Agricultural
Environmental
Management

Round 19 Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program Project Descriptions

All projects support the New York State Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Program by funding the implementation of agricultural water quality Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect natural resources while maintaining the economic viability of New York State's diverse agricultural community.

Allegany County SWCD

$191,975 was awarded to the Allegany County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 2 farms in the Cryder Creek Watershed a tributary of the Genesee River. The Genesee River ultimately drains to Lake Ontario. The conservation practice systems will protect the environment by controlling nutrient runoff while helping the farm remain economically viable.

Broome County SWCD

$51,016 was awarded to the Broome County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 4 farms in three priority watersheds within the county: Tioughnioga, Chenango, and the Upper Susquehanna Rivers. All farms are within the Upper Susquehanna River Watershed, a headwater of the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems involve the implementation of grazing systems that will help the farms remain economically viable while protecting the environment.

$329,560 was awarded to the Broome County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 1 CAFO farm at the headwaters of the Nanticoke Creek Watershed. The Nanticoke Creek ultimately drains to the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems will keep nutrients and other pollutants out of the stream while helping the farm remain economically viable.

Cayuga County SWCD

$404,962 was awarded to the Cayuga County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on five farms in the Cayuga Lake Watershed. These efforts are backed by the Cayuga Lake Restoration and Protection Plan. The conservation practice systems will help the farms remain economically viable while also protecting the environment. These conservation practices will prevent contaminants such as nutrients and sediment from entering Cayuga Lake.

$42,527 was awarded to the Cayuga County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 2 farms in the Owasco Lake and Dutch Hollow Brook Watersheds. Owasco Lake serves as a drinking water supply for over 50,000 residents. The conservation practice systems consisting of fall and winter cover crops will reduce erosion and improve soils. These projects will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

$276,162 was awarded to the Cayuga County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on a beef farm and a horse farm in the Owasco Lake Watershed. Owasco Lake serves as a drinking water supply for over 50,000 residents. The conservation practice systems including barnyard water management will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Chautauqua County SWCD

$875,720 was awarded to the Chautauqua County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 3 farms including a CAFO farm, a vineyard, and a grain farm in the Bournes Creek Watershed which ultimately drains to Lake Erie. The conservation practice systems including cover crops, waste storage, and nutrient management will help the farms remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Chemung County SWCD

$389,000 was awarded to the Chemung County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 1 beef farm adjacent to Catherine Creek, a world class trout stream. This area also has direct drainage to several national wetlands. All of this water ultimately drains to the south end of Seneca Lake which is a drinking water supply for the village of Watkins Glen. Conservation practice systems consisting of a barnyard water management system and riparian buffer zones will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Chenango County SWCD

$342,745 was awarded to the Chenango County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 6 farms including 1 CAFO farm in the Chenango River Watershed which ultimately drains to the Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems including barnyard runoff management systems will help the farms remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Cortland County SWCD

$475,800 was awarded to the Cortland County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 2 farms in the Tiougnioga River Watershed, which ultimately drains to the Upper Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. Nonpoint source pollution will be addressed through the implementation of nutrient management practices. The conservation practice systems will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

$388,040 was awarded to the Cortland County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 4 CAFO farms in the Tioughnioga River, Otisco Lake, Onondaga Creek, and Cayuga Lake watersheds. The conservation practices will consist primarily of cover crop systems that will significantly reduce non-point source pollution while helping the farms to remain economically viable.

Delaware County SWCD

$332,105 was awarded to the Delaware County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 10 farms in three different counties: Delaware, Broome and Tioga. All farms are located within the Upper Susquehanna Watershed which ultimately drains to the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems will consist primarily of Precision Feed Management (PFM) to address nutrient loading issues on the farms. These practices will help the farms remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

$946,896 was awarded to the Delaware County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 2

farms in the Upper Susquehanna Watershed which ultimately drains to the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems here will focus on stream corridor management by installing approximately 26 acres of riparian forest buffers. These projects will help the farms remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Erie County SWCD

$815,150 was awarded to the Erie County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 7 high priority farms in the Eighteen Mile Creek Watershed which ultimately drains to the Lake Erie. The conservation practice systems including waste storage and barnyard runoff will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment. These conservation practices will address high priority agricultural pollutant concerns and prevent contaminants from entering the watershed.

$352,485 was awarded to the Erie County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 7 high priority farms in the Tonawanda Creek Watershed, which ultimately drains to Lake Erie. The conservation practice systems including water management, prescribed grazing, and riparian buffers will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment. These conservation practices will prevent pollutants from entering the watershed and benefit aquatic life and recreational uses.

Franklin County SWCD

$468,705 was awarded to the Franklin County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 2 CAFO farms in the Chateaugay River/Lake Watershed which ultimately drains to the St. Lawrence River. The conservation practice systems will help the farms remain economically viable while also protecting the environment. These conservation practices will directly improve water quality in Hinchinbrook Brook and nearby wetlands.

$91,600 was awarded to the Franklin County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 1 farm in the Salmon River Watershed and Branch Brook (a major tributary to the Salmon River) which ultimately drains to the St. Lawrence River. The conservation practice systems will focus on shoreline erosion and the prevention of silt and sediment entering the river (a trout habitat). These practices will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Jefferson County SWCD

$32,360 was awarded to the Jefferson County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 1 farm in a tributary to Black River Bay, Lake Ontario. The conservation practice systems will include the installation of riparian buffers, watering facilities, and designated cattle crossings to ensure improved and protected water quality. These efforts will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Lewis County SWCD

$560,032 was awarded to the Lewis County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 3 farms along the Sugar River, Beaver River, and Capidon Creek in the Black River Watershed which ultimately drains to Lake Ontario. The conservation practice systems will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment. These conservation practices will prevent nutrient loading in the Black River.

Livingston County SWCD

$109,575 was awarded to the Livingston County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation systems to address agricultural water quality concerns on 7 farms in the Genesee River Watershed. The projects on these 7 farms will reduce nutrients, pesticides, pathogens, and erosion in the watershed. The conservation practice systems will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Madison County SWCD

$131,139 was awarded to the Madison County SWCD for a multi-county project that will implement best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 7 farms in Madison County, 3 farms in Otsego County, and 1 farm in Chenango County. All farms are within the Upper Susquehanna River Watershed, a headwater of the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems involve the implementation of grazing systems that will help the farms remain economically viable while protecting the environment.

$45,192 was awarded to the Madison County SWCD to complete Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans on 6 farms in the Chenango River Watershed. The Chenango River is a headwater of Chesapeake Bay which has been assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load by the EPA with the goal of reducing contamination to restore the

biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. These conservation practice systems will effectively reduce non-point source pollution while helping the farms remain economically viable.

$257,888 was awarded to the Madison County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 5 farms in the Upper Tioughnioga River Watershed in Madison and Onondaga Counties. The Upper Tioughnioga River drains to the Susquehanna and ultimately to the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore the biological function of Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems including barnyard runoff and pasture management will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

$286,038 was awarded to the Madison County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 3 farms in the Upper Chenango River Watershed, which ultimately drains to the Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore the biological function of Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems including conservation tillage and stream corridor buffers will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

$149,700 was awarded to the Madison County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 5 farms along the Sangerfield River, a sub-watershed of the Upper Chenango River Watershed. The Chenango River is a major tributary to the Susquehanna River which flows to the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore the biological function of Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems including conservation tillage, barnyard runoff management, and cover cropping will reduce nutrient runoff from these farms while helping the farms to remain economically viable.

Montgomery County SWCD

$140,300 was awarded to the Montgomery County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 1 farm in the Canajoharie Creek Watershed which ultimately drains to the Mohawk River. The conservation practice systems including heavy use area protection and buffer strips will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

$266,541 was awarded to the Montgomery County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 1 farm in the Flat Creek Watershed which ultimately drains to the Mohawk River.

The conservation practice systems at this location will include fencing out the entire stream corridor and creating buffer areas. These projects will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Onondaga County SWCD

$363,851 was awarded to the Onondaga County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 9 farms, 4 of which are CAFO farms, in the greater Onondaga Lake Watershed. The sub-watersheds include Onondaga Creek, Ninemile Creek, and Otisco Lake. The conservation practice systems will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

$135,860 was awarded to the Onondaga County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 2 farms in the Skaneateles Watershed. Skaneateles Lake is the primary, unfiltered water source for the City of Syracuse and neighboring municipalities. The conservation practice systems will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting this important drinking water supply.

Orange County SWCD

$164,180 was awarded to the Orange County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 19 farms in the Wallkill River Watershed. Eleven of the farms are dairy farms while the remaining are vegetable farms. The Wallkill River flows through the “black dirt” area of Orange County and ultimately drains to the Hudson River. The conservation practice systems including soil conservation practices and barnyard water management will help the farms remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Orleans County SWCD

$290,402 was awarded to the Orleans County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 9 farms (dairy, vegetable, fruit, and field crops) in the Oak Orchard River Basin which ultimately drains to the Lake Ontario. This project focuses exclusively on the installation of cover crops to reduce nutrient and sediment loss in the watershed. These practices will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Otsego County SWCD

$34,322 was awarded to the Otsego County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 1 CAFO farm in the Upper Susquehanna River Watershed which ultimately drains to the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems including nutrient management (nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment) will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

$125,293 was awarded to the Otsego County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural pollutants entering Oak Creek (a Class A stream), a federal wetland, a principal aquifer associated with Schenevus Creek, and ultimately the Upper Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems including a riparian buffer system and a barnyard runoff system will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

$250,620 was awarded to the Otsego County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 1 farm in the Unadilla River Watershed which ultimately drains to the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore the biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. The extensive conservation practice systems will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

$23,722 was awarded to the Otsego County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 1 beef farm in the Otsdawa Creek Watershed which drains to the Upper Susquehanna River and ultimately to Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore the biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems including riparian buffer system and barnyard runoff management will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Seneca County SWCD

$140,284 was awarded to the Seneca County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 9 farms including vineyards, orchards, berry, and vegetable farms in the Cayuga Lake Watershed in both Seneca and Cayuga Counties. The conservation practice systems will reduce pollution in this Class A drinking water supply and help all farms remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

St. Lawrence County SWCD

$439,943 was awarded to the St. Lawrence County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 3 CAFO farms in the Grass River, Brandy Brook/Sucker Brook, and Black Lake Watersheds which ultimately drain to the St. Lawrence River. The conservation practice systems including waste storage will help the farms reduce nutrients and silt/sediment in these watersheds. The goal is to ensure the farms remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Steuben County SWCD

$163,700 was awarded to the Steuben County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 12 dairy farms, primarily CAFO farms, in the Canisteo and Cohocton River Watersheds. These rivers are within the Chemung River basin which ultimately drains to the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore the biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. The conservation practice systems involve cover crops to reduce erosion and capture nutrients. These projects will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.

Suffolk County SWCD

$99,938 was awarded to the Suffolk County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 9 farms (vegetable, sod, nursery, and orchard) to improve the district's ground and surface water quality. The conservation practice systems consist primarily of fuel tank replacement and spill prevention. These practices will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment and Suffolk County's sole source aquifer.

Tioga County SWCD

$169,166 was awarded to the Tioga County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on one dairy farm in the Catatonk Creek Watershed which ultimately drains to the Chesapeake Bay. The EPA recently assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load with the goal of reducing contamination in order to restore biological function of the Chesapeake Bay. This farm also overlays a principal aquifer in the region. The conservation practice systems will help the farm remain economically viable while also protecting the environment. This project is also receiving matching funds from the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

Washington County SWCD

$489,979 was awarded to the Washington County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 4 dairy farms including 2 CAFO farms along the Wood Creek/Champlain Canal and Mettawee River. These rivers are part of the larger Lake Champlain Watershed. The conservation practice systems including vegetated treatment areas and heavy use area protection will protect the environment while helping the farm remain economically viable.

Wayne County SWCD

$147,736 was awarded to the Wayne County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 4 farms in the Ganargua Creek Watershed which drains to the Seneca River, Oswego River and ultimately, Lake Ontario. All farms in this region are also found on “karst” topography which increases the chances of groundwater contamination. The conservation practice systems, especially barnyard water management, will help remove pollutants going to nearby streams/rivers and to the groundwater. These projects will also help the farm remain economically viable.

Yates County SWCD

$383,237 was awarded to the Yates County SWCD for the implementation of best management conservation practices to address agricultural water quality concerns on 20 farms in the sub-watersheds of the Finger Lakes: Canandaigua, Keuka, and Seneca Lakes as well as Flint Creek. The conservation practices slated for construction include erosion control, clean water control, and pasture management. These conservation projects will help the farms remain economically viable while also protecting the environment.