

New York State Soil & Water Conservation Committee  
November 2015

**AGNPS:** Congratulations to those Districts receiving a grant under Round 21 of the Ag-NPS grant program. Please submit your completed Plans of Work to your Regional AEA **no later than November 20, 2015**, so that we can proceed with contract development. Your AEA will review each document and work with you to make any necessary corrections. Once approved, your AEA will notify you to upload your Plan of Work documents to the Grants Gateway. **Districts will no longer be required to submit hard copies of the Plan of Work.**

As a reminder, Interim Progress Reports for existing AgNPS projects were due November 1st.

**AEM Base Year 11:** AEM Base Year 11 (2015-2016) Interim Reports are due from all participating Districts by December 3, 2015. The Interim Report should reflect completed Tier work (1 - 5B) and other significant AEM accomplishments from May 7 through November 7, 2015, and serves a couple key roles:

1. A chance to take stock of the work done and the work ahead by the ½ way mark relative your Year 11 AEM AAP
2. Voucher for an additional payment for work done beyond any advance funds already received or requested.

Please email reports in the original MS Word format to Judy Snyder ([Judy.Snyder@agriculture.ny.gov](mailto:Judy.Snyder@agriculture.ny.gov)) with copies to Greg Albrecht ([greg.albrecht@agriculture.ny.gov](mailto:greg.albrecht@agriculture.ny.gov)) and your Regional AEA (or upload to your District's AEM SharePoint folder and send us an email heads-up). As usual, associated Claims for Payment must be signed, dated, and mailed as originals to Brian Steinmuller, NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets, Division of Land & Water Resources, 10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY 12235. Claims for Payment may not be submitted via email or SharePoint.

**Climate Resilient Farming:** The Climate Resilient Farming Request for Proposals is now available on the NYS Grants Gateway [https://grantsgateway.ny.gov/IntelliGrants\\_NYSGG/login2.aspx](https://grantsgateway.ny.gov/IntelliGrants_NYSGG/login2.aspx). All applicable materials must be submitted through the NYS Grants Gateway by the deadline, December 14, 2015, for the application to be considered complete. This new funding opportunity allows Districts to work with farmers on greenhouse gas mitigation and climate resiliency efforts in the areas of agricultural cover and flare systems, on-farm riparian, floodplain, and upland water management systems, and soil health systems. Questions should be directed to the State Committee Office or the Grants Gateway at [grantsreform@budget.ny.gov](mailto:grantsreform@budget.ny.gov).

**SWCD Law Webinar** – The State Committee will host a webinar on District Law Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 10am. To register for this webinar go to <https://meetny.webex.com/meetny/j.php?RGID=r2178b669bf193cb32ce99ded02d4c70e>. Upon registration you will receive a confirmation email with instructions for joining the webinar. District Law training is required for Directors every three years. This training counts towards PM 1b & 1c training of District board members and employees. Contact [Jennifer.clifford@agriculture.ny.gov](mailto:Jennifer.clifford@agriculture.ny.gov) for questions.

**SWCC Meeting** – The next NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee will be held on November 10<sup>th</sup> in Albany (exact location TBD). Details and a full agenda will be forwarded soon.

**Upcoming Statewide Manager's and Program Administration Meeting** – The SWCC sponsored Statewide Manager's and Program Administration Meeting will convene on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Greek Peak Mountain Resort and Conference Center in Cortland, NY. Funding is available to support attendance of 3 individuals per District and it is strongly encouraged that at least 1 person per District attend this training. The registration deadline for this meeting has passed. For more info about the meeting, please contact your regional AEA or Lauren Prezorski [Lauren.Prezorski@agriculture.ny.gov](mailto:Lauren.Prezorski@agriculture.ny.gov) in the SWCC office.

**Other Upcoming Events**

**Empire SWCS Annual Meeting:** The 2014 Soil and Water Conservation Society, Empire State Chapter Annual Meeting will convene on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva, NY. Please send registration form and payment to the SWCS by November 10, 2015. A copy of the registration form can be obtained by contacting Lisa Miller at, [officemanager@swcsnewyork.org](mailto:officemanager@swcsnewyork.org).

**Annual CCA Training:** The Annual Northeast Region Certified Crop Advisor Annual Training will be held in East Syracuse at the Double Tree Inn on December 1<sup>st</sup> through the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Registration is now open and can be found at <http://northeastcropadvisers.org/training.php>. Remember that if you are working toward your AEM or NRCS Planning Certification, you must attend the 3 day Basic Training Course. If you are already a CCA, you can attend to receive Continuing Education Credits required to maintain your certification.