

# Your Stormwater Coach



Public funding, new financing opportunities, and local or regional initiatives in Pennsylvania are making investments in clean water projects more attractive and affordable. Let the Center for Water Quality Excellence help you navigate the world of funding programs and offer financial strategies that best fit your needs.

## WHAT IS THE CENTER FOR WATER QUALITY EXCELLENCE?

The Center for Water Quality Excellence (CWQE) is a support center that untangles the complexities of funding opportunities for agricultural, rural and urban stormwater projects in Pennsylvania. By providing clarity and guidance on grants, loans, incentives, and creative public-private partnerships, our goal is to accelerate the implementation of stormwater and farm conservation practices. Ultimately, these practices will reduce runoff that adds excessive nutrient and sediment to our streams and rivers.

Our audience includes those making on-the-ground improvements — farmers, businesses, local governments, and institutional landowners — as well as organizations and agencies offering financial and technical assistance at the local or regional level.

### Contact us for no-cost support:

**Phone:** 855-227-1202

**Email:** [support@cwqe.org](mailto:support@cwqe.org)

**Website:** [www.cwqe.org](http://www.cwqe.org)

**Support Hub:** <https://support.cwqe.org>



@cwqe.org



@pennvest

### CWQE Headquarters

430 Walnut Street, Suite 303

Columbia, PA 17512

*CWQE is an initiative funded by the Pennsylvania Investment Infrastructure Authority (PENNVEST)*

## HOW IS HELP PROVIDED?

CWQE's activities include:

**CWQE SUPPORT HUB** – An online self-service support portal available 24/7 (<https://support.CWQE.org>) allows customers to ask questions, request support and search a digital library of stormwater resources. An intuitive SEARCH tool directs you to helpful articles, program news, program profiles, subject matter articles, and links to high quality resources. The Support Hub resources are accessible to the public at no charge.

**PERSONALIZED ASSISTANCE** – During the pilot phase (2021/2022), one-on-one support will be available to interested farmers, local government entities, and institutional and business landowners within Lancaster and York counties. (See side bar.) CWQE staff will help move you to the next level of planning, design, or implementation with information support, points of contact, program expectations, and application details.

**CWQE STOREFRONT** - The CWQE has a location in Columbia Borough, Lancaster County, that provides for one-on-one consultations and workshops/open house events in collaboration with agencies and organizations. Upcoming events can be found at [www.cwqe.org](http://www.cwqe.org).

**MOBILE EDUCATION CENTER** – a van equipped with CWQE resources will take services on the road targeting key events. Call 855-227-1202 to request a mobile CWQE visit to your event.

## WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

CWQE helps move customers to the next level of planning, design, or implementation by helping you develop a strategy that aligns with your goals and financial capabilities. With a finger on the pulse of stormwater runoff issues, CWQE stays abreast of changing funding opportunities and rule changes at the local, state and federal levels. CWQE coaches can help you:

- organize your funding needs and strategy
- understand the ins-and-outs of schedules, program restrictions, eligibility requirements, timelines and application processes for grant and loan programs
- find the right programs to leverage your project funding
- find the right technical experts and advisors
- solve funding hurdles along the way
- use easy-to-use web tools to help you track fertilizer use, keep records of inspections on BMPs for operations and maintenance, and evaluate a farm's water quality needs.

The CWQE Support Hub offers one-on-one assistance to interested parties within Lancaster and York counties.

Municipalities, landowners, and others located within the pilot region of York and Lancaster counties can request one-on-one assistance with funding questions or challenges.

To request help, visitors are required to register so that Center staff can best provide and track the progress of requests.

Registration requires only your name, email, and password. Once registered, simply select **Start a Conversation** and send us a message. Visitors can also call the CWQE at 855-227-1202 to request assistance.

### Contact us for free support

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**Support Hub:** <https://support.cwqe.org>

## MAKING CONNECTIONS

CWQE understands the importance of working with people and organizations that you trust locally, whether they are lending institutions, conservation agencies, or non-governmental water resource coalitions.

The Center strives to connect the dots — where there are local or regional partners who can help with the details of your planning or implementation needs, we will connect you with the right experts and facilitate your path toward success.