



Project Summary Chart

State Capital Funds

	FY 2019	FY 2020 Request	FY 2020 Recommended	FY 2021 Request	FY 2022 Request
1. Aglands Preservation Program*	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 10,000,000
2. Combustion Instrument	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -
3. State Forest Building Repairs	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -
4. Cover Crop Investment	\$ -	\$ 2,900,000	\$ 2,900,000	\$ 2,900,000	\$ 2,900,000
5. Irrigation System Conversion	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
6. Agriculture Strategic Business Development Fund	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000
Total	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 15,700,000	\$ 3,700,000	\$ 15,400,000	\$ 15,400,000

*Alternative project funding is recommended from the Realty Transfer Tax.

1. Aglands Preservation Program

Funding is requested for the Agricultural Lands Preservation Program. Including Fiscal Year 2018 funding, the foundation has permanently protected 125,000 acres at a cost of more than \$219.0 million using a combination of state, federal and county funds. Additionally, landowners over the life of the program have donated over \$300.0 million to the foundation - representing a discount of 58 percent of the value of their easements. Landowner interest continues - in the most recent round of easement selections (Round 22), 181 properties were appraised, 64 owners submitted offers and 41 were selected. This request provides sufficient funding to match any federal and county contributions, purchase easements on properties that do not qualify for federal funds, and operate the program.

Funding Schedule

	State	Federal	Other*
FY 2019	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000
FY 2020	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000
FY 2021	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000
FY 2022	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000
Total	\$ -	\$ -	ONGOING

*The source of Other funds is Realty Transfer Tax.

2. Combustion Instrument

Funding is requested to replace the combustion instrument in the Agriculture Compliance Laboratory. This instrument is used for nitrogen, carbon and crude protein analysis on commercial feed, pet food, fertilizer, manure and soil samples; it analyzes nearly all of the samples received by the lab (91 percent). Its test results are used by farmers, consultants and the Delaware Department of Agriculture (DDA) Nutrient Management Program. The current instrument, purchased in 2002, is nearing the end of its service life and thus it is increasingly difficult to find parts. The new instrument will use less energy, reduce analysis time and is fully automated allowing continuous operation.

Agriculture



Additionally, it will increase testing efficiency, reduce costs and allow DDA to continue to provide important nutrient information for fertilizers, commercial and pet feed, and manure.

Funding Schedule

	State	Federal	Other
FY 2020	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -

3. State Forest Building Repairs

Funding is requested to repair structures and roofs at Blackbird and Redden State Forests. This includes one building at Blackbird and seven at Redden. All of the roofs are at least 20 years old and are starting to fail/leak. These structures include the education centers at both State Forests as well as the Redden State Forest office and Lodge. Three of the structures (Redden Office, Redden Lodge, and Redden Education Center) are on the National Register of Historic Places. Replacing the roofs and performing other repairs will help to avoid larger, more costly renovations in the future.

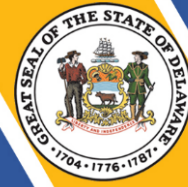
Funding Schedule

	State	Federal	Other
FY 2020	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -

4. Cover Crop Investment

Funding is requested to increase funding for the cover crop program to improve water quality and soil health. These funds help to offset the costs for farmers to plant cover crops (these crops are not harvested and thus do not provide any income for the farmer). Research shows that cover crops are the best tool in Delaware – environmentally and economically – to reduce agricultural nutrient runoff and help improve water quality. Furthermore, cover crops help to mitigate climate change by sequestering carbon, improving soil health, improving resiliency of fields to pests, and reducing the amounts of fertilizers and pesticides required. Additional funding will help Delaware reach its nutrient reduction goals for the Chesapeake Bay as well as for the Inland Bays and Delaware River and Bay. Currently, Delaware farmers plant approximately 80,000 acres of cover crops and with these additional state funds (and potential matching federal funds), this total could at least double. These additional state funds could also be used as a match to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 319 grant funds, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Regional Conservation Partnership Program awards, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grants and other conservation grants for new alternative uses for manure, innovative renewable energy projects, infrastructure for drainage projects and irrigation to improve climate change resiliency, and even new sources of farmland preservation funds.

Agriculture



Funding Schedule

	State	Federal	Other
FY 2020	\$ 2,900,000	\$ -	\$ -
FY 2021	\$ 2,900,000	\$ -	\$ -
FY 2022	\$ 2,900,000	\$ -	\$ -
Total	ONGOING	\$ -	\$ -

5. Irrigation System Conversion

Funding is requested to help farmers convert irrigation systems from diesel power to electric power. The Delaware Electric Cooperative would supplement these State funds to further reduce the conversion cost to farmers. The department estimates that approximately 500 diesel irrigation systems remain in Delaware and replacing them with more energy efficient electrical systems greatly decreases carbon emissions, improves air quality (especially during high ozone days), reduces noise pollution, increases farmers' long-term profitability, and is easily adapted to smart technology.

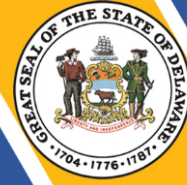
Funding Schedule

	State	Federal	Other
FY 2020	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -
FY 2021	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -
FY 2022	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -
Total	ONGOING	\$ -	\$ -

6. Agriculture Strategic Business Development Fund

Funding is requested to create a business development program to help maintain and expand Delaware's largest industry – agriculture. Often business development programs do not target agriculture and/or are not familiar with the agricultural industry; this program, working with the Delaware Prosperity Partnership, would provide funding specifically for Delaware's food and fiber producers and processors, and other agricultural resource-based businesses, to innovate and thrive into the future. It will include collaboration with public and private sector partners to educate and fund promising business proposals. Emphasis will focus on retaining existing resource-based industries, promoting entrepreneurship, and assisting emerging or expanding agricultural and resource-based enterprises. The program will also collaborate with appropriate partners to assess the needs and opportunities available locally and abroad, including strategizing how best to engage with international organizations to promote Delaware products and resources for export.

Agriculture



Funding Schedule

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FY 2020	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -
FY 2021	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -
FY 2022	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -
Total	ONGOING	\$ -	\$ -