



NEWS RELEASE

www.mda.state.md.us

Office of the Secretary

50 Harry S. Truman Parkway

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

FOR RELEASE

CONTACT:

Cost-Share Grants for Manure Incorporation and Injection Now Being Offered

Sign-Up Ongoing at Local Soil Conservation Districts

ANNAPOLIS, MD (February 18, 2016) – The Maryland Department of Agriculture has announced that cost-share grants are available to help farmers cover the cost of injecting or incorporating manure and other eligible organic nutrients into cropland as required by Maryland’s nutrient management regulations.

Maryland’s nutrient management regulations require farmers to inject or incorporate manure and other organic nutrient sources into the soil within 48 hours of application in order to achieve maximum water quality benefits for streams, rivers and the Chesapeake Bay.

Assistance is available to hire custom operators, rent or lease equipment, or offset operating costs associated with using secondary tillage equipment needed to incorporate or inject manure into the soil. Cost-share rates for manure incorporation and injection range from \$10 to \$55 an acre depending on the type of equipment or services used. Farmers who use manure injection equipment receive the highest reimbursement rates. While transportation costs are not cost-shared under this program, the Manure Transportation Program is available for eligible farms.

Grants for manure incorporation and injection are administered by the Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost-Share (MACS) Program. Applicants must be in good standing with the program to participate and in compliance with Maryland’s nutrient management regulations. All work must be completed by August 1, 2016 and all claims for payment received by August 20, 2016. Other restrictions apply.

Farmers should visit their local soil conservation district office as soon as possible to apply. Applications will be accepted until all funds are fully committed. For more information, contact the department at 410-841-5864.

###

Follow MDA on Twitter @MdAgDept.