucky Bulletin 300-1-5, will NRCS provide designs and construction plans for Truss Arch w/wood Pony Wall-Quick Cover standard design buildings?
A. Yes, these have been approved and furnished to field engineers.

Q. If an operation has been cited for a water quality violation and the producer needs to cover a feeding area, loafing area, etc., will state cost share pay the fees for a professional engineer?
A. No.

Q. I have a landowner approved for the KSW3 in 2000. Included in his plan was a pipeline/tank. He has also applied for CRP and can get a pipeline and tank through that program. Can he still get the planned practices (incentive and pasture planning) through KSW3 and the pipeline and tank through CRP?
A. From the information given, I'm assuming the KSW3 practice covers a pasture field that joins a stream that is being fenced and a buffer practice between the fence and stream is under CRP. The pipeline/tank then would be eligible for cost share under state cost share or CRP. The critical thing is that the KSW3 acreage and the CRP buffer acreage CANNOT be the same. In addition, for CRP purposes, the pipeline/tank installation should be limited to the original field(s) adjacent to the stream and should be limited to one pipeline/tank installation per field. If the original field is divided into sub-fields or paddocks under state cost share (KSW3), then the pipeline/tank systems serving those subfields should be cost shared under the state cost share program.

Appendix G

Animal Average Weight Listing

TYPES of ANIMALS	WEIGHT (LBS)
Beef or Dairy Calf	250
Beef or Dairy Weaned Calf	500
Beef Feeder	800
Beef Cow	1,000
Dairy Replacement Heifer	1,065
Dairy Cow	1,400
Layer	4
Pullet (< 3 Months Old)	2.2
Pullet (> 3 Months Old)	4
Broiler	2.2
Turkey Hen	20
Turkey on Feed	15
Swine – Wean - Feeder	30
Swine – Feeder – Finish	135
Swine – Farrow – Wean	433
Swine – Farrow – Feeder	522
Swine – Farrow – Finish	450
Gilt Development	150
Boar/Stud	400
Bison	1,500
Horse	1.100

Appendix H

2016 PM Waiver & PM Agreement for KCP16

2016 Performance and Maintenance Agreement for KCP16

Name:_____ County:_____

As an applicant for state cost share funds, it is understood that my receipt, retention and use of such funds is strictly conditioned upon acceptance of the following guidelines:

For Covered Stack Pads:

1. The structure is to be used **only** for storing manure and must be utilized for this purpose at all times during the lifespan of the practice.
2. The structure may be used to store hay from May 1st through October 31st if the landowner has a Practice Maintenance Waiver on file in the local district office. Note that this waiver is only for the storage of hay, and, at no time may equipment or other materials be stored in the structure.
3. The structure must be emptied periodically, in accordance with an approved nutrient management plan, to allow for the continued storage of waste.
4. The structure may not be altered in any fashion.
5. No structure may be attached to the cost-shared structure.
6. The integrity of the structure must be maintained so that the structure may be used for its intended purpose of storing manure during the lifespan of the practice.
7. For systems that include a holding pond, the holding pond must be emptied periodically, in accordance with an approved nutrient management plan, to allow for continued storage of waste.
8. The construction and NRCS certification of this practice must be completed by December 31, 2016 in order to receive funding. The conservation district may request up to two 6-month extensions for this practice. To be approved for additional time, the conservation district must request these extensions in writing before the original time period expires. Funding will not be available for this practice if it is not completed and certified by December 31, 2015.

I understand that failure to sign this agreement may result in the Commonwealth's refusal to award state cost share funds to the applicant. I also understand that the failure on the part of the applicant to comply with any of the criteria set forth above may result in the applicant's being obligated to return cost share funds received. It is further understood that the Commonwealth is authorized and empowered to file suit in the Franklin Circuit Court for recovery of said funds if necessary.

_____	_____
Applicant's Signature Date	NRCS Official Signature Date
_____	_____
CD Chairman's Signature Date	KDOC Director's Signature Date

2016 Performance and Maintenance Agreement for KCP16

Name:_____ County:_____

As an applicant for state cost share funds, it is understood that my receipt, retention and use of such funds is strictly conditioned upon acceptance of the following guidelines:

For Poultry Litter Storage Facilities:

1. The structure is to be used **only** for storing poultry litter and must be utilized for this purpose at all times during the lifespan of the practice.
2. There is no waiver for poultry litter storage facilities. The structure may not be used for the storage of hay, equipment, or other materials at any time.
3. The structure must be emptied periodically, in accordance with an approved nutrient management plan, to allow for the continued storage of waste.
4. The structure may not be altered in any fashion.
5. No structure may be attached to the cost-shared structure.
6. The integrity of the structure must be maintained so that the structure may be used for its intended purpose of storing poultry litter during the lifespan of the practice.
7. The construction and NRCS certification of this practice must be completed by December 31, 2016 in order to receive funding. The conservation district may request up to two 6-month extensions for this practice. To be approved for additional time, the conservation district must request these extensions in writing before the original time period expires. Funding will not be available for this practice if it is not completed and certified by December 31, 2016.

I understand that failure to sign this agreement may result in the Commonwealth's refusal to award state cost share funds to the applicant. I also understand that the failure on the part of the applicant to comply with any of the criteria set forth above may result in the applicant's being obligated to return cost share funds received. It is further understood that the Commonwealth is authorized and empowered to file suit in the Franklin Circuit Court for recovery of said funds if necessary.

_____	_____
Applicant's Signature Date	NRCS Official Signature Date
_____	_____
CD Chairman's Signature Date	KDOC Director's Signature Date

2016 Practice Maintenance Waiver

Name:_____ County:_____

Address:_____ SCS I.D. #:_____

_____

I request a practice maintenance waiver in order to use my covered stack pad, funded under KCP16 of the State Cost Share Program, to temporarily store hay from May 1st to October 31st. I understand that this waiver only applies to the storage of hay. I also understand that the installed practice must be used for its intended conservation purpose from November 1st to April 30th. I understand that any misuse of the practice during its lifespan is a violation of the Performance and Maintenance Agreement and, in such circumstances, the local board of supervisors and/or the Division of Conservation will attempt to recover cost share funds. I agree to allow representatives of the local conservation district on my property to inspect this facility, to ensure compliance with the waiver and the cost share agreement.

_____ _____

Applicant's Signature Date

APPROVAL OF WAIVER:

_____ _____

CD Board Supervisor's Signature Date

Appendix I

2016 Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program

Gully Erosion Worksheet for KCP10 Cropland Erosion Control Systems

Applicant Name:_____

Contract ID#:_____ County:_____

Prepared by:_____ Date:_____

Top Width(TW)+Bottom Width(BW)/2 x Length(L) x Depth(D) x 100 lbs/2000 lbs/1 year=Tons

Gully #

1. TW_____+BW_____/ 2 x L_____x D_____x 100 lbs./2000 lbs./ 1 = _____
2. TW_____+BW_____/ 2 x L_____x D_____x 100 lbs./2000 lbs./ 1 = _____
3. TW_____+BW_____/ 2 x L_____x D_____x 100 lbs./2000 lbs./ 1 = _____
4. TW_____+BW_____/ 2 x L_____x D_____x 100 lbs./2000 lbs./ 1 = _____
5. TW_____+BW_____/ 2 x L_____x D_____x 100 lbs./2000 lbs./ 1 = _____
6. TW_____+BW_____/ 2 x L_____x D_____x 100 lbs./2000 lbs./ 1 = _____
7. TW_____+BW_____/ 2 x L_____x D_____x 100 lbs./2000 lbs./ 1 = _____
8. TW_____+BW_____/ 2 x L_____x D_____x 100 lbs./2000 lbs./ 1 = _____

Total Tons:_____

Enter total tons in state cost share application, page 2, section 3.c.4.

If additional calculations are needed, please attach to this sheet.

Appendix J

Partial Payment Hardship Request Form

Kentucky State Cost Share Partial Payment Request Form

Date:_____ **Contract Number**:_____

Name of Applicant:_____

Farm Number:_____ **Tract Number**:_____

List of All Practices on Contract:_____

_____

Completed Practice for which Partial Payment Requested:_____

Reason for Financial Hardship Case:

_____

_____

_____

_____

We, the _____ County Conservation District Board, are requesting that a partial contractual payment be made to the above listed application due the described hardship. We understand that it is not the policy of the Kentucky Division of Conservation to make partial payments on contracts, but only allow this in cases where there is an extreme financial hardship on the applicant. We have reviewed, and voted on this request. We understand that if for some reason the contract is canceled, or not completed, after this payment is made, that it is solely this Conservation District's responsibility to recover the paid funds and to make reimbursement to the Division.

Note: A copy of the Conservation District's meeting minutes from the meeting at which this hardship was voted on and approved must be attached to this request.

_____

Conservation District Board Chairman

_____

Conservation District Board Vice Chairman or Treasurer

Kentucky State Cost Share Partial Payment Request Form
(Continued)

Applicant Partial Payment Agreement:

I certify that the completed practice listed on page 1 of this document was performed in accordance with the practice specification and other program requirements. I hereby apply for payment to the extent that the Conservation District had determined that he practice has been performed. I understand that this is a partial payment due to hardship on a larger contract, and if I do not complete the entire contract installation, I will be required to refund all funds received on this contract to the Conservation District. By signing this document, I agree to refund all the paid cost shared assistance to this point if I fail to complete the entire contract installation.

_____

Applicant Signature

Appendix K

Kentucky State Cost Share Quick Reference List					
Practice #	Practice Name	NRCS Tech Code	Payment Rate	Finacial Limit	Lifespan
KCP1	Environmental Grant	N/A	75% of actual	$7,500	Variable
KCP2A	Heavy Use Area	342,362,382,393, 561,575	75% of actual	$7,500	10-20 yrs
KCP2B	Winter Feeding HUA	342,362,382.393, 561,575	75% of actual	$15,000	10-20 yrs
KCP3	Rotational Grazing	378,382,516,574, 578,614,642	75% of actual	$20,000	10-20 yrs
KCP4	Water Well Protection	342,351,362,382, 393,412,606,620, 642,990	75% of actual	$7,500	10-20 yrs
KCP5	Animal Waste Utilization	393,590,633,635	75% of actual*	$7,500	1-10 yrs
KCP6	Forest Erosion Control	342,342A,362,382, 393,410,578,612, 654, 655	75% of actual	$7,500	10-20 yrs
KCP7	Strip Intercropping	585	75% of actual*	$7,500	5 yrs
KCP8	Stream Crossing	342,382, 578	75% of actual	$7,500	10-20 yrs
KCP9	Sinkhole Protection	342,342A,362,382, 393,410,412,500, 612, 630	75% of actual	$7,500	10-20 yrs
KCP10	Cropland Erosion	350,362,382,410, 412,468,484,600, 606,638	75% of actual	$7,500	1-20 yrs
KCP11	Forage Quality Control	342,382,410,412, 468,484,512,606	75% of actual	$7,500	1-20 yrs
KCP12	Stream Stabilization	326,342,382,391, 393,410,472,484, 578,580,612	75% of actual	$20,000	1-20 yrs
KCP13	Filter Strips	382,386,393,410, 635	75% of actual	$7,500	10-20 yrs
KCP14	Integrated Crop Management	590,595,991	75% of actual*	$7,500	1 yr
KCP15	Pesticide Containment Facilities	309,342,362,558, 561,606	75% of actual	$7,500	10-20 yrs
KCP16	Ag Waste Control Facilities	102,313,317,342, 350,356,359,362, 382,393,412,484, 521,558,575,620	75% of actual	$20,000	1-20 yrs
KCP17	Closure of Ag Waste Impoundment	342,360,362,393, 412,484,633	75% of actual	$20,000	1-10 yrs
KCP18	Riparian Area Protection	378,382,386,391, 516,574,614	75% of actual	$7,500	10-20 yrs
KCP19	Animal Composting	317	75% of actual	$7,500	10 yrs
KCP20	Soil Health	997	$15-$25/acre*	$7,500	N/A
KMRBI 1	Precision NM Incentive	590	$27/acre*	$20,000	1 yr
KMRBI 2	Soil Health	102,104,328,329, 340,590	$30/acre*	$6,667/year	1 yr

Appendix L

2016 Kentucky State Cost Share Practice Fact Sheet

The Kentucky State Cost Share Program is administered through the Kentucky Division of Conservation, and is designed to offer financial assistance to landowners wishing to install BMP's (best management practices) onto their operations to help conserve and/or maintain good stewardship of the land and environment. The following is a list of BMP's offered through the program with a brief summary of each. This document is designed to be a quick reference guide only. Please refer to the Kentucky State Cost Share Manual for specific information and guidelines.

KCP1 Conservation District Environmental Grants - The purpose of this practice is to reduce agricultural non-point source pollution of surface or groundwater. This practice exists to be able to address specific, local environmental issues on the ground that do not fit into the other practices listed in this manual. This practice is intended for creativity in solving local, unique environmental issues. This practice is often applied for by the local conservation district, and may be on behalf of an interested party.

KCP2A Heavy Use Area Protection - The purpose of this practice is to reduce soil erosion, soil degradation, and pollution caused by concentrated livestock traffic or other agricultural heavy use activities. Practice includes activities such as vegetative planting, development of trails or walkways for animals, internal fencing, etc.

KCP2B Winter Feeding Use Area – These are similar in scope to the normal heavy use area above, but intended to promote and use in conjunction with rotational grazing when winter conditions require feeding of livestock.

KCP3 Rotational Grazing System Establishment - The purpose of this practice is to protect grazing land, vegetative cover, and encourage plant diversity. It also makes practical use of the land for vegetative cover to control soil erosion and reduce water, air or land pollution from agriculture or silviculture non-point sources. Practice includes internal fencing and assistance on some water source development.

KCP4 Water Well Protection - The purpose of this practice is to protect the quality of groundwater and well water supplies from contamination by agricultural non-point source pollution. Practice includes activities such as planting vegetative cover, diversions, fencing, etc.

KCP5 Animal Waste Utilization - The purpose of this practice is to safely use wastes as fertilization for crop, forage, or fiber production while improving or maintaining soil structure, preventing erosion, and safeguarding water resources.

KCP6 Forest Land Erosion Control System - The purpose of this practice is to protect the resource base by reducing erosion and sedimentation while enhancing water quality on forestland where disturbances are caused by silviculture or other activities.

KCP7 Strip Intercropping System - The purpose of this practice is to reduce water, air, or land pollution from agricultural non-point sources. It also should increase plant diversity in order to improve pest control, fertilizer efficiency, and better utilize solar energy to produce food. Contour cropping is a focus of this practice.

KCP8 Stream Crossing - To improve water quality by removing access to the stream except where livestock, people or equipment must cross the stream by providing a single, stable crossing. Practice activities include internal fencing, excavation and land shaping work, geotextile, critical area vegetative planting, etc.

KCP9 Sinkhole Protection - The purpose of this practice is to reduce the direct pollution of groundwater from sediment, animal waste, pesticides, or other agricultural pollutants. This practice also includes internal fencing, vegetative planting, diversions, etc.

KCP10 Cropland Erosion Control Systems - The application of this practice is for the planning and installation of erosion control practices on cropland only fields as identified in the conservation plan. Practice could include grassed waterways, sediment basins, terracing, etc.

KCP11 Pasture/Hayland Quantity/ Quality & Erosion Control - The application of this practice is for the planning and installation of erosion control practices on pasture and hayland and the improvement of forage quality/quantity on previously established pasture and hayland areas. Common activities include seeding, internal fencing, land shaping, etc.

KCP12 Stream Bank Stabilization/Restoration - The application of this practice is for the planning and installation of erosion control, bioengineering practices, native material revetments, channel stability structures, and/or the restoration or management of riparian corridors up-gradient from streams, restoring the natural function of the stream corridor, and improving water quality. This is a rather involved practice and may include critical area planting (trees and other vegetation), land shaping, bank stabilization work, channel/bank clearing of unwanted snags, etc.

KCP13 Vegetative Filter Strips - The purpose of this practice is to control and prevent soil erosion. Additionally, installing this practice should reduce water, air or land pollution from agricultural non-point source. This practice primarily involves planting of stabilizing vegetation.

KCP14 Integrated Crop Management - The purpose of this practice is to prevent water quality degradation by using nutrients and pesticides in an environmentally friendly manner.

KCP15 Pesticide Containment Facilities - The purpose of this practice is to reduce pollution of water, land and air by pesticides. This practice may include creating a safe location to store pesticides with an underlying impervious surface.

KCP16 Agricultural Waste Control Facilities - The purpose of this practice is to reduce existing water, land, or air pollution caused by agricultural waste. This practice may include waste tanks, lagoons, dry stack facilities, waste composting, etc.

KCP17 Closure of Agricultural Waste Impoundment - The purpose of this practice is to protect water resources and eliminate a potential safety hazard. This practice is designed to assist landowners properly remove waste impoundments/lagoons that are no longer utilized.

KCP18 Riparian Area Protection - The purpose of riparian area protection is to remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, and pesticides from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, denitrification, and other processes. This results in reducing pollution and protecting surface and subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystem. This practice includes activities that remove livestock from waterways, help develop alternate water source, and plant vegetation to stabilize waterway.

KCP19 On-Farm Fallen Animal Composting - The application of this practice is for the composting of fallen animals on an impervious surface. This practice is only for disposal of animal mortality that occurs on the applicant's farm.

KCP20 Soil Health/Quality Management - The purpose of this practice is to encourage the adoption of a soil quality cover crop system. A soil quality cover crop system is designed to obtain maximum soil cover that will improve soil's physical, biological and chemical properties, control weeds, limit soil erosion, limit runoff of fertilizers/chemicals, conserve moisture, cycle nutrients, etc.

Appendix M

Technical Guidance for KCP2B – Winter Feeding Heavy Use Area

This technical guide sheet, and the recommendations contained herein are taken from, and supported by the University of Kentucky publication ID-188, NRCS Technical Guidance practice code 561 (Heavy Use Area), and NRCS Technical Guidance practice code 313 (Waste Storage Facility). You can learn more about U.K. ID-188 at: http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/id/id188/id188.pdf

Recommendations for planning and designing this practice are as follows:

Planning –

- If there is no current winter feeding related resource problem(s) identified on the farm then the applicant would not be eligible for this practice. This should be documented with the application and photos taken to verify current conditions or by using a CPA-52 for documentation.
- If the site meets the definition of an Animal Feeding Operation (AFO), according to Kentucky Division of Water definition[1], then the applicant would not be eligible for a Winter Feeding Area without first, an approved Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) and potentially a Waste Storage Facility (313) designed for the site.

  [1]A lot or facility where animals have been stabled, are currently stabled or will be stabled or confined and fed or maintained for a total of 45 days or more in any 12-month period; and where crops, vegetation forage growth, or post-harvest residues are not sustained over any portion of the lot or facility in the normal growing season.

  Note: When current land conditions make it difficult to determine if the site meets the definition of an Animal Feeding Operation (AFO); tools, such as KY Graze Excel Worksheet[2], may be used to help support the planner's decision to move forward with a Winter Feeding Area or to recommend the development of a CNMP prior to any practice development. As a rule-of-thumb, stocking rates greater than 130% of the pastureland carrying capacity in KY Graze or livestock numbers greater than 1 Animal Unit[3] (AU)/ 2 acres of pastureland may be more indicative of site conditions that could meet the definition of an Animal Feeding Operation.

  [2] The KY Graze Excel Worksheet is located on NRCS Sharepoint Website under Technology-Grazing Management- graze.

  [3]Animal Unit (AU) is equivalent to 1,000 lbs. of live weight.

- The planner should consider alternatives with the applicant on methods to avoid meeting the definition of an AFO and/or to improve the existing livestock feeding methods before planning a Winter Feeding Area. It should also be stressed to the applicant that the Winter Feeding Area (without a designed manure storage structure) is only intended to be used during the winter feeding months when severe weather conditions limit pasture feeding of hay. This practice is not planned or designed to store large volumes of accumulated manure. In addition, it is not designed to be used throughout the year. Applicant discussions should be documented in the case file or with the cost share application.

- If the site is not considered an AFO and a manure storage structure is not needed, then a Kentucky Nutrient Management Plan (KYNMP)[3] would be the only nutrient plan needed prior to installing a Winter Feeding Area to confirm enough land area exists to properly dispose of any accumulated manure.

[3] A copy of a KYNMP can be found at: http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ID/ID211/ID211.pdf

Design Criteria and Site Selection –

- The Winter Feeding Area shall only be designed for a maximum of 35 cows or equivalent. To prevent excessive waste buildup, cows should only access the structure up to 4 hours per day.
- The Winter Feeding Area must service a minimum of two (2) pastures and include enough pastureland acres to reduce heavy livestock traffic damage to the land during the winter feeding months. It is preferred to have more than two pastures serviced by the Winter Feeding Area.
- Winter Feeding Areas should be located on a ridgetop or elevated area with positive drainage away from the structure and good access with equipment for loading hay into the structure.
- The structure will be sited to prevent contaminated runoff from draining onto neighboring properties, into streams, sinkholes, or other water bodies. NRCS Technical Guidance Practice Code 561 (Heavy Use Area) requires a minimum of 150 feet setback from all these sensitive areas. Also, follow the guidance of NRCS Technical Guidance Practice Code 313 (Waste Storage Structure) Table 1 for additional setback requirements.
- Siting should be away from existing watering facilities to encourage livestock to move off the feeding pad after eating and return to the pastureland area.
- The facility is only designed for hay feeding and is not designed for silage or grain feeding, without the addition of a Waste Storage Facility (313), due to the differences in the consistency of the manure produced when feeding these products.
- Winter Feeding Areas will be installed according to NRCS specifications as provide in NRCS Winter Feeding Area design drawings.

I have followed the instructions in this guidance document to plan and design a Winter Feeding Area to meet the requirements of the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program.

Landowner Name: _____ County: _____

_____ _____

Authorized Technical Represenative Date