



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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SUBJECT: Technical Guide Notice 148

DATE: February 8th, 2010

TO: All Holders of the PA Technical Guide

FILE CODE: 450-11

Purpose:

To release planning guidance related to comprehensive nutrient management plans, complying with Highly Erodible Land Conservation provisions of the Farm Bill, and locating IPM guidelines.

Background:

Several documents have been recently developed in response to changing national policies and technical guidance in conservation planning and application.

Explanation:

In compliance with recently released national CNMP technical criteria, Pennsylvania NRCS has adapted the national CNMP template to meet federal, state and local regulatory requirements and developed a Statement of Work to identify the expected deliverables when writing a CNMP. The content of CNMPs has not changed very much and small changes are incorporated in this updated SOW. The existing format of Pennsylvania CNMPs helps farmers meet both their regulatory requirements and our program requirements. The process to work with our Pennsylvania Nutrient Management Program partners remains the same. The SOW for CNMPs is officially filed in the Pennsylvania FOTG Section III.C CNMP Information.

CNMP SOW

<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/PA/PAsowcnmpFeb2010.pdf>

The CNMP Engineering Inventory Worksheet and CNMP Engineering Evaluation Checklist have also been updated and are now filed in the Pennsylvania FOTG Section III.C CNMP Information. The optional Inventory Worksheet now includes a line to record the latitude and longitude location of the main barn entrance and documentation for Farmstead Safety and Security for existing practices. The required Evaluation checklist also now has a section for documenting Farmstead Safety and Security.

CNMP Engineering Inventory Worksheet

<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/PA/CNMPEngineeringInventoryWorksheetRevisedJan10.pdf>

CNMP Engineering Evaluation Checklist

<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/PA/CNMPEngrManureandWWrHandlingStorageJan2010.pdf>



HEL Conservation Compliance guidance has been updated to help planners better understand current policies and procedures. This guidance is located in Pennsylvania FOTG Section III.D Planning and Environmental Compliance Information and replaces previous guidance. The PA ACS Guidelines and Planning and Compliance documents have been removed from the same FOTG folder. For convenience, the power point presentation on HEL/W Conservation Compliance delivered by the East National Technology Support Center on June 22 of 2009 has also been loaded. Employees who have not yet reviewed the training refresher presentation are encouraged to read the slides and notes and contact Noel Soto with any questions.

HELC Planning Guidance

<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/PA/HELCcomplianceguidanceFeb9th2010.pdf>

Conservation Compliance PPT

[http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/PA/ConservationComplianceNetConference\(FINAL\).ppt](http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/PA/ConservationComplianceNetConference(FINAL).ppt)

Last year, national policy for providing NRCS technical assistance involving pest management was clarified. One of the roles of the agency is to assist clients to adopt IPM techniques that protect natural resources. Guidance on locating land grant university guidelines for adopting IPM techniques relevant to various crops that was developed and provided during the 2009 CSP sign up is now filed officially in a new folder at Pennsylvania FOTG Section III.G called IPM Information.

IPM Guidance

<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/references/public/PA/LocatingIPMguidance.pdf>

Access Instructions:

The Pennsylvania eFOTG can be accessed at the following web address and then selecting the appropriate county. http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/efotg_locator.aspx?map=PA The items released in this notice will first appear in the What's New section and appear in the appropriate folder usually 24 hours later.

The Pennsylvania eFOTG Section Table of Contents can be accessed *directly* at the following:

Section III Resource Management Systems and Quality Criteria

<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/toc.aspx?CatID=12477>

The official version of the FOTG is what appears in Pennsylvania's eFOTG.

/s/

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