

BENEFICIAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Environmental Cost-Share Opportunities for Prince Edward Island Farmers

- **Canada-PEI Agriculture Stewardship Program (CPEIASP)**
- **Canada-PEI National Water Program (NWP)**

General categories of eligible projects along with the cost sharing rates and the program funding caps for each type of project are outlined in this brochure. Information is also included on guidelines for the various programs and the application process. Technical support and financial incentives are offered through these programs to encourage agricultural producers to voluntarily adopt beneficial management practices that reduce environmental risk and enhance the Island's soil, water, air and biodiversity resources.

The Canada-Prince Edward Island Agriculture Stewardship Program is part of the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF). One of goals of the APF is to create positive environmental changes in Canada's agriculture industry.

The Canada-Prince Edward Island Agriculture Stewardship Program is delivered by the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.
The program begins April 1, 2006 and runs until March 31, 2008.



**Agriculture, Fisheries,
and Aquaculture**

WHAT IS THE CANADA-PEI AGRICULTURE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM?

Under the Canada-P.E.I. Agriculture Stewardship Program, technical support and financial incentives are being offered to encourage producers to voluntarily adopt beneficial management practices (BMPs) that reduce environmental risk and enhance P.E.I.'s soil, water, air and biodiversity resources. A total of 28 beneficial management practices have been identified by governments and industry as important to the long-term health of the environment and the sustainability of the P.E.I. agriculture and agri-food industry.

The BMPs contained in the Canada-P.E.I. Agriculture Stewardship Program are federally funded by two national environment programs, Greencover Canada and the National Farm Stewardship Program, with additional funding from the Government of P.E.I. and Ducks Unlimited Canada.

Guidelines:

1. Applicants under CPEIASP must have a valid Farm Registration Number under the **Farm Registration and Farm Organizations Funding Act**.
2. An Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) must have been completed by the applicant within the previous 5 years to be eligible for the various environmental cost share programs.
3. The EFP coordinator must certify that the practices for which the incentive is being requested have been identified in the applicant's EFP Action Plan in order to qualify for CPEIASP assistance.
4. The maximum federal contribution under CPEIASP is \$30,000 per applicant over the two year term of the program.
5. The maximum total assistance under CPEIASP is \$35,000 per year to any eligible applicant.
6. The maximum contribution under Tier 1 of the NWP is \$15,000 over the term of the program which includes any activities under the program up to March 31, 2006.
7. The maximum contribution under Tier 2 of the NWP is \$100,000 over the term of the program which includes any activities under the program up to March 31, 2006.
8. The maximum federal contribution that can be allocated in all the practice code 501 to 503 activities is \$20,000.
9. The maximum federal contribution that can be allocated in all the practice code 801 to 804 activities is \$15,000.
10. The maximum federal contribution that can be allocated in all the practice code 1001 to 1006 activities is \$20,000.
11. The maximum federal contribution that can be allocated in all the practice code 1601 to 1604 activities is \$5,000.
12. The Pesticide Risk Reduction BMP will be restricted to potato producers. The payment will be for the collection of information to establish on farm baseline pesticide risk.
13. Funds will be available between April 01, 2006 and March 31, 2008 or until they are completely allocated, whichever comes first.
14. Any work that is funded through CPEIASP must be appropriately managed and maintained by the project operator for a minimum 15 year period.
15. Work must be completed to an approved standard as outlined in BMP Practice Codes which are available through the program manager or project advisors.
16. Personal information requested on the application form is collected under section 31 (c) of the **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act** R.S.P.E.I. 1988, c.F-15.01 as it relates directly to and is necessary for the various environmental programs and will be used for determining program eligibility, issuance of tax receipts if approved and disclosure to the public on the projects funded.

Application and Approval Process:

1. Contact the CPEIASP office or the appropriate Project Advisor to discuss your proposed project.
2. A Project Advisor must complete a site visit before project initiation to review options and discuss project detail with applicant prior to the completion of the application.
3. Funds will be allocated upon receipt of completed applications. No expenditures will be funded which are incurred prior to final written approval.
4. The applicant is responsible for obtaining all necessary permits relating to the specific project prior to final approval of the project.
5. The deadline for receipt of completed application forms is October 31 for the current fiscal year.
6. A separate application must be submitted for each BMP project.
7. No multi-year projects will be considered under the various environmental programs.
8. The applicant will receive a written letter of approval for the proposed project along with any required environmental mitigation measures.
9. A claim form will be issued with the approval letter which must be submitted with necessary **original** invoices and proof of payments upon completion of the project.
10. The Project Advisor will complete a final project inspection and recommend payment of the claim.

ENVIRONMENTAL FARM PLANS

To be eligible to apply to the Canada-P.E.I. Agriculture Stewardship Program, eligible applicants must first complete an Environmental Farm Plan (EFP). The P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture delivers the enhanced EFP program in the province. EFP workshops offer PEI producers a voluntary, confidential, self-assessment process to increase awareness of farm practices and environmental sustainability, and provide the tools for developing and implementing environmental farm plans.

After completing an EFP, producers can apply for funding to assist in the adoption of environmentally beneficial management practices identified in their EFP action plan.

For more information on completing a new EFP or an existing EFP which has not been updated in the past five years, please contact Karen Murchison, Environmental Farm Plan Coordinator, PEI Federation of Agriculture, at(902) 368-7289.

CANADA-PEI NATIONAL WATER PROGRAM

The objective of the Canada-PEI National Water Program (NWP) is to ensure that the agriculture sector has access to secure, good quality water supplies to meet existing and growing needs through a water management program that stresses effective and efficient use of available rural water.

There are three types of NWP projects:

- Tier One - on-farm infrastructure projects: water meters, ponds, off-stream water collection, storage structures, etc., that provide a secure water source to individual operations.
- Tier Two - multi-user infrastructure projects: shared pipelines, reservoirs, etc., that provide water to multiple water users.
- Tier Three - strategic work projects: activities and projects including regional water-management planning, regional groundwater studies and information extension activities.

For further information on:

The Canada-Prince Edward Island Agriculture Stewardship Program

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