

## Conewago Creek Initiative Partners:

Dauphin, Lancaster,  
and Lebanon County  
Conservation Districts

Tri-County Conewago  
Creek Association

South Londonderry  
Township

Elizabethtown College

Penn State

PA Department of  
Environmental  
Protection

PA Department of  
Conservation and  
Natural Resources

PA Fish and Boat  
Commission

National & PA Natural  
Resources  
Conservation Service

PA Department of  
Agriculture

US Department of  
Agriculture

US Geological Service

US Fish and Wildlife  
Service

Susquehanna River  
Basin Commission

Environmental  
Protection Agency

Chesapeake Bay  
Foundation

Environmental Credit  
Corp.

ZedX Corp.

American Farmland  
Trust

Capital Area RC&D

LandStudies, Inc.

Wild Resources, Inc.

Managing the quantity and forms of nitrogen and phosphorous fed to livestock and poultry can minimize the amount of those excreted in manure and the loss to the environment. Precision feeding addresses both how the ration is formulated and implemented on the farm. Properly balanced feeding programs based on confirmed nutrient analyses of feed, forages, and byproducts allow for the best use of available nutrients.

## Benefits of Precision Feeding

Research conducted at Universities and on-farm has shown precision feeding to be effective economically and environmentally. Promoting this practice when nutrient management plans are being developed should be considered. Precision feeding of livestock and poultry can improve feed intake and nitrogen efficiencies, which can improve profitability and minimize manure volume and excreted nutrients.

In addition to improved water and air quality, precision feeding has the potential to:

- Improve milk yields in dairy cattle.
- Reduce odor-causing agents in swine manure.
- Increase bird performance and diet utilization.
- Improve income over feed costs.
- Reduce acreage for manure application to meet nutrient balance, thus reducing manure shipping and/or storage costs.

## Web Resources

[Dairy Cattle Nutrition](#)  
[Nutrient and Feed Management](#)  
[Hoard's Dairyman Webinar](#)  
[Poultry Nutrition and Water Quality](#)  
[Swine Nutrition](#)

## Interested in implementing this practice?

### Contact:

Mike Snyder, USDA NRCS  
(717) 272-3908, [Michael.Snyder@pa.usda.gov](mailto:Michael.Snyder@pa.usda.gov)

Mike Hubler, DCCD  
(717) 921-8100, [mhubler@dauphinc.org](mailto:mhubler@dauphinc.org)



## Programs

### USDA NRCS

USDA NRCS administers the Feed Management Practice. Financial assistance may be available through the Environment Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to assist producers in implementing feed management plans for dairy and beef cattle. The Conewago creek is one of USDA's "Showcase Watersheds" meaning the watershed is targeted for resources and funding.

### 319 Funding

Farms in priority areas of the watershed may also be eligible for funding through the County Conservation Districts' 319 funding.

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