SADC Approves FY19 Funding Request

The State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) has approved a $23.8 million appropriation request for FY19 that would direct $15 million – the majority of $19.9 million in anticipated acquisition funding – to the Municipal Planning Incentive Grant (PIG) Program. This continues the SADC’s strategy of focusing funding on different programs in alternating years to maximize limited resources.

The full grant amount under the Municipal PIG Program would be $1 million, which would be awarded to municipalities that have expended or obligated (through securing of SADC final approvals) 50 percent or greater of their State funding allocations in their past two funding rounds. Municipalities that spent less than that, but at least 25 percent, would qualify for half grants of $500,000 each. Towns that have not spent at least 25 percent would not receive new grants at this time, with the exception of six municipalities that would receive $500,000 or $1 million due to demonstrated need or to support a new Municipal PIG application.

The appropriations request would allocate $3.3 million to the State Acquisition Program and $1.59 million to fully fund applications approved under the FY19 Nonprofit Program. The SADC anticipates that available competitive grant funds in the County PIG Program will be sufficient to meet closings projected to occur in FY19; therefore, no new funding is requested for the County program this year. The FY19 appropriations request also includes a projected $660,000 in stewardship funding, the majority of which would be directed to a planned second round of cost-sharing grants under the SADC’s Deer Fencing Program.

The SADC’s funding request is subject to approval by the Garden State Preservation Trust and appropriation through the typical legislative process.

Questions? Contact Heidi.Winzinger@ag.nj.gov
Farmland Preservation Totals Surpass Goal

Ninety-two farms and 5,631 acres were preserved under the Farmland Preservation Program in FY2018, exceeding the SADC’s goal of 85 closings and 5,100 acres preserved. Congratulations to all the partners whose dedicated efforts helped make this possible!

Thank You for your time and dedication to farmland preservation in NJ. If you have specific questions, please don’t hesitate to contact SADC staff. As always, our website is available and full of helpful information at www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc

Municipal PIG Process Workshops

Coming in October!

• Do you lose track of important deadlines?
• Do your projects run into roadblocks?
• What comes next in the process?

In October we will host three workshops, geared towards Municipal PIG coordinators, to tackle these questions and more. We will review collaborative checklists covering initial landowner meetings all the way through the easement purchase and closing.

South (October 2, 10am-12pm)
Salem County Agriculture Building
51 Cheney Road
Salem, NJ 08079

North (Date & Time TBD)
Warren County Library South Branch
404 County Road 519
Stewartsville, NJ 08886

Central (Date & Time TBD)
Historic Clarksburg Community Center
(formerly the Clarksburg Methodist Episcopal Church)
512 Stagecoach Road (County Road Route 524)
Millstone, NJ 08510

An email with an online registration link through Eventbrite will be sent out to all partners shortly.