

Contact: Cindy Phelps

Franklin County Soil & Water
Conservation
Phone: (919) 496-3137
Fax: (919) 496-7235

101 South Bickett
Boulevard, Suite B
Louisburg, NC 27549
www.co.franklin.nc.us

FRANKLIN COUNTY

PRESS RELEASE

North Carolina Agriculture Cost Share Funds are Available

Louisburg, August 22, 2007: The Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District has received its cost share allocation from the state for nonpoint source pollution control from agricultural activities. These funds are available to assist landowners in installing conservation practices which help decrease the amount of sediment, nitrogen, phosphorus, chemicals and other pollutants from reaching the surface and ground water of the county.

The District received approximately \$79,816 in its first allocation for the program year 2008 which began July 1, 2007. \$13,474 of this allocation can only be spent in the Sandy Creek Watershed Area. Landowners and operators of existing agricultural operations may apply for cost share assistance to install conservation practices such as grass planting in their tobacco rotation, grassed waterways, fencing out riparian areas, wells and water tanks for animal operations, cropland conversion to trees or native warm season grasses, long term no-till and many more. The District has 53 conservation practices that allow flexibility on each farm, down to each field.

Prioritization Process

1. Applications are received in the Soil & Water office beginning July 1st for the new Program Year 2008.
2. Each application is considered individually by the District Board based on the adopted prioritization form.
3. Applications are given a resource score based on that resource need and ranked against other application resource scores. An application score between 100 and 125 will be considered Highly Eligible. Scores between 50 and 99 will be considered Eligible. A score of 49 or less will be Ineligible.
4. Highly Eligible applications will be considered at each board meeting, August thru December. Eligible applications will be considered at each board meeting January thru June.

If you would like more information or wish to apply for funds, call the District office at 496-3137 ext. 3. A conservation specialist will arrange to visit your farm and discuss solutions for protecting nearby creeks, streams, and rivers in the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River Basins.

Franklin County Government is committed to effective and innovative public services for all Franklin County citizens and businesses.