



SADC Partner Update



NEW JERSEY
State Agriculture Development Committee

December 2018

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Deer Fencing Grant Update

The November 30th application deadline has passed and the SADC staff are reviewing 27 applications for fencing. Farmers who submitted complete, eligible applications should expect to get funding approval letters in the next two weeks, so they can buy materials this year if they want to do so for tax purposes.

Questions? contact David.Clapp@ag.nj.gov or 609-984-2504.



FY20 Nonprofit Program Round Announced

The SADC approved staff publishing a notice of solicitation for applications in the NJ Register for the FY20 round. At this time there is an application deadline of May 29, 2019 for nonprofits to submit applications for individual farms they seek to preserve. SADC staff will then review the applications and visit each farm personally with the goal of seeking preliminary approval from the SADC at its June 27, 2019 meeting. From there, funding needed can be incorporated into the SADC's FY20 appropriation request. Questions? Contact Stefanie Miller stefanie.miller@ag.nj.gov or 609-984-2504.

FY19 Appropriation bills for Farmland Preservation funding

The bills have moved successfully through both the Assembly Agriculture Committee and the Senate Economic Growth Committee on December 6, 2018. This includes \$15,000,000 for municipal planning incentive grant applications for farmland preservation, \$1,591,000 for the FY19 nonprofit program applications and \$8,896,229 to State Agriculture Development Committee for farmland preservation purposes which includes approximately \$660,000 for the SADC stewardship programs, including both the Soil and Water Cost Share grants and Deer Fencing. Should the Governor approve these bills the SADC could be in position to distribute funding by the new year.



Soil & Water Conservation Policy updated

The SADC approved updates to the Policy P-48. The amendments seek to clarify that farms *permanently* preserved utilizing other conservation tools (Pinelands Development Credits (PDC) program, Highlands Development Credit (HDC) program, municipal TDR and cluster ordinances, and farmland preservation easements acquired by counties and nonprofits that did not involve the use of SADC funding), and which enter into an SADC term-easement, may be considered “permanently preserved” farmland for purposes of prioritizing access to soil and water cost share funds.

Further, the policy solidifies the use of 16-year long term easements, in addition to the standard 8-year term, to enable farms enrolled in a longer term (16 years) to be able to receive a higher priority than those enrolled for the minimum 8-year period.

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