



## 1. Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan Implementation

### Purpose

1. To encourage agricultural producers, utilize an approved Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan (VNMP).
2. To increase producer collection and use of soil test results to develop nutrient recommendations.
3. To properly utilize commercial fertilizer, manure and/or organic by-products as a plant nutrient source or soil amendment.
4. To reduce agricultural nonpoint source pollution of surface water and groundwater resources.

### Applicability

Applies to cropland acres in the 10-county program area. Acres receiving payment under any other county, state or federal program (CSP, EQIP, H2Ohio, etc.), are not eligible.

### Specifications

1. VNMPs must be maintained to the minimum requirements set forth in ORC 905.31(DD).
2. Any modifications to nutrient application must be consistent with H2Ohio practice requirements and NRCS 590 Conservation Practice Standard.

### Technical Responsibilities

#### Producer Responsibilities

1. Maintain an approved VNMP with the SWCD.
2. If necessary, revise, and resubmit VNMP to SWCD.
3. Make nutrient application records available to the SWCD for review and compliance with VNMP.

#### SWCD Responsibilities

1. Review nutrient application records annually and certify records are consistent with approved VNMP.
2. Enter all required information into Beehive.
3. Process payment to the producer.

### Participant Payments

Producers will receive a \$10/ac payment after nutrient application records have been reviewed and certified each contracted year.



### Recordkeeping Requirements

All applicators/producers shall maintain nutrient application records. For each application of nutrients applied for the primary purpose of agricultural production, the applicator/producer shall document the following information within 24 hours of application:

1. The date of the application of nutrients;
2. The place of application of nutrients;
3. The number of acres applied;
4. The rate of application of nutrients;
5. The total amount of nutrients applied, by weight or volume;
6. An analysis of the nutrients applied;
7. The name of the individual who applied the nutrients;
8. The name of the certificate holder, if applicable;
9. The soil conditions at the time of the application;
10. The type of application method (soil injected, incorporated, surface, etc.);
11. The weather conditions at the time of application, including temperature and precipitation;
12. The weather forecast for the day following application; and
13. For surface application only, whether the land at the time of application was frozen and/or snow covered.

All individuals acting under the instructions and control of a certificate holder shall transmit all nutrient application records to the certificate holder within 10 days of application.

Nutrient application records shall be maintained for a period of three years. If applicable, the employer of a certificate holder may elect to maintain the nutrient application records. If elected, the employer shall maintain the nutrient application records for a period of three years even if the employee-employer relationship has ended. The employer must make the records available to the certificate holder and the Ohio Department of Agriculture, upon request.

All fertilizer certificate holders shall transmit all nutrient application records to the farm operator within 30 days of application.

Fertilizer certificate holders are not required to submit these records to the director, but the records shall be made available to the director or the director's designee for review upon request.