



# FY25 Agricultural Enhancement Program Heavy Use Area Protection Application

Office Use Only:	
Date	
Time	

Applicant Information
<b>Name:</b>
<b>Address:</b>
<b>Telephone:</b>
<b>Email:</b>
<b>Date:</b>
What is your preferred method to receive written notification? <b>Email/Letter</b>
Do you own or lease the land associated with this application? <b>Own/Lease</b>
Are the fields associated with this application part of another financial incentive program for Heavy Use Area Protection? <b>Yes/No</b>

Farm Information
<b>MONONGAHELA CONSERVATION DISTRICT</b>
<b>Location/County:</b> Monongalia Marion Preston
<b>Farm Name (Optional):</b>
<b>Farm:</b>
<b>Tract:</b>
<b>Field Names/Numbers:</b>
Is the land associated with this application part of a farming operation? <b>Yes/No</b>
Do you have a financial interest in a farming entity with a Monongahela Conservation District Supervisor or local WVCA Employee? <b>Yes/No</b>
Have you attended a conservation related event or workshop within the past 12 months? <b>Yes/No</b>

Best Management Practice			
BMP	Limits	Cost-Share Rate	Type
<b>Heavy Use Area Protection</b>	<u>4,000</u> sq. ft. maximum  8 in. thick <u>Gravel</u> and <u>Filter Fabric</u>	75% ( <i>cost of materials and labor</i> )  <u>DNE: \$5,000.00</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Trough <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock Lane/Walkway <input type="checkbox"/> Loading Area <input type="checkbox"/> Gate Passageway

**Definition:**

The stabilization of areas frequently and intensively used by animals and/or vehicles by surfacing with suitable materials. Suitable construction materials include a combination of clean gravel, crushed stone, and geotextile fabric to provide the area with increased load bearing strength, drainage, separation of material, and soil reinforcement.

**Purpose:**

Heavy Use Area Protection reduces soil erosion, improves water quantity and quality, and livestock health.

**Policies for Program:**

- Applicant must be a District Cooperator. (*"Conservation Agreement" forms are available upon request*)
- Program is available to landowner and/or farm operator (*lessee*).
- Applicant is ineligible for a practice reimbursement if he/she starts project before District approval.
- No duplication of federal or state cost-share shall be allowed.
- Property must be used as a farming operation.
  
- No more than two Ag. Enhancement Program applications will be accepted each year.

- Application approvals will be made based upon availability of funds and a ranking process.

**Policies for Practice:**

- To be used at the following sites affected by livestock use: **watering areas** (troughs), **lanes/walkways**, **loading/unloading areas, and gate passageways**.
- A guidance document with *Heavy Use Area Protection* specifications will be provided that includes:
  - Fabric material type, thickness of stone layers, size(s) of stone, and amount of stone needed along with other construction guidance.
- Stone used must be graded.
- Care must be given to protect soil and water quality during and after installation.
- Disturbed areas must be seeded and mulched.
- The landowner agrees to maintain this practice for a period of 10 years after the date of completion.
- The heavy use area protection must be **completed** and **fully functional** by **December 02, 2024**.

**Practice Specifications:**

- State Conservation Committee approved standards and specifications must be followed.
- After approval, applicant must follow guidance documents provided.

**Reimbursement Process:**

- A payment will be approved as: 1. Receipts are received; 2. Verification form is signed; 3. District approves the payment.
- All receipts and forms are due to the Monongahela Conservation District Office by **December 02, 2024**, otherwise payments may be delayed or even denied.
- Requests for deadline extension may be approved on a case-by-case basis.

**Application must include the following:**

1. Conservation Agreement (*if applicable*)
2. Signed application.
3. Farm map with individual fields and areas identified where the practice is proposed.
4. Lease agreement, Producer Application Form, or USDA-FSA Annual Farm Report (*if applicable*).

By signing this I have read, understand, and agree to the terms and conditions stated in this document.

**Applicant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Application and all supporting documents must be received by May 31, 2024:

Monongahela Conservation District  
201 Scott Avenue  
Morgantown, WV 26508  
Email: [mcd@wvca.us](mailto:mcd@wvca.us)