



**DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE  
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**TO:** County Weed & Pest Supervisors, County Weed & Pest Board Members  
**FROM:** Brenda Sievers, Plant Industry Program Manager *BS*  
**DATE:** September 30, 2024  
**SUBJECT:** Call for Weed & Pest Grant Applications for FY2026

At their September 10, 2024 meeting, the SD Weed & Pest Control Commission approved a call for grant applications for FY2026 funds. The Commission approved the following:

\$300,000 divided amongst the counties that meet the criteria (See grant criteria for more info.)  
\$200,000 to fund competitive grants

The Commission will be awarding contractual grants to each county that meets the criteria, with the amount depending upon which criteria they meet. The enclosed grant form is FY2026 Call for Grants & Contractual Agreements. These grants *do require* a cost share from the county. Please be specific on your grant requests and **DO NOT** just write in for noxious weed control. Examples – chemical, seasonal labor, contractual labor, etc. Remember seasonal and contractual labor are not the same.

Also, the Commission has made available \$200,000 in competitive grants of which any dollar amount can be awarded to one or more counties for special weed projects within the county. The competitive grant criteria and application form is marked FY2026 Competitive Weed & Pest Grant. These grant requests will be evaluated by a committee appointed by the SD Weed & Pest Control Commission Chairman and the committee recommendations for funding will be presented to the full Commission at their meeting in February for final approval.

**All grant applications must be mailed and postmarked** to the Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Plant Industry Program, **no later than November 15, 2024**. If grants are emailed in, the original copy **must** follow and must still be **postmarked no later than November 15, 2024**. **Please get your grant applications in early and do not wait until the last day**. The Commission will act on all grant applications on February 19, 2025, at their meeting held just prior to the Annual Weed & Pest Conference in Huron, SD.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 605.280.4463 or the Department office at 605.773.3623. As a reminder, there are meeting requirements to qualify for the grants, as well as the requirement to get your inspection, fiscal and annual reports to the Department.

There will be **NO DISTRICT WEED MEETINGS this fall**, but there are still annual weed and pest conference as well as supervisor training attendance requirements that must be met.

**Please read the requirements carefully!!! And REMEMBER – these grants are for noxious weed control!!!**

Inspection Summaries are due November 1, 2024.  
Annual and Fiscal Reports are due January 31, 2025.