

INTRODUCTION

The Gallatin Conservation District Board is offering a cost share program up to \$10,000 from its funding to sponsor conservation measures within Gallatin County. These are Gallatin County tax dollars; all proposed projects must be completed within Gallatin County and within the Gallatin CD's boundary.

PROGRAM LIMITATIONS

The Cost-Share program is available to any private sector landowner with property within Gallatin County, except for the main city portion of Belgrade and Bozeman (see map on website). These areas are not within the CD boundary. There is a limit of one project per person or group per year. All projects must be completed within one year of approval. We encourage multiple practices within proposed projects.

There are four areas the CD will consider funding:

- 1) Water Conservation projects (i.e. going from flood to sprinkler, native landscaping, etc.)
- 2) Soil Conservation projects (i.e. native landscaping, improving soil conditions, creating/enhancing growing space, etc.)
- 3) Irrigation Monitoring devices, (i.e. installing water monitoring/measuring devices)
- 4) Weed control (i.e. hiring a professional to spray weeds, etc.)

Applicants may be required to create a management plan or the ability to complete a management plan prior to project completion. All applicants must have participated in an on-site pre-inspection with the Conservation District prior to beginning project that is being funded via CD Cost share. Applicants funding request must be placed on meeting agenda and Applicants must present their request at a regularly scheduled board meeting to be considered for funding.

FUNDING

The District will fund up to 50 percent of a project to a maximum of \$1,000 to be paid upon project completion.

-50% maximum provided by Gallatin CD

-50% minimum provided by applicant

Applicant portion can be in the form of cash, in-kind services (i.e. labor), or from other conservation cost-share programs. See cost-list sheet for rates.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fill out all questions completely including proposed costs. **Incomplete applications will not be processed.**
2. Enclose a concise map with the location of each proposed practice clearly detailed on the map. Include color photos of project area(s).
3. One application can have multiple practices on it. (EXAMPLE: Spring development, fencing, revegetation and weed control.)
4. Provide either electronic or hardcopy photos of the proposed project area.

RANKING CRITERIA

All project applications are ranked on several factors which includes the merit of the project proposal and benefit to the resource.

COST-SHARE AGREEMENT

Upon acceptance and approval of the project, the District and Applicant(s) will enter into a signed agreement for the practices funded. The agreement must be signed by both parties before work may take place.

Gallatin CD Cost-Share Program Instructions

PAYMENT

Only practices initiated and completed within the contract time frame will be reimbursed. The landowner must pay the up front costs of the project. When the project has been inspected upon completion and the applicant has turned in the receipts, and post project photos, the applicant will then be reimbursed the awarded amount, up to \$1,000.00.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Applications must be received in the GCD office on the second Thursday of the month to be considered at that months GCD board meeting (held on the third Thursday). Applicants are required to make their funding request in person at a board meeting. All applicants will be notified whether or not they have been funded. A signed contract must be in place before work may begin or charges incurred.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS:

Stream/Riparian/Irrigation

- Streambank protection
- Bridge/culvert improvement
- Channel stabilization
- Spring development
- Riparian buffer strips
- Irrigation structure/diversion
- Fish screen or ladder
- Stock water pipeline
- Riparian fencing
- Other _____

Urban

- Gardening
- Native Landscaping
- Alternative energy
- Other _____

Weed Management

- Prescribed grazing
- Biological control
- Spraying
- Mowing/Re-seeding
- Professional services
- Other _____

Forestry

- Forest stand improvement
- Pest control
- Tree planting
- Wildfire rehabilitation
- Fuels reduction
- Other _____

Pastures

- Fencing
- Water improvement
- Filter strips
- Fertilizing
- Re-seeding native plants
- Trees/shrubbery
- Other _____

Other

- Wildlife habitat improvement
- Alternative Energy _____
- Fire protection
- Equipment _____

Many of the above-mentioned practices are applicable to more than one category of resource improvement. Other ideas and practices not listed may also be considered.

A 310 permit is required for projects in/along perennial streams. Cost share is not available for mitigation of 310 complaints.

No portion of this cost share program will fund rip rap, ponds, controlled burning, studies, surveys, or research projects, lengthen of culverts, aesthetic projects, or any project that may contribute towards pollution or the degradation of soil, water, or vegetation.

Mail signed, completed application to:

2016 Cost Share Program
Gallatin Conservation District
PO Box 569
Manhattan, MT 59741

For questions or assistance please email Marcie at: marcie@gallatincd.org or phone at 282-4350 Ext 1.