

Animal Waste____
 Karst____
 Grazingland____
 Water Quality and Quantity____

EQIP Ranking Criteria
 EASTERN PANHANDLE
 CONSERVATION DISTRICT

JUNE 2003
 GRAZINGLAND/LIVESTOCK

Points can only be earned when there is an environmental concern to be addressed by the implementation of a Conservation Management System. If the applicant is already doing the conservation practice that eliminates an environmental concern, then points will not be assigned. Points will be awarded as written on the worksheet and not arbitrarily reduced. The Local Work Group for the Eastern Panhandle will award funds to the applicant with the highest number of points for BOTH GRAZINGLAND/LIVESTOCK AND CROPLAND.

CONSERVATION PRACTICE	PRACTICE EXTENT	POINT CRITERIA	POINTS AWARDED	PRACTICE CODE
SOIL CONDITION / SOIL EROSION				
Reduce excessive erosion from Class 7 grassland or critically eroding areas by land use conversion to forestland.		20 points		342-612-391-386
Improve soil tilth and reduce excessive erosion by the conversion of cropland to pastureland or hayland (Class III or higher only).		20 points		512-511
Improve surface water quality by developing water facilities to encourage total pasture utilization.		30 points		614-516 642
Improve soil quality, reduce erosion and improve animal health by developing and implementing a prescribed grazing plan.		Continuous Grazing - 9+ days = 10 points Rotational Grazing - 5-8 days = 20 points Management Intensive Grazing - 1-4 days = 30 points		528A-512 382
Utilize extended grazing to reduce confinement periods, as part of a prescribed grazing plan.		1 month extension = 5 points 2 month extension = 10 points 3 month extension = 15 points		528A
Establish warm season grasses to improve grazing management during the summer grazing slump.		20 points		512

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Establish a pasture planting of endophyte free fescue or other pasture mixes that follow pasture and hayland standards and specifications to improve both forage quality and wildlife habitat.		10 points endophyte free fescue 20 points other pasture mix		512
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SOIL CONDITION / SOIL EROSION				
Reduce compaction, improve regeneration, and develop proper stand population on the forest landscape by excluding livestock.		20 points		382-391-472
AIR QUALITY				
Establish windbreaks to reduce potential airborne odors and pathogens from leaving farm.		10 points		380
WATER QUALITY				
Improve surface water quality by implementing stream crossings for livestock or equipment.		20 points		728-342-382
Divert overland flow of clean water from existing permanent livestock feeding areas. (e.g. diversion, gutters, etc.)		20 points		558-362 412-606
Reduce excessive nutrient application by establishing a nutrient management plan or an animal waste utilization plan. A current soil test is required. Application rate of nutrients must follow the nutrient management plan. Nutrient Management Plan is to be comprehensive.		25 points		590 - CNMP
Improve surface water quality by establishing a filter strip/buffer area between water resource and pastureland or feedlot. *Minimum width 35 feet.		25 points		393A-342-391 472-314-382-612- 644

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ANIMAL WASTE				
Improve water quality and utilization of nutrients from animal waste by relocating an established concentrated winter feeding area.		Points awarded based on relocation distance from concentrated flow area, stream, or sinkhole: 100-200 feet = 10 points 200-300+ feet = 20 points		757-561 560-342
Reduce surface water quality problems by constructing a waste storage facility.		50 points dry manure storage 75 points wet manure storage		313-633-312
Reduce potential spread of pathogens and disease, reduce potential water pollution by organic agricultural waste, and control odor by constructing a composter.		20 points		317A-312-318 633
SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS				
Distance of high residential development (i.e. housing subdivision) to farm operation will be considered because of the required increase in management practices.		<500 ft = 20 points 500 ft to 0.5 mile=15 points 0.5 mile to 1.5 mile=10 points		
BONUS				
Improvement of identified conservation concerns by applying at a Resource Management System level.		20 points		
Points awarded for only practice codes in bold print.		TOTAL = (maximum 430 points)		