Soil Health Specialist Training

Expectations and Support

January 21, 2020
Goals

- 20 students will teach 400 farmers operating 80,000 acres about soil health techniques.

- Fifty farmers informed by our beneficiaries will conduct a soil health assessment, develop a soil health plan, or implement a soil health practice such as cover cropping, reduced tillage, crop rotation and nutrient management trial or demonstration.

- Additional 40 farmers and 100 additional farm advisors will attend the 4 field days associated with the workshops (February, 2020).
Expectations

- Teacher Tool Kit (February 2020)
- Stipends to conduct workshops (February 2021)
- Verification/Semi-annual progress reports (July/November each year) (February 2021)
- Success stories about working with farmers (February 2021)
- Exit Survey to assess the impacts of the project on work with farmers (February 2021)
Stipends

• $300 stipend available as reimbursement to support local soil health related event:
  • Presentations, workshops, field days, tours, demonstrations, on-farm technical assistance

• Stipends may be used for, but not necessarily limited to the following:
  • Speaker expenses; demonstration materials; transportation for tours; meeting room expenses; portable rest rooms; field analyses/assessments; printing costs for hand-outs/resources, agendas, etc., signage materials; and digging of soil pits., soil health assessments.

• Beneficiaries will be required to complete a Stipend Request Form prior to their event outlining the activity, expected attendance, what the stipend will be used for and a cost estimate.

• After the event has occurred, beneficiaries are to submit a Stipend Reimbursement Request Form and include information such as the name, date, location of activity, final attendance, copy of the activity’s agenda when relevant, and photographs. Itemized expenses with receipts are also required. Funds must be spent prior to January 31, 2021.

• Don’t forget to track your events or technical assistance with the “SARE AFT Outreach and TA Tracking” tool.

All forms and tracking tools are available at: https://soilhealth.cals.cornell.edu/workshops/american-farmland-trust/
PRACTICAL SOIL HEALTH SPECIALIST STIPEND REQUEST FORM

Specialist’s Name: 
Address: 
Contact Number: 
Contact Email: 

Check one:
[ ] I have enclosed a signed IRS W-9 Taxpayer Identification form.
[ ] A signed IRS W-9 Taxpayer Identification form is already on file with American Farmland Trust

Activity Type*: 
Activity Name: 
Activity Date: 
Activity Location: 
Expected attendance: 
Brief Description of Event:

Brief description of how the funds will be used:

Please submit the completed form to: 
Aaron Ristow
New York State Agricultural Stewardship Program Manager
aristow@farmland.org

*Workshop/field day, Meeting, Presentation/Demonstration, Farm Tour, Webinar, Podcast, Video, Fact Sheet or Technical Resource, Article, Other
Semi-annual reporting – July/November

What have you learned about topics surrounding soil health since last report?

What experience have you gained surrounding soil health management since the last report?

Are there any additional training needs for you that have arisen since the last workshop?

Do you have any suggestions about the challenges of convincing farmers to improve their soil health?

Please explain how the Training helped you effectively reach farmers

Do you have any additional comments?
Tracking and reporting tools

- Registration Template
- Outreach Tracking
- Technical Assistance (TA) Tracking
- Media Tracking
- Semi-annual report
Next Webinar

Late February
8am to 9pm

Zoom meeting information to be sent out soon!
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