

REAP Program to accept applications starting August 7th.

The Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) program is designed to enhance farm production and protect natural resources by enabling farmers, landowners, and businesses to earn Pennsylvania state income tax credits in exchange for implementing water quality “Best Management Practices” (BMPs).

Thirteen million dollars in REAP tax credits are available in FY 2023 to individuals and businesses that meet the eligibility requirements for the program.

Eligible applicants receive 50%-90% of out-of-pocket project costs in the form of state tax credits. The amount of REAP credits available to an eligible applicant depends on the type of BMP implemented and the geographic location of the operation (for 90% tax credits).

The Commission will begin accepting 2023-24 REAP Applications on **Monday, August 7th, 2023**, on a first-come, first-served basis. Attached, you will find the new REAP Guidelines and Application packet. The REAP Guidelines and Application can also be found on the program’s webpage: [PA Department of Agriculture - REAP Program](#)

The Commission anticipates that the \$13 million allocation of 2023-24 REAP tax credits will be exhausted quicker than usual this round. We have already received over 150 eligible applications that were rolled-over from the previous round of the REAP program. The commission was unable to fund them last round because all FY 2022 REAP funding was allocated prior to receiving the application. Please keep on the lookout for updates regarding the REAP program as we move through Summer. **The deadline for submitting 2023-24 REAP applications is October 31st, 2023.**

Here's what's new to REAP for 2023-24:

1. An increased focus on soil health and multi-species cover crops. Applicants who have received REAP tax credits in the past for single-species cover crop are eligible for multi-species cover crops only.
2. Cover crop planting drones are eligible for REAP tax credits – up to \$10,000.
3. Variable rate nutrient application plans (e.g. grid soil sampling, data inputs, etc.). Variable rate nutrient application equipment has been eligible for REAP since 2017.
4. Silvopasture
5. Equipment Precision Upgrade Kits

Contact the district agricultural conservationist Richard Voytko at 724-378-1701 x220 or via email at richard.voytko@bccdpa.us if you have any questions regarding the REAP program. Follow this link for an informative video from a recent REAP workshop held by the district: <https://youtu.be/ANiNhl1euq4>

Caption: A stream crossing is just one of the many best management practices (BMPs) which can receive income tax credits with the REAP program