



COST SHARE PROGRAM INSTRUCTIONS

INTRODUCTION

The Liberty County Conservation District Board is offering up to \$2500 annually through a Cost-Share program. To sponsor small-scale conservation projects within Liberty County. These are Liberty County tax dollars; all proposed projects must be completed within Liberty County and within the Liberty CD's boundary.

PROGRAM LIMITATIONS

The Cost-Share program is available to any private sector landowner with property within Liberty County. There is a limit of one year of approval. We encourage multiple practices within the proposed projects. No portion of this Cost-Share program will fund rip rap, ponds, controlled burning, surveys, or research projects, aesthetic projects, or any project that may contribute towards pollution or the degradation of soil, water, or vegetation. Cost-Share is also not available for mitigation of 310 complaints.

FUNDING

The district will fund up to a maximum of \$2500 to be paid upon project completion. The applicant must provide a minimum of 50% of the project costs. The applicant portion can be in the form of cash, in-kind services (i.e., labor), or from other conservation cost-share programs.

RANKING CRITERIA

All project applications are ranked on several factors which include the merit of the project proposal and benefit to the resource. This ranking is completed by LCCD Supervisors who will make the final cost-share funding determination.

COST-SHARE AGREEMENT

Upon approval of the project, the District and Applicant(s) will enter into a signed agreement for the practices funded. The agreement must be signed by both parties before work may take place.

PAYMENT

Only practices initiated and completed within the contract time frame will be reimbursed. The landowner must pay the up-front costs of the project. When the project has been inspected by the LCCD staff and /or Supervisors upon completion, and the applicant has turned in the receipts and post project photos, the applicant will then be reimbursed the awarded amount, up to \$2500.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS: A 310 permit is required for projects in/along perennial streams.

Stream/Riparian/Irrigation	Weed Management	Pastures
Streambank Protection	Prescribed Grazing	Fencing
Bridge/culvert improvement	Biological control	Water improvement
Channel Stabilization	Spraying	Filter strips
Spring development	Mowing/Re-seeding	Fertilizing
Riparian buffer strips	Professional services	Re-seeding native plants
Irrigation structure/diversion	Other _____	Trees/shrubbery
Stock water pipeline		Other _____
Riparian fencing		
Other _____		

Urban	Forestry	Other
Gardening	Tree planting	Wildlife habitat improvement
Rain barrel system	Wildlife rehabilitation	Pollinator habitat
Native landscaping	Fuels reduction	Equipment
Alternative energy	Other _____	Other _____
Other _____		

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Fill out all questions on the application completely, including proposed costs. Incomplete applications will not be processed.
2. Enclose a concise map with the location of each proposed practice clearly detailed. Include color photos of project area(s).
3. Complete a land management plan for your overall property goals and include this plan in your application materials.
4. One application can have multiple practices on it. (EXAMPLE: Spring development, fencing, revegetation and weed control.)

PROGRAM TIME FRAME

1. Mail, email, or drop off your completed application and additional materials to the Liberty County Conservation District by the first Thursday of the month to have your project considered at that month's board meeting (held on the third Thursday).
2. LCCD staff will set up a site visit if necessary and will rank your project.
3. Applicants are required to attend and make their funding request in person at the board meeting during the third the third Thursday of the month.
4. All applicants will be notified whether they have been funded via a letter after the board meeting.
5. If your project is approved for funding, a signed contract must be in place before work may begin or charges incurred. The applicant then has up to a year to complete the approved project.
6. Applicants will be reimbursed for project costs after completion of the project.

Send signed, completed applications and additional materials or questions to:

Mailing Address:
Liberty County Conservation District
PO Box 669

Physical Address:
18 Main Street

Email and Phone contact:
Diane Roberts
libertycountycd@gmail.com

Chester, MT, 59522

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406-759-5778 ext. 102