

Cost-Share Application Guidelines

INTRODUCTION

The Bitterroot Conservation District Board has set aside \$20,000 per year to sponsor conservation measures within Ravalli County. The funding is generated through Ravalli County tax revenues. Therefore, all projects must be done within Ravalli County.

PROGRAM LIMITATIONS

The cost-share program is available to landowners who are proposing projects that will enhance or benefit natural resources on private land within Ravalli County. Landowners may only apply for one project a year. However, the project may be composed of multiple practices (EXAMPLE: Spring Development, Fencing, Re-vegetation and Weed Control). Project work done prior to approval of an application will not be refundable. Only on the ground projects are eligible and all projects must be completed within a year of approval. Studies or research projects will not be funded.

FUNDING

The District will fund 70 percent of a project up to a maximum of \$7,000.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fill out all the questions completely and include proposed costs. Incomplete applications will not be processed.
2. Enclose a good map with the location of each proposed practice clearly drawn out on the map

RANKING CRITERIA

All project applications are ranked on the merit of the project proposal and benefit to a natural resource of area concern.

COST-SHARE CONTRACT

Upon acceptance of the project, the District and Landowner(s) will enter into a signed contract for the practices funded.

PROJECT LIFE-SPAN

Projects must be maintained for the "life-span" of the practice. Example: Fencing 10 years, etc.

PAYMENT

Only practices initiated and completed within the contract time frame will be reimbursed. The landowner is required to pay the upfront costs of a project. After completion of a project the landowner will contact the Conservation District, and submit all project expense receipts. A formal follow-up inspection will be conducted to determine that the project meets the standards set out by the contract agreement. Once approved, the landowner will be reimbursed according to actual expenses not to exceed \$7000.00.