Agricultural Best Management Practices Loan Program

The Agriculture Best Management Loan Program (AgBMP) was established by the State Legislature in 1994, providing farmers, rural landowners, and agri-businesses with low interest loans for mitigation and prevention of non-point source pollution.

Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District has been awarded funds to implement this program.

- **Who is eligible?** Farmers, individual rural landowners, and agri-businesses.

- **What practices are eligible?**
  - Ag Waste Management Systems
  - Conservation Tillage Equipment
  - Erosion Control Structures including waterways, terraces and sediment control basins.
  - Individual Sewage Treatment Systems (ISTS) for on-farm and individual rural housing. Systems must replace a failing system and not meant for new housing.
  - Well Sealing for on-farm and individual rural housing.

- **What practices are not eligible?**
  - Refinancing.
  - Individual projects started or equipment purchased prior to loan approval.
  - Livestock operations currently containing more than 1,000 animal units.
  - Constructing a new facility

- **What is the interest rate and maximum loan amount?** The interest rate is fixed at 3% for the term of the loan. Lender may charge customary fees. The maximum loan to any individual borrower is $100,000. Lender may require collateral. Borrower must meet lending criteria; additional local limitations may apply.

- **What are the lengths of the loans?**
  1. Facilities and Structures 10 years
  2. Equipment 10 years
  3. Septic Systems 10 years

- **How do I apply for a loan?** Potential borrowers should contact Olmsted Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) for an application. The SWCD will then evaluate and certify if the proposed project is eligible.