



**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 

DATE: October 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Call for Weed & Pest Grant Applications for FY2028

At their September 15, 2026, meeting, the SD Weed & Pest Control Commission approved a call for grant applications for FY2028 funds. The Commission approved the following:

\$450,000 divided amongst the counties that meet the criteria (See grant criteria for more info.)
\$150,000 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 FY2028 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 \$150,000 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 FY2028 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 16, 2026. Please take your envelope into the post office to get it canceled/stamped so the mailing date is shown since mail might not go out the same day it is placed in their box. If grants are emailed in, the original copy **must** still be mailed and **postmarked no later than November 16, 2026. Get your grant applications mailed early and do not wait until the last day.** The Commission will act on all grant applications on February 24, 2027, at their meeting held prior to the Annual Weed & Pest Conference in Aberdeen, 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 requirements to get your inspection, fiscal and annual reports to the Department. Meeting requirements include attending the annual weed and pest conference February 25-26, and as well as attending supervisor's training, which will be held on Wednesday, February 24, beginning at 1:30 pm. **Please note the time for Supervisor's Training!!!**

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

Inspection Summaries are due November 1, 2026.
Annual and Fiscal Reports are due January 31, 2027.