

Tax Credits Available to Farmers for Water, Soil Quality Investments

By Ann State Rep. Ann Flood

SLATE BELT - The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is now accepting applications for tax credits through the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) program for agricultural producers who implement best management practices or purchase equipment to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff, which enhances soil and improves the quality of Pennsylvania's waterways.

A total of \$13 million is available to fund the tax credits. Recipients can combine the credits with other state funding, including the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, the Chesapeake Bay Program or Conservation Excellence Grants.

Farmers may receive REAP tax credits of 50% to 75% of the project's eligible out-of-pocket costs. Farmers whose operation is in a watershed with an EPA-mandated Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) can receive REAP tax credits of 90% of out-of-pocket costs for some projects.

REAP applications are reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. More information is available at agriculture.pa.gov.



Connecting to Nature in Northampton County

By Becky Bartlett

EASTON - Sherry Acevedo is an experienced photographer who often takes photographs of the open space she works to preserve at her job as Northampton County's Conservation Coordinator. Some of her photos will be featured in an exhibit at the Nurture Nature Center—Delaware Gallery at 518 Northampton Street, Easton, PA from September 10th through November 4, 2022: Connecting to Nature in Northampton County, Featuring Nature in Northampton County Parks and Open Spaces. An opening reception will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2022, from 1-4 pm with Special Remarks scheduled at 2:00 pm.

This exhibit is a project in collaboration with Northampton County Parks and Recreation, the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, Inc., PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape, Friends of Minsi Lake, and the Nurture Nature Center.

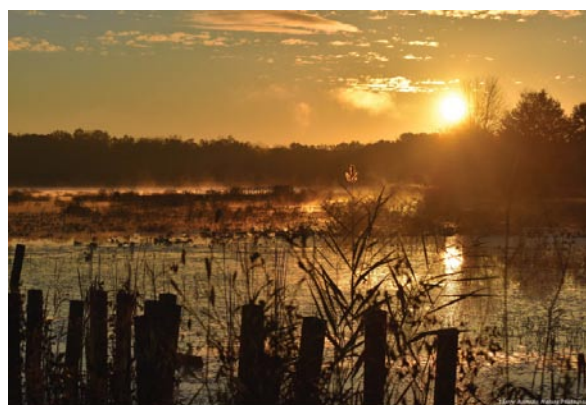
"The Nurture Nature Center is excited to host this exhibit, which so beautifully portrays some of our community's most valuable assets and the work that is being done to protect and preserve them. Not only is Acevedo a gifted photographer, but her 28 years of experience in conservation work make this a particularly rich show from both an artistic and environmental focus." — Keri Maxfield, Art Director, Nurture Nature Center.

"Northampton County has a strong commitment to both expand and protect our parks, trails and open spaces," says County Executive Lamont McClure. "Sherry Acevedo's work shows why it is so important to safeguard these areas so future generations will be able to enjoy them the way we do now."

Sherry captures landscapes, wildlife, people enjoying nature, her family recreating, and conservation work in her photography through her lifetime. She has been a Recreation and Leisure Services Park Professional for the past 28 years dedicated to park, trail, and greenway planning and stewardship, grant administration, open space advocacy and preservation, and environmental education. Currently, Sherry is the Conservation Coordinator with the Northampton County Division of Parks and Recreation administering the Livable Landscapes Grant Program, regional trail network planning and implementation, conservation, and open space acquisition and easements.

She was raised around photography from the beautiful photos her late mother took, learned from a former boss at Wildlands Conservancy who was a professional photographer, and continued with photography as a hobby from inspiration in her professional career and personal life. Her photos tell a story of our environment's beauty, human connection to nature, and overall quality of life. Sherry is honored to share her photographs and educate on the value of native habitat, wildlife, open space, and need to conserve natural resources for future generations.

This exhibit is supported in part by Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts through the Nurture Nature Center. Completed in partnership with the Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape. Funding was provided in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, Environmental Stewardship Fund, administered by the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, Inc.



Connecting to Nature in Northampton County

PHOTO EXHIBIT BY SHERRY L. ACEVEDO

NURTURE NATURE CENTER, EASTON PA – Sept. 10th through Nov. 4th, 2022

HUNT ELK IN PENNSYLVANIA



APPLICATION FEE
ONLY \$11.97 PER SEASON

THE SEED FARM SPOTLIGHT

Save the Date

We're excited to announce The Seed Farm's first ever Fall Plant Sale!

The Fall Plant Sale will feature a variety of cold and frost tolerant plants, perfect for harvesting in the fall and winter.

Join us in-person at the farm and purchase from a wide selection of vegetables, herbs, and flowers!

August 20th - 9 am - 3 pm

August 21st - 11 am - 2 pm

FALL
PLANT
SALE

Saturday, August 20, 2022
from 9am to 3pm

Sunday, August 21, 2022
from 11am to 2pm

 **Second Harvest**
FOOD BANK
of the Lehigh Valley and Northeast Pennsylvania

6969 Silver Crest Road
Nazareth, PA 18064
484.287.4015 • secondharvestlv.org

PROGRAM OF
**COMMUNITY
ACTION** LEHIGH VALLEY

