

## FUNDING PROFILE

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation

# PA MOST EFFECTIVE BASINS GRANTS

CENTER FOR WATER QUALITY EXCELLENCE



Making Progress Together

## SUMMARY

The National Fish & Wildlife Foundation offers grants through its Pennsylvania Most Effective Basins (PA\_MEB) grants for projects that accelerate implementation of agricultural best management practices in selected basins of the Chesapeake Bay watershed in PA. Funded under the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund

- Administered by National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
- Annual program funding (2023): \$5 million
- Funding Source: Federal Budget - EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office, USDA NRCS, US Forest Service and US Fish & Wildlife Service; Altria Group

## FEATURES

Program is intended to assist Pennsylvania in achieving its 2025 water quality goals for the agricultural sector under the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP).

Program will award up to \$1 million for projects that result in direct implementation of agricultural best management practices.

## ELIGIBILITY

### Who is Eligible?

Applicants: Conservation districts, technical service providers certified by PA NRCS, and countywide action planning (CAP) coordinators. Non-profit organizations and municipal governments are eligible but must demonstrate partnership with conservation districts, technical service providers, and/or CAP coordinators. Landowners: must be located within identified most effective basins

### Eligible Costs

Implementation: on-the-ground ag practices to reduce nitrogen loading. Planning & Technical Assistance: development of ag conservation plans and design of practices. Innovative Verification: pilot methods to verify BMPs to provide credit for existing practices.

No match required, but cash or in-kind match encouraged to be competitive, especially non-federal match.



Last Update: February 2023

## HELPFUL TIPS

PA MEB proposals must address co-benefits (conservation, public health/social, climate resiliency).

Consult with one of the NFWF Field Liaisons to discuss whether your project is a good fit for this grant program.

NFWF generally expects awarded projects to be completed within 18-24 months.

## HOW TO APPLY

Deadline April 27, 2023. Awards announced early fall 2023.

Contact: Field Liaison Kristen Saacke Blunk, 814-360-9766, [kristen@headwaters-llc.org](mailto:kristen@headwaters-llc.org)