

**CALENDAR YEAR _____ (January 1st - December 31st)
VEGETATIVE FILTER STRIP ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Public Act 89-606, the Vegetative Filter Strip Assessment Law, was enacted by the General Assembly on January 1, 1997. The law was extended to December 31, 2026 under Public Act 94-1002 in 2006. Under the law, qualifying property used as a vegetative filter strip is eligible to be assessed at a reduced rate. Soil and Water Conservation Districts have been given the authority for certifying that a parcel of property meets the requirements for a vegetative filter strip established under the law, and for determining the size of the vegetative filter strip. Also, the law requires the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Natural Resources to prepare a joint report concerning the effect and impact of the vegetative filter strip assessment law and submit it to the General Assembly.

In order to provide the documentation required for the report to the General Assembly, we would appreciate your help by completing the following summary information regarding vegetative filter strip certifications made by the District in the past calendar year.

_____ **County SWCD**

- Total Number of landowners certified _____
- Total Number of vegetative filter strips certified _____
- Total Number of acres or fraction of acres _____

(Round to nearest tenth acre

Complete the following information as it would be helpful in gauging the law's effectiveness.

- How has the District advertised the program?

- _____ District newsletter
- _____ Direct mailings to landowners
- _____ Media promotion (radio, newspaper, etc.)
- _____ One-on-one landowner contacts
- _____ Other (please specify) _____
(computer, etc.)

- Have you experienced any administrative barriers, or do you have suggestions to improve the effectiveness of the law?

- Have landowners been receptive to the law and has it been a useful tool in promoting soil and water conservation and protecting water quality?

RETURN TO THE BUREAU OF LAND AND WATER RESOURCES BY **JANUARY 31st** following the end of the reporting period.