



**11.1.16 Request for Proposals
On-Farm Water Resource Projects
Deadline for Submitting Proposals 1.20.17**

The North Carolina Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation (Foundation) has funding available from the 2000 Smithfield Foods Agreement with the NC Attorney General. The funds are available to North Carolina soil and water conservation districts for the installation of on-farm water resource projects where current water resources do not adequately address the needs of the agricultural operation. For the current funding cycle at least \$130,000 will be provided to eligible projects.

Eligible projects consist of the following;

- Installation of an agriculture water supply pond.
- Removing sediment from an existing agriculture water supply pond.
- Retrofitting or repairing an existing agriculture water supply pond.
- Conservation Irrigation or Micro-Irrigation systems.
- All other On-Farm Water Resource project requests are handled on a case-by-case basis.
- Eligible projects target agricultural operations where the lack of irrigation or livestock watering availability cannot be adequately addressed with traditional cost-share programs.
- Grants will be awarded for up to 75% of actual costs not to exceed current caps in state cost share programs. Private sector engineering assistance funding requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis and is subject to program caps. The remaining project funding is the responsibility of the landowner.
- Installation must be conducted according to the state cost share technical guidelines and the NRCS Field Office Technical Standards.
- Technical questions should be directed to the district's state or federal conservation program staff. Program policy and procedure questions should be directed to Foundation staff.

During proposal evaluation, the following factors will be taken into consideration:

- The proposal exhibits a well-defined need for the on-farm water resource project and includes the required paperwork as listed in the Program Guidelines.
- The landowner has committed resources for at least 25% of the project costs.
- The applicant district has successfully completed previous Foundation projects.

Proposal submittal guidelines include the following:

- Download a copy of the application from the Foundation website under the project tab at <http://ncsoilwater.org/programs/water-resources-initiative/>.
- One original plus one CD with all materials should be mailed or delivered in person to the Foundation office (address above). Electronic submission is not allowed.
- Requests for additional information should be directed to Foundation staff.