



NC State Grange Grant Program – 2023

Voluntary Agricultural District Awareness

Purpose:

Provide grant funding to NC Soil & Water Districts, County Extension or other county agencies assisting local Voluntary Agricultural District (VAD or EVAD) programs to provide VAD members assistance in the purchasing and erection of their respective county VAD sign. Grant funding limited to new signage and materials associated with erection of the signage.

Application Eligibility Requirements:

- Grant applicants must be a County Government agency with an active VAD program.
- The VAD landowner receiving signage using NC State Grange funding must be or become a NC State Grange Member.
- The VAD program must be meet the NCGS 106-737 requirements.
- Deadline for 2023 applications is March 31, 2023.

Grant Funding Information:

- Grant payments are made in 2 installments
 - ½ draw upon approval of the grant application by NC State Grange
 - ½ final payment upon proof purchase of signs and erection of the signage
 - Limited to one VAD sign per land parcel in county VAD program. Landowners may have more the one parcel in VAD.
 - VAD sign placement must be viewable from a public road
 - Grantee must provide reasonable documentation for VAD sign, erection materials and placement. Reimbursement limited to \$150 per sign.
- Grants and request for payments are limited to 2 years from date of award by NC State Grange.
- Maximum NC State Grange Grant Amount per VAD program - \$4,500
- Grant awards subject to availability of funding

NC State Grange Application Review for Evaluation & Scoring:

Evaluation Item	Awarded Points
Documentation of a Grange Chapter located in the county.	10 points each
The county VAD program has in-kind or matching funding for promoting, outreach or other VAD program related assistance to VAD landowners.	1 point per \$100 of in-kind or match funding provided up to 50 points
Current or applicant VAD Landowner(s) identified as a member of NC State Grange or SDA farmer / producer. Listing of landowner name and contact information must be provided.	5 points per VAD / NC State Grange member or SDA farmer / producer up to a maximum of 40 points

An SDA farmer or rancher is a group whose members have been subject to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. These groups consist of American Indians or Alaskan Natives, Asians, Blacks or African Americans, Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders, Hispanics, and women.

NC State Grange Membership

Associate Memberships:

This is a basic membership that allows statewide members to have access and use of our membership benefits as well as receive a copy of our bimonthly newsletter. Associate memberships are available to anyone who is not a member of a local Grange and annual dues are \$20 per person ages 14 and older.

Local Grange Membership:

Local membership will tie you to a local chapter where you can connect with fellow Grangers, have rewarding interactions within your community, have representation at state events, access to all member benefits as well as receive our bimonthly newsletter. Local Granges do set their own dues amount and typically range between \$15-\$30 per member annually.

For more information on becoming a NC State Grange member, go to www.ncgrange.com/become-a-member.

NC State Grange Voluntary Agricultural District Awareness Application – 2023

Please send a signed and completed application to dhardee@ncgrange.com. PDF documents preferred. Application must be received by March 31, 2022. Please keep a copy of your application for your files and reference.

Applicant Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Grant Amount Requested: \$ _____ **(Max-\$4,500)**

Please provide a brief description of your plan of work to use the requested grant including projected timetable to complete. Include your objectives / goals in your plan of work.

Grant Matching Funding:

(In-kind or matching funding for promoting, outreach or other VAD program related assistance to VAD landowners)

Will matching funding be provided? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, amount of grant matching funding? \$ _____

If grant match funding is being provided, please give a brief description and plan of use.

Include any supporting documents with application of the matching funding.

List any Grange Chapters in the applicant county. (See <https://www.ncgrange.com/find-your-local-grange>)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

The number of current VAD members that are either a member of NC State Grange or SDA farmer / producer: _____. Please submit the name and address of VAD members that are identified as a member of NC State Grange or SDA farmer / producer in your grant application submittal. Used for verification of eligible VAD members in the grant ranking and scoring of your application.

My signature is my witness that the information provided as being accurate and correct as of the time of application.

Signature of Application Contact: _____ Date: _____