

Table 1. Cost share rate and maintenance periods for BMP practices

Practice title	Maximum cost-share rate	Maintenance period
Aquatic Weed Barrier	75%	3 years
Chemigation Infrastructure	70%	5 years
Conversion/ Repair of Flash Board Riser Water Control Structure	75%	5 years
Conversion to Low Volume Irrigation System	75%	10 years
Grade Stabilization	75%	5 years
On-Site Water Detention/Retention	70%	10 years
Permanent Agrichemical Mixing/Washdown Facility	60%	10 years
Portable Agrichemical Mixing Station	60%	5 years
Precision Application Equipment	60%	5 years
Water Table Observation Well	75%	1 year
Soil Moisture Monitoring Devices	60%	3 years

Application Procedure

1. The applicant should schedule a pre-application meeting with staff of the local delivery organization (Southwest Florida RC&D).
2. Complete an Application for Cost Share and submit the application to the Southwest Florida RC&D (application forms available on line at: <http://citrusbmp.ifas.ufl.edu> (Gulf Citrus Section).
3. If the applicant is eligible, the applicant should consult with the local NRCS office (or contractor of their choice) to develop a project plan that includes the design, cost estimate, and an operation and maintenance (O&M) schedule. The plan should then be submitted to the Southwest Florida RC&D.
4. A cost share agreement (to be provided by Southwest Florida RC&D) will be signed by the applicant and executed by the Southwest Florida RC&D. Execution of the contract shall serve as authorization to proceed with practice implementation in accordance with the agreement.
5. Participants must notify Southwest Florida RC&D program staff of project completion and schedule an inspection to verify that the practice has been installed or constructed in accordance with the plan.
6. Participants should submit a Request for Payment, (with copies of applicable receipts for work completed) to the Southwest Florida RC&D.
7. The applicant must follow the O&M schedule provided for each practice. Southwest Florida RC&D program staff will periodically conduct site visits to verify that the O&M schedule is being followed. Program participants will be required to reimburse the state on a pro-rated basis for cost-share funding received for any practice that is improperly maintained, removed, or destroyed before the end of the maintenance period.

Applicant Eligibility

To be eligible for funds under this program, grove owners must have all applicable permits and have filed a Notice of Intent to Implement BMPs on the property. The Parties recognize that the implementation of some BMPs may require regulation by the District through a Water Use Permit (WUP), a well construction permit (WCP), or trigger the requirement for an Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) pursuant to Parts II, III, or IV of Chapter 373 F.S., respectively. The parties also recognize that implementation of some BMPs may qualify for agricultural statutory exemptions from ERP requirements pursuant to Section 373.403, F.S. Grove caretakers (who do not own the land where BMPs are to be implemented) are also eligible for cost share if they meet the eligibility criteria of the local delivery organization and file a Notice of Intent with the landowner's signature. Participation in this program is open to all eligible applicants without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, marital status, and mental or physical handicap.