

(4) The [Pilot] Project shall be implemented in conjunction with the Manure Matching Service set forth in § 8-704.1 of this subtitle.

(c) The purpose of the [Pilot] Project is to establish a cost-share matching program to assist in the transportation of poultry or livestock manure from farms [over a period of 4 years]:

(1) To be used on land with soil having the capacity to hold additional phosphorus; or

(2) To be used in environmentally acceptable ways other than land application.

(d) The State shall provide funding for the [Pilot] Project by matching the amount of funds contributed by the commercial poultry producer industry for eligible costs, as determined by the Department, associated with the transportation and handling of poultry litter. The State share may not exceed \$10 per ton for poultry manure or 87.5% up to \$20 per ton for livestock manure.

(e) The Department of Agriculture shall adopt regulations authorizing the disbursement of cost-share matching funds consistent with the purposes of the [Pilot] Project.

(f) The Department of Agriculture shall provide the assistance necessary to ensure that poultry or livestock manure is tested in accordance with departmental procedures before transportation of the manure occurs.

8-803.1.

(a) In this section, "gross income" means the actual income that is received in a calendar year that results directly from the farm or agricultural use of the land.

(b) This section does not apply to:

(1) An agricultural operation with less than \$2,500 in gross income; or

(2) A livestock operation with less than eight animal units defined as 1,000 pounds of live animal weight per animal unit.

(c) The Governor shall provide sufficient funding in each fiscal year's budget to:

(1) Assist in the development of nutrient management plans;

(2) Meet the technical assistance and evaluation requirements of this section;

(3) Meet the State's requirements for the implementation of the Manure Transportation [Pilot] Project under § 8-704.2 of this title; and

(4) Provide State assistance under the Maryland Agricultural Water Quality Cost Share Program in the Department.