

Best Management Practices (BMPs) OPERATION & MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS Section 319(h) Grants Program

Federal section 319(h) grant guidelines and Item #58 in the sub-grant agreement executed between your organization and Ohio EPA require that all Best Management Practices (BMPs) installed using federal 319 funds or local funding used as match for a section 319 grant, must be operated and maintained for the estimated useful life of the BMP.

The estimated useful life of a practice shall be determined using either standards identified for BMPs by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, any cost share agreements entered into by the sub-grantee and landowners, OR for the effective period of the sub-grant agreement, whichever is longer.

Further, the sub-grant agreement requires that sub-grantees provide documentation committing to operate and maintain all practices installed using federal or matching funds within ninety (90) days of the effective date of the sub-grant agreement.

Instructions: Attached is a sample letter for your reference and use in meeting this requirement. Please complete, sign in blue ink, and mail or fax the completed letter on your organization's letterhead to:

Martha Spurbeck, Grants Administrator
Ohio EPA-Division of Surface Water
50 West Town Street, Suite 700
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049
p. 614-644-2869
f. 614-644-2745

Should you prefer to use another format or language, please be sure that any letter designed to meet this requirement includes at a minimum:

- Date and Section 319(h) Project Number
- Project Representative Name and Address
- A statement that reads: *"All Best Management Practices installed using either section 319(h) federal or local matching funds will be operated and maintained throughout the estimated useful life of the respective installed practices."*
- The method used to determine the estimated useful life of the respective installed practices.
- An original signature of the authorized project representative.

**THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 90
DAYS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF YOUR SUB-
GRANT AGREEMENT**

PLEASE MAIL ON YOUR LETTERHEAD

(INSERT DATE)

Martha Spurbeck, Grants Administrator
Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049

RE: Section 319(h) Funded BMP Operation & Maintenance

Dear Ms. Spurbeck:

Pursuant to grant requirements identified in Item 58 of the Section 319(h) Sub-Grant Agreement for **Project # __ (h)EPA-__ (INSERT NUMBER)**, we are writing to advise that all Best Management Practices (BMPs) installed using either section 319(h) or local matching funds will be operated and maintained throughout the estimated useful life of the respective practices. The estimated useful life of installed practices will be determined using one or more of the following, *whichever is longer*:

Check all that apply:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Standards identified for BMPs by USDA-NRCS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cost-share Agreements with landowners |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Conservation Easements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other formal agreements (specify below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The effective period of the sub-grant agreement |

We trust that this meets our contractual obligations under the Section 319(h) sub-grant agreement executed between our organization and Ohio EPA. Should you have questions please contact me.

Sincerely,

(Local Authorized Project Representative)