

# Practical Soil Health Specialist Training

Workshop #1 – Introduction to Soil Health

September 24 and 25

Conservation Skills Workshop

Cortland, NY

# Overview and Goals

- Milestones (in binder)
- Train 20 Ag. Professionals
- Reach 400 Farmers Managing 80,000 Acres
  - 50 Farmers Implement
- Develop a cadre of soil health professionals
- Help farmers improve their soil health through practical methods
- Build the training program
- Help you develop a plan/strategy to help your clients
- Help you develop a teacher “tool kit”
- Professional development

# Expectations

- Attend 4 of the 5 sessions
  - Most sessions will have a public component
- Complete our surveys and evaluations – provide feedback
- Conduct educational events and provide TA related to soil health
  - \$300 stipend available
- Document results – we will provide a spreadsheet

# Financials

- We set up and pay for overnight accommodations
- Provide lunch during sessions
- We will reimburse mileage to and from sessions – e-mail form within 5 days after each session



# American Farmland Trust

## Soil Health Specialist Travel Expense Form

NAME

Current Mileage  
Reimbursement  
Rate:  
(As of 1/1/2018)

\$0.545

DATE	PURPOSE/DESCRIPTION	MILEAGE RATE \$0.545	MILES TRAVELED		AMOUNT

TOTAL AMOUNT

-

REQUESTED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_

DATE:

\_\_\_\_\_

# Introductions

- In one minute or less provide:
  - Name
  - Employer and Job Title
  - How you assist farmers
  - What you hope to get out of the course

# Workshop #1 Intro to Soil Health

- CCA credits
- Binder
- Agenda – get everyone on the same page
  - Intro to Soil Health
  - Soil Health Demos
  - Soil Biology and Ecology
  - Soil Health Indicators and Constraints
  - Soil Health Planning Framework
  - Soil Health Management Exercises
  - On the Farm:
    - Soil Health at Whey Street Dairy
    - Soil Properties and Assessment
    - Sampling Strategy
  - Evaluation – Next Session

Questions?