



June 1, 2024

You're Invited To Participate In New and Valuable Pennsylvania Conservation Farming Program

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of The Biochar Impact Company, and in partnership with the Chester County Economic Development Council (CCEDC) and AgConnect, we are writing to inform you of an exciting and important initiative we are undertaking for farmers in Pennsylvania.

As you may be aware, the USDA supports numerous agricultural and conservation initiatives through the NRCS including the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). Most recently, the USDA announced that \$1.5 billion is available to help farmers advance conservation and climate-smart agriculture (also known as Carbon Rich Farming) as part of the administration's Investing in America Agenda (additional information is available at the link below).

Under the umbrella of our partnership referred to above, we are applying for an RCPP federal grant to develop and distribute carbon-rich soil amendments – which we call “Super Soils” – made from locally grown compost and biochar with the goal of improving soil health, plant productivity and water conservation.

If you are not familiar with biochar, it is a wood-based, permanent soil amendment that increases soil organic matter, soil carbon, water holding capacity as well as nutrient holding capacity. Furthermore, when biochar is combined with compost, the two work synergistically to create an active home for beneficial microbial activity in support of rapid and effective soil regeneration called “the Soil Food Web”. In total, our Super Soils improve resource use efficiency and improve the value of soils and crops while reducing the amount of traditional inputs – protecting the watershed and farmer profitability.

And this is where you come in.

You have been identified as a candidate to participate in this program in the event that our grant application is approved – we expect to learn of approvals early this fall. Should this grant be approved it would mean that any customers of the Super Soils would receive the product at **no cost** as a result of the grant's financial support.



In order to best position our grant application, we would like to ask you to consider signing a non-binding Letter of Interest which we will use as part of our grant submission. The goal of this letter is to demonstrate to the NRCS that there is sufficient demand for these Super Soils and as such they should consider approving the grant award. For further information on the Letter, please see the attachment below which can be completed and mailed to our address below. Alternatively,

- To access a digital version of the Letter to submit online click <https://bit.ly/3KsL5v6>

If you would like to submit your name and Letter of Interest, please respond by Monday, June 24 at 5:00pm in order to secure your spot.

In anticipation of your interest and related questions, we have the following resources available for you:

- USDA Program Announcement <https://bit.ly/3X8GhIU>
- AgConnect <https://bit.ly/3yJ5Y2x>
- The Biochar Impact Company <https://bit.ly/3yRZYEI>

If you would like to speak with someone directly about this opportunity, Jeff Wallin from The Biochar Impact Company is available and he can be reached via email at JeffW@BiocharImpact.com and by phone at (610) 973-7578.

We will be hosting an **online webinar on Tuesday, June 18 at 4:00pm** to provide additional information and answer any questions you may have. If you would like to attend the webinar, we ask you to send an email to Jeff Wallin indicating your interest.

- Zoom Online Webinar link <https://bit.ly/4bKLoNQ>

We thank you in advance for your interest in this program and we look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Gary Smith.

Gary Smith
CEO
CCEDC

Handwritten signature of Fernando Migliassi.

Fernando Migliassi
CEO
The Biochar Impact Co.

Handwritten signature of Jordan Peek.

Jordan Peek
Project Manager
AgConnect



Producer Letter of Interest For Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Amending Soils with Spent Mushroom Substrate and Biochar – Using Residual Carbon Sources to Improve Soil Health and Plant Productivity in Pennsylvania

Producer Organization (Name of Farm): _____

Description of Participation:

If this grant is awarded, I am willing to participate as follows:

- I am willing to share FSA farm and tract numbers, field boundaries, past soil test information and other farming data to help identify the areas where biochar and compost will have the greatest impact
- I plan on treating approximately ____ acres of my farm
- I currently farm ____ acres and produce the following crop(s):

I understand this is a multi-year project and the results of this study will be shared in an aggregated study.

I retain the right to not participate in this study after it is determined where the biochar will be applied, the timing of application, and the long-term financial impact of this action on my operation(s).

Signature of Organization Authorized Representative: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____