



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cumberland Soil and Water Conservation District

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Cost Share Program Rewards Water Quality Protection

FAYETTEVILLE – The Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District will begin accepting applications for the 2016 North Carolina Agriculture Cost Share Program (NCACSP) on July 1. The program assists eligible landowners and other users of agricultural lands with installing Best Management Practices (BMPs) that help protect or improve water quality in the state.

Upon successful implementation of approved BMPs, the applicant is reimbursed by the state a predetermined amount, usually 75 percent, of the average installation cost. A few BMPs are called incentive practices and the applicant is paid an incentive, usually a certain amount per acre, to implement the BMP. Farmers or landowners can apply for contracts starting July 1.

Approved BMP water quality improvements include reducing the movement of run-off sediment, nutrients, pesticides and herbicides. Other practices assist with disposing of livestock and poultry mortality in an acceptable manner, such as composting or incineration to prevent ground water contamination caused by burying dead livestock. A complete list of approved practices is available on the North Carolina Department of Agriculture's website at ncagr.gov/SWC/costshareprograms/index.html.

To apply to the cost share program, contact Larry Simpson at 910-484-8479 option 3 or email Larry.Simpson@nc.nacdnet.net. The office is located in the Cumberland County Agricultural Center, 301 E. Mountain Dr. The website is co.cumberland.nc.us/soil_water.