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## **Delmarva Chicken Association (DCA) Request for Interest & Qualifications**

### **Creating Cost-Share Programs to Accelerate the Adoption of Sustainable and Resilient Chicken Farming Practices in the Delmarva Peninsula (DE, MD, VA)**

#### **DCA's Mission & Background**

To be the Delmarva chicken industry's voice as the premier membership association focusing on advocacy, education and member relations.

DCA is the 1,600-member trade association working for the common good of the meat chicken industry in Delaware, the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia's Eastern Shore. Our membership includes chicken growers, chicken processing companies and allied businesses that service the chicken industry. We are a non-profit association governed by a Board of Directors.

#### **Project Overview**

DCA has been awarded a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction. This grant will enable DCA to collaborate with partner organizations to create cost-share programs for the adoption of agricultural conservation practices on chicken farms and associated lands. By supporting the implementation of best management practices outlined in the Chesapeake Bay model, these programs will contribute to achieving regional water quality targets.

#### **Project Objectives**

DCA is seeking qualified nursery and landscape professionals to implement conservation practices that prioritize regionally native tree, woody shrub, grass, and pollinator plantings as well as agricultural conservation best management practices that improve soil and water quality in the Chesapeake Bay region. Interested businesses should be familiar with Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) program standards and practices.

DCA will compile a list of interested/qualified businesses for grantees/farms to work with for the implementation of these projects. Since many businesses may be limited in costs by travel/distance, DCA is seeking interested businesses from across the Delmarva Peninsula, so that farms in each area of the peninsula can have access to qualified resources to implement these programs.



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## Guidelines & Requirements for Interested Organizations

### Organizational Information

1. Organization name, address, phone numbers
2. Name, phone numbers, address of individual(s) completing questionnaire
3. Business license number and states licensed
4. Date questionnaire completed (Day/Month/Year)
5. How many landscape professionals are employed by your company and would potentially be involved in implementing these practices on farms?
6. Please briefly describe your company's experience with conservation practices, NRCS standards, and native plantings.
7. What geographic region are you willing/able to work in? Or, what is the preferred distance from your primary business address that you would be willing to take on projects?

### Interest/Qualification Submission Process

**Initial Due Date:** May 10, 2024

**Additional submissions will be continue to be accepted after May 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Who Can Apply:** Nursery & Landscape professionals licensed to conduct business on the Delmarva Peninsula

**Format:** The proposal should be submitted via email to [warren@dcachicken.com](mailto:warren@dcachicken.com) as a Word or PDF file

### Review Process

Due to the nature of this project, there may be many organizations selected by regions throughout Delmarva to provide a list to poultry growers. Proposals will be evaluated immediately thereafter the proposal due date. DCA may require additional Zoom or follow-up meetings. You will be notified if this is requested.

Candidates who meet qualifications will be notified by May 31, 2024.

### DCA Resources

Liz Warren, the Agricultural Conservation Specialist, will be the main contact for the proposal and work completed. She will participate in any assigned meetings, answer questions, and authorize payments.

All inquiries regarding the Request for Interest/Qualifications should be directed to:

Liz Warren, Agricultural Conservation Specialist

[warren@dcachicken.com](mailto:warren@dcachicken.com)

302-542-5131