



American Farmland Trust
Soil Health Stewards Funding Agreement

March 7, 2022

Congratulations, Fayette County Rural Land Management Board, Inc.

On behalf of American Farmland Trust (AFT), we are pleased to award the Fayette County Rural Land Management Board, Inc a *Soil Health Stewards* Program Grant (“Grant”) for \$10,000. With this grant and the associated training, we look forward to helping build your organization’s capacity to promote soil health practices with the landowners and producers with whom you work, including those on protected farm and ranch land. Funding for this award is generously provided by USDA’s Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). This Funding Agreement (“Agreement”) sets forth the terms of the Grant.

Payment of Grant Funds:

This Grant is intended to support the important activities outlined in your Grant application. Upon receipt of a countersigned copy of this Agreement, AFT will disburse Grant funds to you with the following schedule:

- \$3,000 sent prior to virtual training on April 26, 2022
- \$3,000 sent once *Soil Health Stewards* Action Plan is submitted by May 31, 2022
- \$4,000 sent upon completion of evaluation by April 30, 2023

In consideration of the disbursement of the Grant, you agree to utilize the Grant exclusively for the purposes specified in your application as awarded by AFT. If your circumstances change and adjustments are needed in your Grant, please contact Beth Fraser (bfraser@farmland.org), as soon as possible. Adjustments to the Grant may be made solely at AFT’s discretion and must be approved in writing.

Use of Grant Funds:

Grant funds shall be used in a manner consistent with your application. Your organization agrees to refund to AFT any funds that AFT determines were misused, used in an illegal manner, or used in contravention of their application or if there are other violations of the terms of this letter agreement. AFT may terminate this Grant if any breach occurs, or your organization fails to perform any of your obligations under this letter agreement.

Reporting and Record Keeping:

You will be responsible for completing an evaluation of progress made on the *Soil Health Stewards* Action Plan. The evaluation will be verbal via phone call before April 30, 2023.

By close of business, March 21, 2022, please submit the following to Beth Fraser (bfraser@farmland.org).

Failure to complete these tasks by March 21 may jeopardize the dispersal of funds.

- A signed copy of this agreement
- A copy of your organization’s W9
- Names, emails, and mailing address of staff attending the virtual training (because this is a virtual event, we plan to mail materials ahead of time. Mailing addresses will not be used for any other purpose).
- **Complete short pre-training survey submitted by each attending staff. Submit survey using this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CQ8SY5Q>**

Publicity and Announcement:

AFT looks forward to working with you to share stories of how your organization is engaging producers and landowners around soil health. While not a requirement of the grant, we do hope that you will join us in identifying ways to highlight the good work the agricultural land protection community is doing to promote soil health. AFT plans to share via social media and our website the names of entities that are participating in the

training. By participating in this grant program, you agree to have your land trust or agency listed as such an entity.

Final Details:

You may not assign or transfer this Agreement or the benefit of this Agreement (in whole or in part). By signing this Agreement, you agree to the terms included herein.

Please return a copy of the fully executed letter. This Agreement may be executed in any number of identical counterparts each of which shall be considered an original but together shall constitute but one and the same agreement. Delivery of an executed counterpart's signature page of this Agreement, by facsimile, electronic mail in portable document format (.pdf), or by any other electronic means (including typed text), has the same effect as delivery of an executed original of this Agreement.

AFT is honored to work with you to strengthen opportunities for increased soil health practices on protected agricultural land. Thank you for participating in the *Soil Health Stewards* program!!

Sign/Print Name: Linda Gorton

Date: 3/16/2022



Cris Coffin
NALN Director and Senior Policy Advisor
American Farmland Trust