



Keystone Chapter

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COVER CROP DEMONSTRATION PLOT MINI-GRANT PROGRAM

The Keystone Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) is offering an exciting opportunity to further the goals of soil and water conservation through the promotion of cover crops. The Keystone Chapter will be sponsoring up to **five \$250 cover crop demonstration plots** around the state. The purpose of this sponsorship will be to establish demonstration plots that highlight either common cover crops that need more emphasis in your area, new cover crops (such as mixtures), or establishment techniques and timing. Emphasis should be given to using cover crops to provide one or more services, such as, **management of compaction, nitrogen fixing or uptake, water infiltration and building organic matter**. The SWCS will pay for seed and/or other expenses for establishment of the cover crop and/or the field day. A field day to showcase results is a required component of this grant. It can be held in either the fall or spring season. If an agency applies for the grant, a peer farmer must be a participant in the cover crop establishment. If a farmer applies for the grant, at least one agricultural agency/organization must be involved.

When developing advertising & outreach materials for the event, we ask that you include our organization and logo as an event sponsor. We also ask that you notify us of the field day date so that we can inform our members about the event. Upon completion of the activity, applicants will complete a brief summary report using a template that will be provided.

The application submittal period begins on March 1 and closes on April 30 of each calendar year. Please email applications to lblazure@stroudcenter.org. **Successful grant applicants will be notified by June 1.**

Sincerely,
Keystone Chapter SWCS Outreach Committee

Lisa Blazure, Lamonte Garber, Sjoerd Duiker, Gary Smith



COVER CROP DEMONSTRATION PLOT KEYSTONE SWCS MINI-GRANT APPLICATION

Application Options

1. An agency/organization may apply and must include a peer farmer.
2. A farmer may apply and must include an ag agency/organization.

Location/Contact Information

County:

Contact Person:

Address:

Contact Agency:

Phone:

Email:

(please list other cooperating agencies in the additional comments section)

For agency/organization applicant – What is the Peer farmer’s name:

For farmer applicant – Cooperating Agency Signatures

This grant will not be considered unless one of the following, not including the contact person’s affiliation, are involved in the activity; the Conservation District, Extension, RC&D Council, NRCS, Other. Additional credit will be given for additional partners.

Partner(s) Organization:

Partner(s) Signature:

What cover crop education programs are most needed in your area? What is the primary purpose of this cover crop? What crop will it follow? *It is highly

recommended that a cover crop mixture be considered in order to show the added benefits of mixing species. Assistance will be provided if needed for selection or consult the NRCS Cover Crop Standard for planting dates.

Do you have the land and equipment secured in order to establish the demonstration plot? Please explain the arrangements you have made, including the approx. size of plot(s) (recommended size is less than ½ acre, exceptions may be allowed)

How many people do you estimate will participate in your field day? (producers and agency).

What do you anticipate will be your main expenses that this grant money would be used for?

Any additional comments:

Please email application to lblazure@stroudcenter.org by April 30th.