



# Agricultural Enhancement Program Pollination (Pollinator Habitat Plot) Application

Applicant Information
<b>Name:</b>
<b>Mailing Address:</b>
<b>Telephone:</b>
<b>Email Address:</b>
<b>Application Date:</b>
<b>Are you a WVCA/WFCD employee?</b> YES/NO
<b>Are you a family member of a WVCA/WFCD employee?</b> YES/NO
<b>Do you operate land with a WVCA/WFCD employee?</b> YES/NO

Farm Information
<b>MONONGAHELA CONSERVATION DISTRICT</b>
<b>County:</b>
<b>Farm Name:</b>
<b>Farm #:</b>
<b>Tract #:</b>
<b>Field # or #'s:</b>
<b>Are you a Conservation District Supervisor?</b> YES/NO
<b>Are you a family member of a District Supervisor?</b> YES/NO
<b>Do you operate land with a District Supervisor?</b> YES/NO

### Best Management Practice

*Please complete the following information for the Best Management Practice you would like to apply for:*

BMP	Limits	Cost-Share Rate	Amount Requested
<b>Pollination</b>	<u>Pollinator Habitat Plot</u> Not to exceed ¼ acre	75% -Up to \$200.00 (native seed mix)	_____ Pollinator Habitat Plot

### Program Eligibility

**Definition:**

Pollination practices establish new pollinator habitat, manage/improve existing habitat, and increase healthy pollinator populations.

**Purpose:**

Maintaining healthy pollinator communities and thriving pollinator habitats can improve water quality, provide habitat for other wildlife, and help stabilize and build soil structure. Establishing and maintaining pollinators and pollinator habitat may also attract beneficial insects that prey on crop pests and could reduce the use of pesticides on the farm. In addition, healthy pollinator communities will be able to provide the service that they offer to crops that depend on them to produce fruits, vegetables, and nuts.

**Policies for Program:**

- Applicant must be a District Cooperator. (a form is available upon request)
- Applicant is ineligible for a practice reimbursement if he/she starts project before District approval.
- When an applicant has cancelled an AgEP Agreement for two fiscal years, he/she will not be eligible to participate for the next two immediate fiscal years.
- Government land is ineligible.
- Property must be used as a farming operation to be eligible for the program: having the potential for producing at least \$1000 of farm products annually.
- In combination with other practices applicant **cannot** exceed **\$7,000.00** of assistance per fiscal year (July 2021-June 2022).
- Application approvals will be made based upon availability of funds and a ranking process.

**Policies for Practice:**

- If the field for which the practice is being requested is under contract for financial assistance for a pollinator habitat planting, applicant is ineligible for this practice.
- In order to be presented for payment approval, invoice(s) shall clearly state what costs were incurred.

**Pollinator Habitat Plot Specifications:**

- Land that is feasible for the establishment of pollinator habit plots may be planted in native pollinator seed mixes.
- Pollinator plots will increase the diversity of plants that bloom and provide sources of pollen and nectar that will be available throughout the spring, summer, and fall.
- Completed pollinator habitat projects will provide nesting sites for native pollinators, ground nesting birds and egg- laying sites for butterflies and moths.
- Cooperator must purchase the recommended amount of seed for the size plot desired (1/4 acre max.)
- The establishment of the *pollinator habitat plot* may be by conventional or no-till methods.
- Maintenance activities such as mowing, spraying of pesticides, tillage of soil and grazing should be avoided while plants are in flower.

**Payment Rates and Limits:**

- Cost share is available to landowner and/or farm operator (*lessee*).
- The maximum reimbursement is 75% for the purchase of seed up to \$200.00.
- Maximum of one *Pollinator Habitat Plot* may be approved per fiscal year.
- A picture of the seed label will be required with receipt to verify seed mix and amount of seed purchased.
- The area must be **seeded by May 20, 2022**.

**Reimbursement Process:**

- The payment will be approved as: 1. Receipts are received; 2. Cooperator completes a W-9 form; 3. Site visit is done; 4. Verification form is signed; 5. District approves the payment.
- All receipts and forms are due to the Monongahela Conservation District Office by **May 20, 2022** otherwise payments may be delayed or even denied.
- **No contract extensions will be granted for any reason.**

**Application due May 28, 2021 and must include the following:**

- Cooperator Agreement (*if applicable*)
- Practice Application Form
- Aerial map with areas identified where the *Pollinator Habitat Plot* is proposed.
- Lease agreement when applicable which is at least the length of the practice life (*5 years*).
- Application deadline may be extended upon Monongahela Conservation District approval.

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

**Applicants Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE USE ONLY:	
Date Received:	
Time Received:	