

Capital Equipment Assistance Program

Financial assistance is available for new or innovative equipment that will aid in the reduction of surface runoff of agricultural wastes to State waters, improve water quality of State waters, reduce odors from manure application, separate phosphorus from manure, decrease greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce costs to farmers when they apply manure or implement a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP).

Eligibility: Eligible applicants include custom applicators, nonprofit organizations, and Vermont farms required to comply with the Required Agricultural Practices. Applicants are limited to one application per individual farm operation, organization, or entity per funding opportunity. If you have applied in the past and not been awarded a grant agreement, you are still eligible to reapply under a new funding opportunity.



Eligible Equipment Types and Funding Rates:

Equipment Type	Examples of Eligible Equipment	Funding Rates
Precision Agricultural Equipment <i>(Educational training on equipment or technology use required if awarded)</i>	- GPS, Flow Meter & Display Unit - Manure or Harvest Constituent Sensor	90% cost-share up to \$25,000 per applicant
Conservation Tillage Equipment	- No-Till Corn Planter - Ridge-Till	90% cost-share up to \$10,000 per applicant, OR (90% cost-share up to \$20,000 only if applying for equipment AND precision agriculture component to be used in conjunction with equipment)
Cover Crop Equipment	- No-Till Grain Drill - Roller Crimper	90% cost-share up to \$40,000 per applicant, OR (90% cost-share up to \$50,000 only if applying for equipment AND precision agriculture component to be used in conjunction with equipment)
Waste Management Equipment*	- Injectors* - Irrigation* - Dragline system*	90% cost-share up to \$50,000 per applicant, OR (90% cost-share up to \$60,000 only if applying for equipment AND precision agriculture component to be used in conjunction with equipment)
Silage Management Equipment**	- Balers/Wrappers**	90% cost-share up to \$50,000 per applicant
Other Innovative Conservation Equipment	- Other Equipment	90% cost-share up to \$50,000 per applicant <i>Award amount may vary depending on the project type, cost and expected results.</i>

*Waste management equipment only eligible for funding if precision manure record keeping system [GPS, Flow Meter & Display Unit] are included in application, or operational unit exists on farm to be used in conjunction with proposed equipment.

**Feed management equipment eligible only as an alternative to leachate management improvement as least cost alternative, and will require VAAFM Engineer site visit to ensure eligibility.

Please note the following information about this grant program:

- Applicants are limited to one application per individual farm operation, organization, or entity.
- Applicants are highly encouraged to apply online to ensure a timely and systematized receipt of applications.
- Equipment cannot be purchased prior to a fully executed grant agreement.
- Applicants approved for funding must submit detailed annual reports, which must include detailed maps, stating and documenting use of the equipment each year for three (3) years in order to account for the nutrient reductions occurring as a result of state financial assistance for this equipment.
- Acreage figures committed/included on a CEAP application will be performance measures in the grant award if selected for funding. This means you may be required to repay funds if you don't meet the acreage goals you provide in the application. These figures cannot be altered after application submission.
- All applicants awarded a CEAP grant must pay 10% of the total eligible equipment cost, (shipping/freight fees are not eligible for reimbursement cost).
- CEAP is a reimbursement style grant program, which means applicants, once selected for funding, will have to purchase 100% of the equipment and will be reimbursed by the State up to 90% of the actual cost, or up to the corresponding funding cap by category.
- Manure management equipment only eligible for funding if record keeping system included in application, or operational unit exists on farm to be used in conjunction with proposed equipment.
- Disablement of any CEAP funded equipment including flow meter, display, and GPS manure record keeping technology can cause cancellation or require repayment of a CEAP grant.

Applications can be found online at agriculture.vermont.gov/ceap or by contacting the Water Quality Division at (802) 828-2431.