

**Source Water Buffer Program  
Questions and Answers  
February 21, 2019**

**Eligible Projects**

- 1. Are Non-Community Transient water systems eligible for the Source Water Buffer Program?**
  - a. Yes, this type of water system would be eligible. A Transient Non-Community water system is considered a public water system by the NYS Department of Health.
  
- 2. Can an easement be placed on land that is rented to a farm operation?**
  - a. Please refer to the Addendum to the RFA that was posted on January 28, 2019.
  
- 3. If a property is enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is it eligible for the Source Water Buffer program?**
  - a. No, a property already enrolled in CREP would not be eligible for the Source Water Buffer Program.
  
- 4. Will an appraisal be allowed in lieu of the cost calculator?**
  - a. No.
  
- 5. If established buffers do not meet NRCS Standards, can restoration of the buffer be cost shared?**
  - a. Yes.
  
- 6. Can Landowner's donate a portion of their conservation easement value to count as match?**
  - a. Yes, Landowner's may choose to donate a portion of their conservation easement costs. In other words, they may accept less than the full purchase price for the proposed easement. This is called a bargain sale donation. This donation will count as Landowner Match and should be documented on the Conservation Easement Cost Calculator, as well as the SW 2 – Budget Form.
  
- 7. Are we required to use the conservation easement template?**
  - a. Yes, no other conservation easement may be used for projects funded through the Source Water Buffer Program.
  
- 8. Can the farmstead be placed into an easement, but not the whole farm?**
  - a. The farmstead area shall not be solely enrolled in this program (since its land use would not qualify).

**Application**

- 1. SWCD Resolution – can the District pass one resolution for each application or do separate resolutions need to be passed for all applications submitted?**
  - a. A District Board of Directors may pass one resolution for all applications or separate resolutions for each application submitted. In any case, a copy of the signed resolution must be included with each application.

2. **Which TDML list do we utilize to answer Question 1h in the Application? The Final 2016 List or the 2018 draft?**
  - b. Please use the Final 2016 NYS 303(d) List that was approved in July 2017.