



**New Mexico Department of Agriculture's  
HEALTHY SOIL PROGRAM**  
based on the 2019 Healthy Soil Act




**FOR ELIGIBLE ENTITIES: How to complete a grant application  
Friday, March 18, 2022**

Presented by program co-leads Dean Bruce & Katie Goetz



# Who can apply for a grant from NMDA's Healthy Soil Program?

- 1. Eligible Entities** are defined in the Healthy Soil Act as “**local governmental [entities] with proven land management capacity to support healthy soil**”. Eligible Entities include:
  - ▶ pueblos, tribes, and nations
  - ▶ land grants
  - ▶ acequias
  - ▶ soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs)
  - ▶ NMSU's Cooperative Extension Service
- 2. Individual Applicants** are individuals, businesses, and nonprofits engaged in farming, ranching, or other forms of land management



# What amount of funding can an Eligible Entity apply for?

- ▶ Per the Governor's Food, Farm, and Hunger Initiative, NMDA has increased the funding cap for Eligible Entities this year
- ▶ This year, an Eligible Entity **may request up to \$100,000 if they are registered to do business with the federal government (via SAM.gov)**
  - ▶ Eligible Entities that are *not* registered may apply for up to **\$24,999.99**
- ▶ In either case, NMDA will pay the Eligible Entity:
  - ▶ a **10 percent administrative fee** for administering the project
  - ▶ **mileage to visit the project site three times (3x)** during the project
- ▶ We'll walk through eligible and ineligible expenses later in the presentation

# What kinds of projects can Eligible Entities apply for?

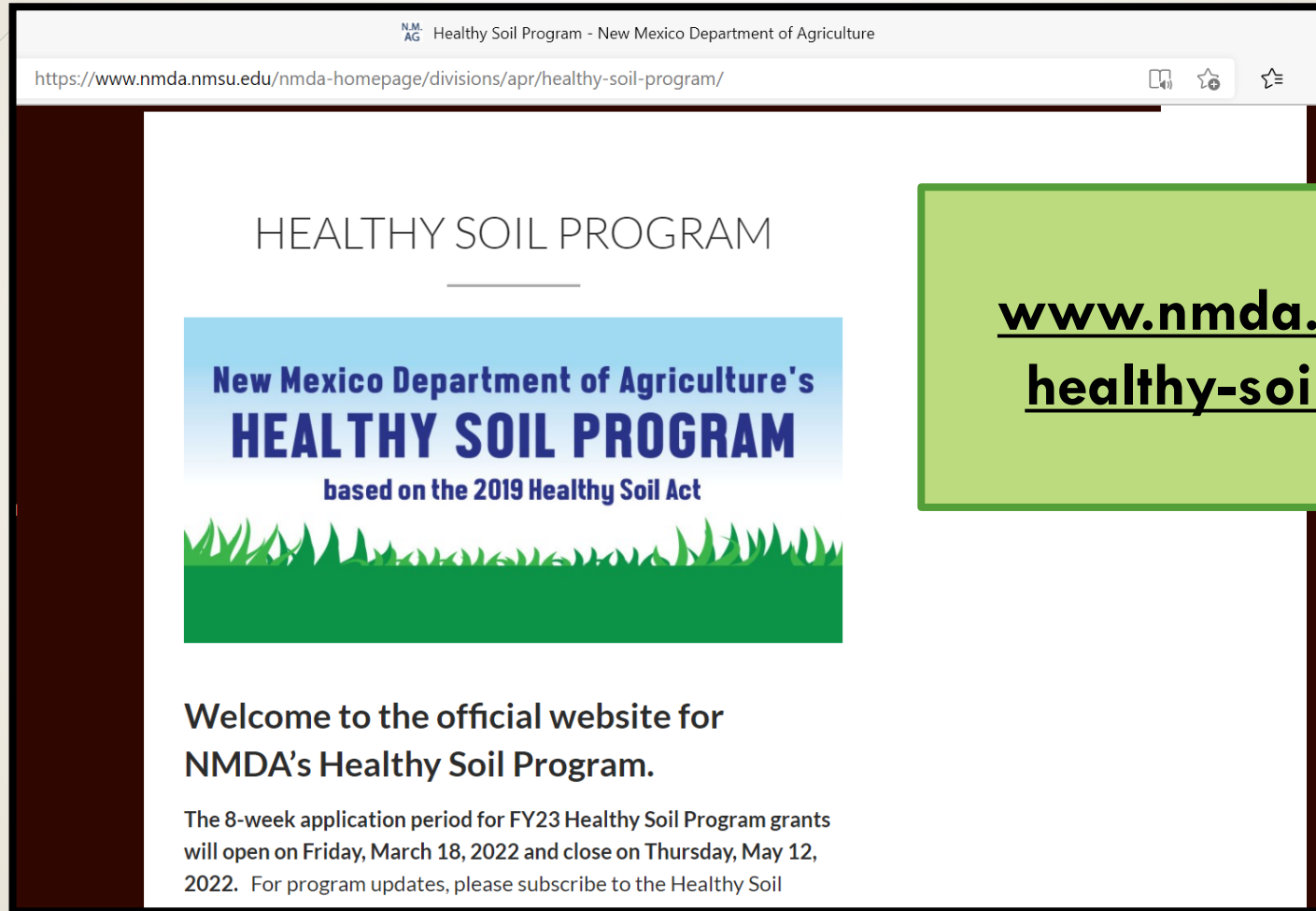
- Cover crops
- Compost application
- No-till/Reduced till
- Livestock integration on cropland
- Pollinator habitat establishment
- Intensive grazing management
- Bale grazing to improve livestock distribution and increase organic matter
- Cover crops on rangeland
- Native grass seeding
- Demonstration plots
- **Conservation planning**

**Each on-the-ground project should contain a public education/ outreach component to promote soil health stewardship:**

- Field day
- Printed materials
- Using traditional / social media to reach your audience

Grant funds can be requested for such materials and events

# How do I apply?



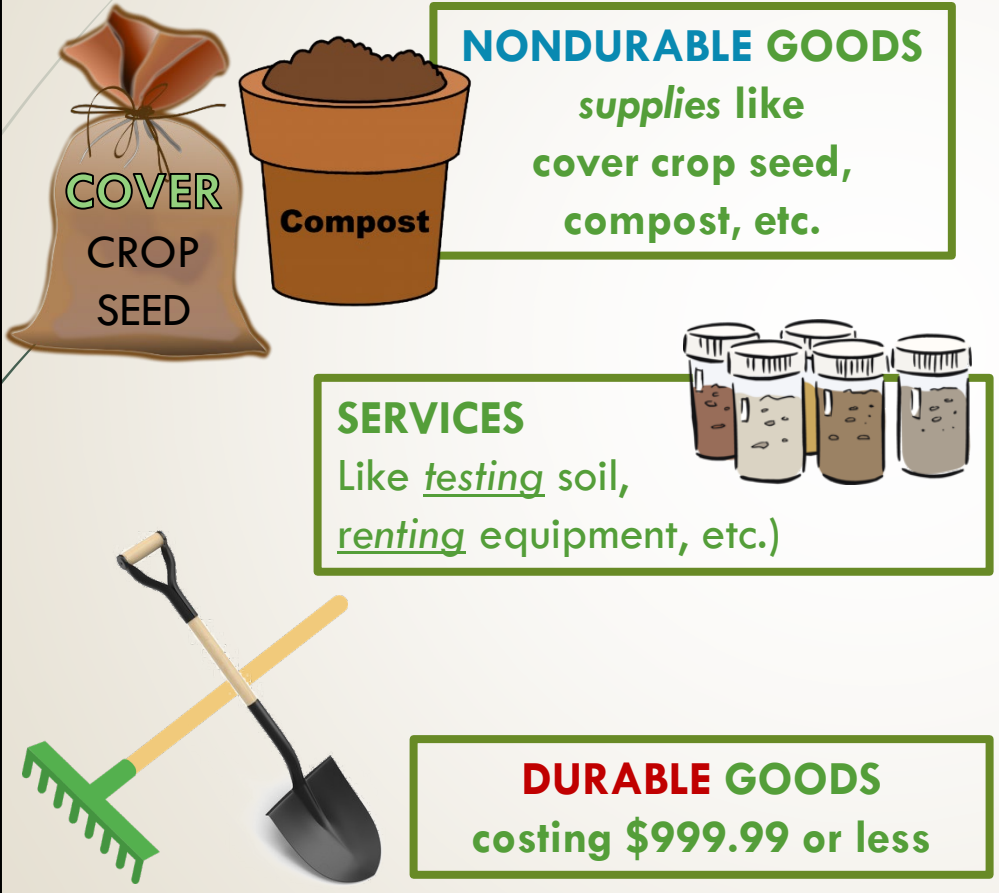
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.nmda.nmsu.edu/nmda-homepage/divisions/apr/healthy-soil-program/>. The page content includes the title "HEALTHY SOIL PROGRAM", a blue banner with the text "New Mexico Department of Agriculture's HEALTHY SOIL PROGRAM based on the 2019 Healthy Soil Act", a green grass graphic, and a welcome message: "Welcome to the official website for NMDA's Healthy Soil Program. The 8-week application period for FY23 Healthy Soil Program grants will open on Friday, March 18, 2022 and close on Thursday, May 12, 2022. For program updates, please subscribe to the Healthy Soil".

[www.nmda.nmsu.edu/healthy-soil-program](https://www.nmda.nmsu.edu/healthy-soil-program)



# Common **eligible** vs. **ineligible** expenses

## ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING CONSIDERATION



**COVER CROP SEED**


**Compost**

**NONDURABLE GOODS**  
supplies like cover crop seed, compost, etc.)

**SERVICES**  
Like testing soil, renting equipment, etc.)

**DURABLE GOODS**  
costing \$999.99 or less

## INELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING



**CASH CROP SEED**

**FARMER/RANCHER SALARY/WAGES**

**DURABLE GOODS**  
costing \$1,000.00 or more

Image credit:

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# More about the budget

- ▶ This year's budget template **incorporates the project's *timeline***
- ▶ **Eligible Entities must calculate the distance** between their office and their project site
  - ▶ Mileage will be paid to the Eligible Entity for three (3) site visits
- ▶ Eligible Entities must provide **matching funds / in-kind contributions of at least 25 percent (25%)**
  - ▶ Labor, machine-hours, supplies, etc.

# Key information

- **Deadline to apply: **May 12, 2022** at **5 p.m.****
- **Timeline for project activities: **August 15, 2022** to **May 31, 2023****
- **Other important dates – including for NMDA’s mandatory training for grantees – are posted at [www.nmda.nmsu.edu/healthy-soil-program](http://www.nmda.nmsu.edu/healthy-soil-program)**
- **Eligible Entities **may request up to \$100,000** *if* they are registered to do business with the federal government (via SAM.gov)**
  - **All other Eligible Entities **may request up to \$24,999.99****





# How can an Eligible Entity be successful?

- ▶ Check out the resources on the Healthy Soil Program site: [www.nmda.nmsu.edu](http://www.nmda.nmsu.edu)
- ▶ Start early. **The application is a working document**, so revise, revise, revise
- ▶ **Ensure documents are complete** before uploading them to the appropriate place within the application
- ▶ Don't wait until the last minute to submit. **The application will close promptly at on May 12 at 5 p.m. MT.**



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**Questions?**

**[www.nmda.nmsu.edu/healthy-soil-program](http://www.nmda.nmsu.edu/healthy-soil-program)**

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