

RFA 0181 - SOURCE WATER BUFFER PROGRAM

Application Form

PART A: APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant Soil & Water Conservation District:	
If Joint Application, list participating Counties: Click or tap here to enter text.	
Contact Person: Click or tap here to enter text.	NYS Vendor ID #: Click or tap here to enter text.
Address: Click or tap here to enter text.	Federal ID #: Click or tap here to enter text.
E-mail: Click or tap here to enter text.	Phone Number: Click or tap here to enter text.
	Fax Number: Click or tap here to enter text.

PART B. PROJECT TIMING AND SPECIFIC PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Number of Participating Farms: Click or tap here to enter text.

Project Start Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

Anticipated Completion Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

1. Water Resource Information

a. **Watershed Name:** Click or tap here to enter text.

b. **12-digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC):** Click or tap here to enter text.

c. **Name of the water source to be addressed by the project:** Click or tap here to enter text.

d. **Is the water source identified in question 1c, a designated public drinking water source?**

Yes (If yes, please proceed to question 1e)

No (If no, please proceed to question 1f)

e. **If a designated public drinking water source, please select the option below that best characterizes the water source. Please attach a copy of the DOH SWAP map showing the location of the easement.**

Surface water (e.g., stream, river, lake, reservoir, ground water source under the direct influence of surface water)

Ground water (e.g., public water system groundwater wellhead, aquifer sinkhole)

NA

f. **If water source is not a designated drinking water source, please select the option below that best characterizes the water source.**

Tributary that drains to a designated drinking water source (e.g., stream, river, lake, reservoir)

Wetland area with a connection to a designated drinking water source

NA

- g. Please provide a brief narrative description of the water source to be addressed by the conservation easement(s) included in this project. (Please include details regarding the population served by the water supply. If the water source is not a designated water source, please describe the connection to designated water source).

Click or tap here to enter text.

- h. Does the application address a waterbody with an active TMDL or those included on the most recent NYS 303(d) List of Impaired Waters requiring a TMDL, where the source of impairment is agriculture? (If yes, please include the most recent 303(d)/TMDL report for the impacted waterbody)

- Yes
 No
 NA

2. Easement Area Description

- a. The land that will be encumbered by the conservation easement(s) is owned by the participating farm(s).

- Yes
 No (If No, the application is not eligible to be funded)

- b. What is the current land use of the proposed easement area(s)? (Check all that apply) Provide the acreage for each land use type in the easement. *If additional space is needed please copy and paste the table onto a separate sheet and attach to the application.*

Landowner Name	Land Use Type	Acreage
1.	<input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Lands	Click or tap here to enter text.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cropland	Click or tap here to enter text.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pastureland	Click or tap here to enter text.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Woodlots	Click or tap here to enter text.
	Total Easement Area	Click or tap here to enter text.
2.	<input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Lands	Click or tap here to enter text.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cropland	Click or tap here to enter text.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pastureland	Click or tap here to enter text.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Woodlots	Click or tap here to enter text.
	Total Easement Area	Click or tap here to enter text.
3.	<input type="checkbox"/> Riparian Lands	Click or tap here to enter text.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cropland	Click or tap here to enter text.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pastureland	Click or tap here to enter text.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Woodlots	Click or tap here to enter text.
	Total Easement Area	Click or tap here to enter text.

- c. For public water system groundwater wellhead protection areas and aquifer sinkholes, what is the proposed average width of the easement area? (For surface water sources or ground water source under the direct influence of surface water, please respond NA).

Click or tap here to enter text.

- d. For surface water sources (streams, rivers, lakes, reservoirs, ground water source under the direct influence of surface water), what is the proposed average width of the easement area? (For public water system groundwater wellheads and aquifer sinkholes, please respond NA).

Click or tap here to enter text.

- e. Please list the total farm operating acreage (rented and owned) for each participating landowner. *Insert more lines if necessary.*

Landowner Name	Total Acreage
1.	
2.	
3.	

- f. Will the easement area include a designated Farm Area? *Insert more lines if necessary.*

Landowner Name	YES	NO
1.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- g. If yes, please identify the size, in acres, of each use area below for each easement area that will include a farm area. Please indicate if this will maintain the viability of the farm (the farm area may not encompass more than 50% of the total operated acreage). *If additional space is needed please copy and paste the table onto a separate sheet and attach to the application.*

Landowner Name		Acreage	Farm Viability	
1.	Farm Area	Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	Buffer Area	Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
2.	Farm Area	Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	Buffer Area	Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
3.	Farm Area	Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	Buffer Area	Click or tap here to enter text.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

- h. Will any of the proposed easement(s) convert cropland, hayland, or pastureland to Riparian Forested Buffer?

Yes

No

i. If yes, please identify how many acres will be converted. *Insert more lines as necessary.*

Landowner Name	Acres to be converted
1.	
2.	
3.	

3. Water Quality Information

a. Describe the overall water quality condition, at each easement site, of the water resource to be addressed. Describe existing site conditions and any potential sources of nutrients and/or sediment.

Click or tap here to enter text.

b. Describe the riparian area (at least 35 feet from the streambank or shoreline) or area surrounding the wellhead area or wetland at each easement site. Please include the percent natural vegetation and/or forest.

Click or tap here to enter text.

c. Do livestock have access to the proposed easement area? *If additional space is needed please copy and paste the table onto a separate sheet and attach to the application.*

Landowner Name	Livestock Access		
1.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
2.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
3.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> NA

d. If yes, are livestock currently fenced out of the water resource? *If additional space is needed please copy and paste the table onto a separate sheet and attach to the application.*

Landowner Name	Livestock Exclusion		
1.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
2.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> NA
3.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> NA

4. General Project Details

a. Explain how this project addresses the program goal of source water protection and describe how the proposed easement will have an impact on water quality of the associated public drinking water source.

Click or tap here to enter text.

b. For each landowner, identify the type of buffer to be included in the easement, if it is pre-existing or proposed, if pre-existing: provide size of buffer and description of vegetation and indicate if it meets NRCS standards. *Insert more lines as necessary.*

Landowner Name	Type of Buffer (Herbaceous or Forested)	Pre-Existing or Proposed	If Pre-Existing:		
			Size of buffer (acres)	Type of vegetation present	Does the buffer meet NRCS Standards? (Yes/No)

c. Will a land trust, municipality, or non-profit organization be involved in the project?

- Yes
- No

d. Identify the roles of each participating agency involved in the project. *Insert more lines as necessary.*

Participating Agency	Project Role
<i>EXAMPLE: Land Trust</i>	<i>Easement Development, Hold Conservation Easement</i>
<i>EXAMPLE: Soil and Water Conservation District</i>	<i>Contract Administration, Technical Services</i>

PART C. SWCD RESOLUTION AND CERTIFICATION

SWCD Resolution authorizing this project application to the Source Water Buffer Program is attached. (Please see sample resolution for preferred format and language. The sample may be used but it is not required.)

I hereby affirm under penalty of perjury that information provided on this form and attached statements and exhibits is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. False statements made herein are punishable as a Class A misdemeanor pursuant to Section 210.45 of the Penal Law.

Title: Click or tap here to enter text.

Entity: Click or tap here to enter text.

Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Grantee Signature

NOTE: If the project application includes eligible participating landowner(s) that are either SWCD Board Members or Employees, please attach a copy of the official Board Meeting minutes that reflect the process for the selection of the farm(s), disclosure of interests, and necessary recusals from the authorizing resolution.

Source Water Buffer Program Checklist for Completeness

A checklist must be included with each application and must be completed and signed by the SWCD Manager

Applicant SWCD: Click or tap here to enter text.

Project Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Application submitted to the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets on the NYS Soil Water Conservation Committee Sharepoint site
- Application submitted by a Soil and Water Conservation District or group of Districts
- State funds requested are less than or equal to 75% of the total project cost
- Sponsor and/or Landowner contributions are 25% or greater of the total project cost
- Easement Stewardship Fee does not exceed 50% of the total project cost
- Proposed project timeline does not exceed the standard contract term of 5 years
- All participating farms own the land to be encumbered by the easement
- All participating farms have completed, at a minimum, an AEM Tier 1 Inventory and AEM Tier 2 Assessment
- Project is located directly adjacent to one of the following:
 - Surface Water designated as a public drinking water source or public Ground Water Source under the direct influence of surface water
 - Tributary that drains into a surface water designated as a public drinking water source
 - Wetland areas directly adjacent to surface waters designated as a public drinking water source
 - Within a public water system groundwater wellhead protection area designated by the NYS Department of Health
 - Within the contributing area directly adjacent to an aquifer sinkhole
- Proposed easement area meets all applicable size requirements identified in the RFA, Section 2.2 – Eligible Projects
- Project proposes to encumber a pre-existing riparian buffer/buffer or proposes to establish a riparian buffer/buffer
- The Farm Area cannot be more than 90% of the total easement area
- If a Farm Area is included in the conservation easement, the Farm Area will not encompass more than 50% of the total acreage operated (owned and rented) by the participant
- Applicant clearly identifies participating agencies and associated project roles

APPLICATION COMPONENTS – All components must be submitted to be considered for funding:

- Application form (all questions answered or marked with N/A)
- SW 1
- SW 2
- SW 3
- SW 4
- SW 5
- SWCD Resolution
- Potential Conflict of Interest Form
- Letters of Commitment from the Employer(s) of all Key Personnel
- Letters of Commitment of all participating landowners indicating amount of commitment and source (Cash or In Kind), a commitment of match for contingency funds, and landowner name printed and signed
- Easement Stewardship Fee documentation and copy of the adopted Easement Stewardship Policy
- Completed Conservation Easement Cost Calculator for each landowner
- 8 ½ x 11 Watershed Map(s) including: watershed boundary, location of impacted waterbody, location of farm(s), names of townships within watershed boundary

- For each landowner - 8 ½ x 11 map that shows the proposed project area and includes: aerial image, parcel boundary, water resource to be protected, outline of conservation easement area, outline of buffer area, outline of farm area (if applicable)
- If implementing a Riparian Forest Buffer, Cultural Resources (SHPO) map that shows the location of the proposed project
- If a designated public drinking water source, Source Water Assessment Protection map or similar map with project location
- If a waterbody has an active TMDL/ 303(d) listing, the most recent 303(D)/TMDL report for the impacted waterbody.