

## Conservation District Grants

### Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) - 42 grants

MAEAP is a voluntary, proactive program designed by a coalition of farmers, agricultural commodity groups, state and federal agencies, conservation, and environmental groups to reduce farmers' legal and environmental risks. It teaches effective land stewardship practices that comply with state and federal regulations and shows farmers how to identify and prevent agricultural pollution risks on their farms. The conservation district technicians hired with these grants form the core of the program. They are trained to deliver MAEAP risk assessments, help farmers develop Farm Improvement Action Plans, and assist them step-by-step to earn MAEAP verification in four systems: Farmstead; Livestock; Cropping; and Forest, Wetland, and Habitat.

Grantee Name	Award Amount
Allegan Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Alpena - Montmorency Conservation District	\$73,500.00
Berrien Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Blue Water Conservation District*	\$149,500.00
Branch Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Cass Conservation District	\$71,000.00
Charlevoix Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Chippewa Luce Mackinac Conservation District	\$73,500.00
Clinton Conservation District	\$71,000.00
Delta Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Eaton Conservation District	\$73,500.00
Genesee Conservation District	\$73,500.00
Grand Traverse Conservation District*	\$147,000.00
Gratiot Conservation District	\$73,500.00
Hillsdale Conservation District*	\$147,000.00
Huron Conservation District	\$71,000.00
Ionia Conservation District	\$71,000.00
Isabella Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Jackson Conservation District	\$73,500.00
Kalamazoo Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Kent Conservation District	\$73,500.00
Lapeer Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Lenawee Conservation District*	\$147,000.00
Mason-Lake Conservation District	\$73,500.00
Mecosta Conservation District	\$73,500.00
Missaukee Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Monroe Conservation District*	\$147,000.00
Newaygo Conservation District	\$71,000.00
Oceana Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Ogemaw Conservation District	\$71,000.00
Osceola-Lake Conservation District	\$73,500.00
Ottawa Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Saginaw Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Shiawassee Conservation District	\$73,500.00
Tuscola Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Van Buren Conservation District	\$76,000.00
Washtenaw Conservation District	\$73,500.00

**Conservation Technical Assistance Initiative (CTAI) - 24 grants**

The CTAI program provides Michigan farmers and landowners with conservation planning and engineering assistance, allowing them easier access to federal cost-share dollars for implementing conservation practices. The program leverages funding from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to employ five engineers, nine soil conservationists, and 10 program assistants. These conservation district employees work with local NRCS offices to help farmers implement conservation practices that reduce environmental risks on their farms using USDA Farm Bill programs.

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Alpena-Montmorency Conservation District	\$80,000.00
Blue Water Conservation District	\$69,000.00
Branch Conservation District	\$65,000.00
Chippewa Luce Mackinac Conservation District	\$74,000.00
Clinton Conservation District*	\$168,800.00
Delta Conservation District*	\$120,900.00
Genesee Conservation District*	\$122,900.00
Huron Conservation District	\$80,000.00
Ingham Conservation District	\$51,900.00
Jackson Conservation District	\$74,000.00
Kent Conservation District*	\$154,000.00
Leelanau Conservation District	\$51,900.00
Mecosta Conservation District	\$51,900.00
Midland Conservation District	\$51,900.00
Missaukee Conservation District	\$65,000.00
Oceana Conservation District	\$69,000.00
Otsego Conservation District*	\$125,900.00
St. Joseph Conservation District	\$51,900.00

**Produce Safety Program - 6 grants**

The Produce Safety Program is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, MDARD, Michigan State University Extension, and local conservation districts to help farms of all sizes voluntarily improve produce safety on the farm. The grants support six conservation district Produce Safety Technicians who deliver on-farm technical assistance using the Michigan Produce Safety Risk Assessment, education, and produce safety plan development. The technicians coordinate local, state, and federal agency resources to help farmers reduce produce safety risks and make progress toward compliance with state and federal regulations regarding produce safety.

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Berrien Conservation District	\$78,500.00
Blue Water Conservation District	\$78,500.00
Genessee Conservation District	\$78,500.00
Manistee Conservation District	\$78,500.00
Marquette Conservation District	\$78,500.00
Newaygo Conservation District	\$78,500.00

### Forestry Assistance Program (FAP) - 19 grants

FAP provides technical assistance to private forestland owners. Conservation district foresters work one-on-one with private forestland owners and private sector foresters to promote sustainable management of the private forest resource. They provide no-cost site visits to private forestland owners in their service area. They also provide promotion and outreach by conducting workshops, hosting field days, and writing articles for local publications. These 19 foresters play a critical role in helping forestland owners enroll in the Qualified Forest Program, an MDARD program that encourages landowners to actively manage their privately owned forests for commercial harvest, wildlife habitat enhancement, and improvement of other non-forest resources. In exchange for managing their forests in a sustainable fashion, landowners receive a tax exemption on their forested property.

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Alcona Conservation District	\$73,000.00
Alpena - Montmorency Conservation District	\$70,500.00
Barry Conservation District	\$73,000.00
Chippewa Luce Mackinac Conservation District	\$68,000.00
Clare Conservation District	\$70,500.00
Delta Conservation District	\$73,000.00
Dickinson Conservation District	\$68,000.00
Gogebic Conservation District	\$73,000.00
Iron Baraga Conservation District	\$68,000.00
Leelanau Conservation District	\$73,000.00
Manistee Conservation District	\$73,000.00
Marquette Conservation District	\$73,000.00
Mecosta Conservation District	\$73,000.00
Montcalm Conservation District	\$68,000.00
Oceana Conservation District	\$70,500.00
Oscoda Conservation District	\$70,500.00
Otsego Conservation District	\$68,000.00
Presque Isle Conservation District	\$73,000.00
Wexford Conservation District	\$73,000.00

### Phosphorus Initiative - 4 grants

The Phosphorus Initiative is a cooperative undertaking between MDARD and USDA NRCS to accelerate and enhance the implementation of conservation practices aimed to reduce phosphorus and sediment in Michigan. Through this program, four conservation district technicians provide technical assistance to farmers and landowners through conservation planning, practice design, and inspection of installed practices using USDA Farm Bill programs. This effort helps strengthen, increase, and encourage voluntary participation of private landowners in implementing practices that reduce soil erosion, protect topsoil, and improve water quality.

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Genessee*	\$21,210.00
Hillsdale	\$10,380.00
Shiawassee	\$10,830.00

\*These counties have more than one grant.