



Request for Proposals Inactive Animal Waste Lagoon Water Quality Projects 1.20.17 Deadline for Submitting Proposals

The NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation (Foundation) has funding available from the Environmental Enhancement Grant Program, funded by the 2000 Smithfield Foods Agreement with the NC Attorney General. The funds are available to North Carolina soil and water conservation districts for the closure of inactive animal waste lagoons on current or former confined animal operations. For the current funding cycle at least \$75,000 will be provided to eligible projects. Additional funding may be available depending on the number of qualified applications. The following stipulations apply;

- Eligible projects consist of the permanent closure of inactive animal waste lagoons from swine, dairy, and poultry operations where existing water quality problems cannot be adequately addressed with traditional state or federal cost-share programs.
- Grants will be awarded for up to 75% of actual costs. The remaining project funding is the responsibility of the landowner. Please note funding will only be provided to breach the dike/dam and will not cover the costs to return the site to its prior topographic condition unless engineering requirements deem it necessary.
- Closure plans must be conducted according to the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide's #360 – Closure of Waste Impoundments as well as following NC Soil and Water Conservation Commission's technical guidelines.
- Technical questions should be directed to the district's state or federal conservation program support 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 lagoon closure including a completed Closure Plan, a detailed project budget, two cost estimates from qualified contractors, and exhibits evidence of environmental improvements upon project completion.
 - The landowner has committed resources for at least 25% of the project costs.
 - The applicant district can complete the work by December 31, 2017 or sooner.
 - The applicant district has successfully completed previous Foundation projects.
 - High priority will be given to projects located in the Tar-Pamlico, Neuse, Cape Fear, Lumber and White Oak River Basins.
- **Projects not eligible for funding include the following:**
 - The proposal does not clearly define an environmental problem or little public benefit.
 - The project cannot be for the closure of an active lagoon.
 - The project cannot be for the buyout of a confined animal operation.
- **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/animal-waste-lagoon-closure/>.
 - **The deadline to submit proposals is January 20, 2017.**
 - One original hardcopy plus one CD/flash drive with all materials should be mailed or delivered in person to the Foundation office (address above). Electronic submission is not allowed.