



Criteria and Requirements for Cost-Sharing

Cost share awards cover 50% of actual cost of *approved* practice implementation and are based on the SWCD conservationist's cost estimate. Amounts listed below are the max match from the District. The maximum amount of cost-share a Participant is eligible to receive is \$1000 per application. Please see Cost Share Policy document for complete details.

Rain Gardens/Bioswales

Maximum Cost-Share Funding: \$12/square foot and \$1000/garden

Requirements:

- Enough space for appropriately sized rain garden
- Location where water will flow (or intention to pipe or create swale)
- Soil that will allow water to infiltrate (or intention to amend soils)

Restrictions:

- At least 10 feet from building, not over septic system, not where water naturally pools (if water is pooling, it is not infiltrating)
- Compacted or poorly drained soils (many urban areas) could require excavation, new soil, and/or underdrain.

Constructed Wetlands for Wildlife

Maximum Cost-Share Funding: \$8.00/square foot and \$1000/wetland

Requirements:

- Conducive site
- Need for stormwater filtration
- Runoff problem
- Desire for wildlife habitat
- Other wildlife habitat requirements present (food and nesting areas)

Restrictions:

- Not within 10 feet of building, 100 feet of well, or 50 feet of septic
- Permitting may be required
- If site is not wet enough, watering will be required

Water Edge Enhancements

Maximum Cost-Share Funding: \$1000**

Requirements:

- Need for stormwater filtration
- Need to reduce or prevent shoreline erosion
- Need to reduce maintenance/mowing costs
- Goose problem*

* Not *necessary* for cost-share approval, but further supports the need for edge enhancements if present in an area.

**The maximum cost-share funding per lineal or square foot of shoreline will be determined by the conservationist at the time of plan creation. Different planting treatments and buffer widths will incur different costs.

Filter strips

Maximum Cost-Share Funding: \$1000

Requirements:

- Existing or potential erosion problem
- Need for runoff filtration
- Need for reduced maintenance/mowing
- Need to protect pond, stream, wetland, or other body of water
- Desire to provide wildlife habitat

Prairie Plantings:

Maximum Cost-Share Funding: \$1000

Requirements:

- Lack of wildlife habitat (food sources, nesting areas)
- Need to reduce mowing or maintenance on site

Pollinator Gardens:

Maximum Cost-Share Funding: \$300/ garden

Requirements:

- Lack of pollinator habitat/food sources
- Planting must be at least 100 square feet
- Need to reduce mowing or maintenance on site
- Native plant selection
- Effort to eliminate or limit use of pesticides

Invasive Plants:

Maximum Cost-Share Funding: \$1000

Requirements:

- Invasive plant problem
- Lack of native or beneficial vegetation
- Minimum 3-year commitment
- Does not qualify for WHIP program

Tree Plantings

Maximum Cost-Share Funding: \$400

Requirements:**

- Lack of canopy cover
- Need for wildlife habitat (food, nesting areas)
- Desire to store carbon in biomass
- Need to restore natural diversity
- Must select native tree varieties
- Need for long-term erosion control
- Conducive site (consider buildings, power lines)
- Invasive species problem

Street tree plantings must also:

- Have adequate space in the tree lawn for mature growth
- Be properly chosen to avoid power lines and other threats
- Have necessary city/neighborhood street tree planting approvals

Restrictions:

- Do not plant in drainage and utility easements
- No landscape style plantings

* This estimate is for reforestation/seedling plantings. For windbreaks or single tree plantings, maximum cost-share will be determined by the conservationist at the time of plan creation. For example, we will not cost-share an 8' tall tree when a 4' tall one will serve the same purpose. However, if immediate shelter is needed, the 8' tree may be eligible for cost-share funds.

** Due to the multiple purposes of tree plantings, not *all* requirements must be met. Hamilton County SWCD will decide if an appropriate combination of requirements is met at the time of application review.

Porous Pavement/Pavers

Maximum Cost –Share Funding: \$1000 Maximum/ \$8.00 sq. ft.

Requirements:

- Conducive site
- Need for stormwater filtration
- Runoff problem
- Retrofit previously impervious area
- Design/Installation must be approved prior to install to meet specifications