

Virginia's Poultry Litter Transport Incentive Program



The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation offers a poultry litter transport incentive program to facilitate the efficient use of poultry litter as a crop nutrient source in areas that can most benefit from those nutrients and that are outside of the main poultry-producing counties. The goal of this program is to encourage development of self-sustaining poultry litter markets outside of the Chesapeake Bay watershed and in certain specified areas within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Through the program, \$17.50, \$25, or \$30 is provided per ton of litter moved to help cover the additional costs associated with increased transport distances.

A. WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Poultry litter end-users

B. REQUIREMENTS

1. Poultry litter must originate on farms in Accomack, Page, or Rockingham counties.
2. To receive an incentive payment through this program, litter must be transported to a final destination in the counties listed in section E of this document.
3. Completed Poultry Litter Transport Incentive Request Forms are valid for the current fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2026 and ends June 30, 2027
4. Complete and accurate supporting documentation to include the Chain of Custody, Field Application Record, Nutrient Management Plan, certified scale weight tickets, and Virginia W-9 Tax Form must be received by October 31, 2027. Requests for supporting documentation that aren't responded to by this date will be cancelled
5. Certified scale weight tickets for **all** tonnage moved are **required** to receive payment.
6. A Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) must be prepared by a nutrient management planner certified by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) for all fields scheduled to receive poultry litter.
7. The end-user agrees to fully implement their NMP and to participate in NMP verification.
8. Fields eligible for payment must have a Virginia Tech soil test phosphorus reading (i.e. Virginia Tech soil test reading P lbs/acre, Mehlich I) no greater than the following:

Region	Soil Test Reading
Eastern Shore and Lower Coastal Plain	270
Middle and Upper Coastal Plain and Piedmont	272
Ridge and Valley	324

NOTES: To determine the region the field is in, refer to the list of eligible counties by region. Please refer to the table showing the correlation of other soil testing laboratories if necessary.

9. Poultry litter must have been analyzed within the previous three years to determine nutrient content and final application rate for nutrient management plan development. If analysis is unknown at the time the NMP is written, litter analysis shown in Table 8-4 in the *Virginia Nutrient Management Standards and Criteria*, Revised July 2014, may be used to develop the initial NMP.
10. No mortality (composted or otherwise) can be shipped as part of this incentive program. Litter containing mortality in any form will not qualify for payment.
11. Litter with moisture greater than 35% is ineligible for payment.
12. Litter off-loading and storage at the receiving site must be in accordance with the requirements of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Fact Sheet: Requirements for Poultry Litter Use and Storage.
13. Vehicles used to transport poultry litter, including any application equipment, must contain the poultry litter within the cargo area without loss while operating on a public road.
14. Spot checks for compliance with these program requirements may be performed by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

C. HOW TO APPLY

- To apply for a payment via mail, the applicant must complete and return the Poultry Litter Transport Incentive Request Form, a **VIRGINIA W-9 TAX FORM**, and the applicant's Nutrient Management Plan to:

Eastern Shore AREC
ATTN: Palmer Bunce
33446 Research Drive
Painter, VA 23420-2827

- Once the forms are received, they are reviewed by DCR staff. The incentive request must be approved by DCR prior to litter transport.
- Once the Poultry Litter Transport Incentive Request Form has been approved for incentive payment and after litter has been applied, submit to the above address the following completed forms:
 - Field Application Record;
 - Chain of Custody Form; and
 - Certified scale weight tickets showing the litter tonnage transported
- These documents will be reviewed and if approved, processed for payment. The party who submitted the Poultry Litter Transport Incentive Request Form will then receive the incentive payment.

D. ADDITIONAL POULTRY LITTER TRANSPORT INCENTIVE PROGRAM INFORMATION

For more information, please go to:

<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/litter-transport> or contact:

Palmer Bunce – (540) 416-5350: palmer.bunce@dcr.virginia.gov

Seth Mullins – (804) 517-0726: seth.mullins@dcr.virginia.gov

Hunter Landis – (804) 929-6334: hunter.landis@dcr.virginia.gov

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E. Counties Eligible To Receive Incentive:

Eastern Shore and Lower Coastal Plain:

Charles City	Chesapeake	Essex	Gloucester
Hanover	Isle of Wight	James City	King & Queen
King William	Lancaster	Mathews	Middlesex
New Kent	Northumberland	Richmond	Southampton
Suffolk	Surry	Sussex	Virginia Beach
Westmoreland			

Middle and Upper Coastal Plain and Piedmont:

Albemarle	Amelia	Amherst	Appomattox
Bedford	Brunswick	Buckingham	Campbell
Caroline	Charlotte	Chesterfield	Culpeper
Cumberland	Dinwiddie	Fauquier	Fluvanna
Franklin	Greene	Greensville	Goochland
Halifax	Hanover	Henrico	Henry
Louisa	Lunenburg	Madison	Mecklenburg
Nelson	Nottoway	Orange	Patrick
Powhatan	Prince Edward	Prince George	Pittsylvania
Rappahannock	Spotsylvania		

Ridge and Valley:

Alleghany	Augusta	Bath	Bland
Botetourt	Buchanan	Carroll	Clark
Craig	Dickenson	Floyd	Frederick
Giles	Grayson	Highland	Lee
Montgomery	Pulaski	Roanoke	Rockbridge
Russell	Scott	Shenandoah	Smyth
Tazewell	Warren	Wise	Wythe

F. Incentive Payment Rates:

- **\$30.00 per ton** for poultry litter generated in Accomack County
- **\$25.00 per ton** for poultry litter generated in Page and Rockingham Counties and land applied **outside** of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
- **\$17.50 per ton** poultry litter generated in Page and Rockingham Counties and land applied **within** the Chesapeake Bay Watershed