



PROJECT CATEGORIES AND REQUIREMENTS

A partnership of:



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LIVESTOCK ACCESS RESTRICTION TO WATERCOURSES

Cost-Share Rate: 50% Maximum Payment: \$4,000

Purpose:

- To improve local water quality through the reduction and elimination of animal waste contamination by restricting livestock access to water sources

Eligibility:

- All necessary permits/permissions must be obtained prior to construction

Eligible Projects:

- Fencing along watercourses and wetlands
- Livestock crossings
- Alternative watering devices

Project Details:*Fencing*

- Only fencing along a ditch/watercourse or wetland will be considered.
- Temporary fencing will be considered eligible but will require a signed agreement requiring the applicant to install the fence prior to livestock being introduced to the pasture every year and to maintain the fence while livestock are present in the pasture.
- Maximum cost share will not exceed \$3.50/foot installed or \$2.50/foot for materials.
- Fencing must be at least 10 feet from the top of the bank of any watercourse unless access for drain maintenance is required. Setbacks will be confirmed by the applicant with the local Drainage Superintendent prior to installation.

Crossings

- Crossings can be mid-level, low flow crossings, bed level or above-flow crossings.
- To be eligible for cost-share on a crossing, fencing along the watercourse must either be undertaken concurrently, or livestock must already be restricted from the watercourse. For a bed level crossing, both sides of the crossing must be gated and the management plan must include driving livestock through the crossing.

Alternative Watering Systems

- Watering systems are eligible for funding only where livestock are restricted from the watercourse.

NOTE: Projects in and around waterways and ditches may need approval by municipalities, MNR, or the Conservation Authority prior to implementation. In addition, any work done on municipal drains requires prior approval from the municipality. The applicant is responsible for acquiring all necessary approvals at the applicant's expense.

Eligible Costs:

- Engineering fees
- Labour
- Permanent or temporary fencing
- Alternative watering devices such as nose pumps, spring boxes, wind and solar powered pumping units; other systems may be considered.

Ineligible Costs:

- New operations or a change in management
- Primary hydro lines
- Permits
- Cost of drilling new wells
- Labour and machinery use of the applicant, family dependents and the applicant's business

EROSION CONTROL MEASURES

Cost-Share Rate: 50% Maximum Payment: \$4,000

Purpose:

- To improve local water quality through the reduction and elimination of erosion and sedimentation to water sources.

Eligibility:

- All necessary permits/permissions must be obtained prior to construction
- Projects should be designed/constructed to the standards specified in the OMAFRA Soil Erosion Manual

Eligible Projects:

- Grass waterways
- Water and sediment control basins
- Terraces
- Streambank stabilization including ditch bank seeding, spillway drop structures, culvert protection and bioengineering techniques
- Drop structures

Project Details:

- The chance of obtaining funding for erosion control projects will be enhanced if conservation tillage practices are used on adjacent fields.
- Design by professional engineers may be advisable on complex and/or large projects. Supervision of construction is not mandatory, yet may be specified as required by program representatives on large and/or complex projects.
- Projects should be designed to the standards specified in the OMAFRA Soil Erosion Manual by a certified soil erosion control contractor. A list of certified contractors can be found at:
<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/engineer/facts/soilerosioncontractors.htm>
- Projects should be constructed by a certified erosion control contractor or completed by an experienced contractor.
- Projects must utilize proper sediment control measures (i.e., silt fencing).
- Projects must obtain approval from appropriate agencies prior to construction. In addition, any work completed on municipal drains also requires prior approval from the municipality.
- All collected water must be taken to a sufficient and legal outlet.
- Plant species must be native to Elgin County unless otherwise agreed upon by CA staff.
- In most instances, large stock trees will not be eligible for cost-sharing unless strong reasoning can be provided by CA staff or private consultants for alternate stock

Eligible Costs:

- Assessment, design and construction costs
- Contractor labour
- Supervision
- Approved construction materials

Ineligible Costs:

- Permits
- Systematic tile and other subsurface drainage systems that are not an integral part of erosion control structure
- Erosion control works on Lake Erie shoreline or valleylands influenced by lake erosional processes
- Construction of new drainage channels or repair of existing drainage systems (i.e., drainage ditch clean-outs)
- Costs associated with acquiring/planting invasive or non-native plant species
- Labour and machinery use of the applicant, family dependents and the applicant's business

DECOMMISSIONING UNUSED WELLS

Cost-Share Rate: 50% Maximum Payment: \$500

Purpose:

- To prevent groundwater contamination via improperly abandoned or unused wells by encouraging the proper decommissioning of wells that are dry or no longer used.
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Eligibility:

- Projects must comply with MOE's procedures for decommissioning or abandoning an unused water well (as per *O. Reg. 903/90* amended to *O. Reg. 128/03*). Details of the procedure must be documented on a water well record.
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Eligible Projects:

- Proper decommissioning of unused wells (dug, bored or drilled) by a licensed contractor (as per *O. Reg. 903/90* amended to *O. Reg. 128/03*).
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Project Details:

- Projects must comply with MOE's procedures for decommissioning or abandoning an unused water well (as per *O. Reg. 903/90* amended to *O. Reg. 128/03*). Details of the procedure must be documented on a water well record.
 - A copy of the well record must be submitted upon completion of the project to the MOE and a photocopy of the well record to the local CA
 - Well pits must be properly decommissioned.
 - All appropriate permits as required by the appropriate agency will be obtained at the applicant's expense.
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Eligible Costs:

- Licensed contractor fees
 - Materials associated with the proper well decommissioning procedures
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Ineligible Costs:

- Permits
- Labour and machinery use of the applicant, family dependents and the applicant's business

WELLHEAD PROTECTION

Cost-Share Rate: 50% Maximum Payment: \$500

Purpose:

- To reduce the risk of contamination of well water by implementing proper construction and maintenance practices and safeguards for existing wells.
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Eligibility:

- Any works involving alteration to the well, must be completed by a licensed well contractor (as per *O. Reg. 903/90* amended to *O. Reg. 128/03*).
 - All necessary permits/permissions must be obtained prior to construction
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Eligible Projects:

- Installing pitless adapter to replace drilled well parts
 - Grading and permanently seeding soil surface around well
 - Sealing annular space around well casing
 - Upgrading or replacement of dilapidated casing
 - Extending well casing to 16 inches (40 cm) above finished grade
 - Proper wellhead caps
 - Landscaping to divert water away from wellhead
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Project Details:

- Landowners are encouraged to hire a licensed contractor to do the work. If the work involves any alteration to the well, it must be done by a licensed well contractor (as per *O. Reg. 903/90* amended to *O. Reg. 128/03*). Details of the procedure must be documented on a water well record.
 - Well pits must be properly decommissioned when a drilled well casing is extended.
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Eligible Costs:

- Licensed contractor fees
 - Materials and labour
 - Wiring and plumbing costs associated with the well upgrades
 - Baseline water quality tests
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Ineligible Costs:

- Permits
- Water purification or treatment systems
- Drilling of new wells
- Connections to municipal water supply
- Labour and machinery use of the applicant, family dependents and the applicant's business

CLEAN WATER DIVERSION

Cost-Share Rate: 50% Maximum Payment: \$4,000

Purpose:

- To reduce the amount of contaminated runoff from manure storages and exercise yards by diverting clean rain and snow meltwater away from sources of contamination to a satisfactory outlet.
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Eligibility

- All necessary permits/permissions must be obtained prior to construction
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Eligible Projects:

- Eavestroughs that direct water away from exercise yards and manure storage areas
 - Clean water diversion structures such as berms and ditches that direct clean water away from an exercise yard or manure storage
 - Any other permanent technique to keep rain and snow from becoming contaminated by manure, or adding to the volume of contaminated runoff
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Project Details:

- Downspouts located where livestock can access them must be made of Schedule 40 PVC (or stronger materials) and be well secured to prevent dislodging.
 - All clean water diversion projects must discharge clean water away from any source of contamination and not pose other hazards such as soil erosion.
 - Berms, tile outlets and ditches must be properly constructed.
 - Debris traps must be installed on all downspouts.
 - All appropriate permits as required by the appropriate agency will be obtained at the applicant's expense.
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Eligible Costs:

- Materials and labour associated with the approved project
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Ineligible Costs:

- Permits
- Paving of exercise yards
- Labour and machinery use of the applicant, family dependents and the applicant's business

WETLAND AND RIPARIAN HABITAT ENHANCEMENT/RESTORATION/PROTECTION

Cost-Share Rate: 50% Maximum Payment: \$4,000

Purpose:

- To improve local water quality/quantity, habitat structure, functionality and diversity to support healthy and diverse aquatic and terrestrial communities.
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Eligibility:

- All necessary permits/permissions must be obtained prior to construction
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Eligible Projects:

- Preservation, restoration or creation of wetlands
 - Riparian habitat creation/restoration
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Project Details:

- Livestock must be restricted from the project area.
 - All appropriate permits as required by the appropriate agency will be obtained at the applicant's expense.
 - Municipal approval must be obtained for any alteration of existing drainage works.
 - Plant species must be native to the County of Elgin or otherwise agreed upon by CA staff.
 - In most instances, large stock trees will not be eligible for cost-sharing unless strong reasoning can be provided by CA staff or private consultants for alternate stock
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Eligible Costs:

- Assessment and design costs
 - Materials and labour associated with the approved project
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Ineligible Costs:

- Permits
- Costs associated with acquiring/planting invasive or non-native plant species
- Labour and machinery use of the applicant, family dependents and the applicant's business

OTHER PROJECTS

Cost-Share Rate: 50% **Maximum Payment: \$4,000**

Purpose:

- Innovative projects may be proposed which do not fit into any of the existing categories. The Other Projects category is proposed to offer assistance for new projects if they are able to demonstrate improved water quality or overall watershed health.
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Eligibility:

- Innovative projects which do not fit into any of the existing categories.
 - Projects must demonstrate improved water quality or overall watershed health.
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Project Details:

- Other Projects grants can complement a project that is eligible for another project category.
 - All appropriate permits as required by the appropriate agency will be obtained at the applicant's expense.
 - Plant species must be native to the County of Elgin unless otherwise agreed upon by CA staff.
 - In most instances, large stock trees will not be eligible for cost-sharing unless strong reasoning can be provided by CA staff or private consultants for alternate stock.
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Eligible Costs:

- Project design
 - Project monitoring
 - Licensed contractor fees
 - Materials and labour associated with the approved project
 - Items not covered in the other project categories will be at the discretion of the program Review Committee
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Ineligible Costs:

- Permits
- Labour and machinery use of the applicant, family dependents and the applicant's business