



Nutrient Management Plan Grant Program

The goal of this grant program is to assist farmers in developing and maintaining/updating Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs) by providing financial assistance as funding is available.

The grant period covered by this application is July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 (FY2014):

Development of a New Nutrient Management Plan:

- \$9,500 Maximum for NMP Development per Farm
NMP Development - \$9/acre, \$15 /soil test, & \$35/waste test

Pre-Sidedress Soil Nitrate Test:

- \$8 per Pre-Sidedress Nitrate Test

Update of an Existing Nutrient Management Plan:

- \$3 per Acre, up to \$2,000 Maximum for NMP Maintenance/Update

1. Applicant Information for Administrative Purposes

Name (as shown on your income tax return) Phone () -
Business Name (if different from above)
Mailing Address
Email

2. Designate which of the following financial incentives you are applying for and provide the applicable information.

NMP Development and Update Payments (NMPIG). Plans submitted after June 1, 2014 will not be eligible for payment.

Have you received state funding for NMP development? Yes No

Do you have a NRCS Contract (since 2003) which requires a 590 NMP? Yes No

If yes to either question above, you do not qualify for NMPIG payment, however you may still apply for NMP Maintenance/Update Payment below.

Table with 3 columns: Acres to be included in NMP, Number of Manure Sources (Pits/Stacks), Number of Soil Tests

Please provide information in the table as accurately as possible as grant agreements will be based on this information.

NMP Maintenance/Update Payment. Plans submitted after June 1, 2014 will not be eligible for payment.

How many acres are included in your most recently developed nutrient management plan?

Pre-Sidedress Nitrate Test (PSNT) Payment

How many PSNTs are you submitting for payment?

Official laboratory test results must be submitted by December 31, 2014 in order to receive payment.

Signature: Date:

NMP Program Information

1. *Development of a New Nutrient Management Plan:*

For First-Time Applicants or Farmers without Federal Contracts Requiring a NMP meeting the NRCS 590 Standard:

Program Description: This option is designed for farms that have not developed a NMP in the past or have an outdated plan that was developed before 2003.

Program payments:

- \$9,500 Maximum for NMP development per farm
- NMP Development - \$9/acre, \$15/Soil Test, & \$35 / Waste Test

Program Requirements: NMP's must be submitted to the Agency for review by June 1, 2014. Plans must meet or exceed NMP technical requirements of the Medium and Large Farm Operations. Payment is dependent upon submission of the NMP update and technical compliance review by the VT Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets.

2. *Maintenance/Update of an Existing Nutrient Management Plan:*

Program Description: The purpose of the NMP maintenance/update payment is to continue nutrient management planning on land otherwise ineligible for the state NMPIG. Eligibility is dependent upon:

- having a completed a NMP Incentive Grant (1 year of development and 3 years of maintenance), or
- having completed Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) contractual requirements for a TPC590 NMP (2003 or later) and no longer receiving payment from any other source to update the plan.

Program Payment: Up to \$3 per acre (\$2,000 maximum per farm) on eligible land.

Program Requirements: NMP's must be submitted to the Agency for review by June 1, 2014. Plan maintenance/update must meet or exceed NMP technical requirements of the Medium and Large Farm Operations. Payment is dependent upon submission of the NMP update and technical compliance review by the VT Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets.

3. *Pre-Sidedress Soil Nitrate Test:*

Program Description: The pre-sidedress soil nitrate test (PSNT) is used to improve the efficiency of nitrogen (N) fertilization in corn. This PSNT allows N fertilizer recommendations to be adjusted to field-specific conditions that can influence N requirements of corn. Soil samples for the PSNT are taken when the corn is approximately 8 to 12 inches tall and should be processed within 2-days of sampling. If samples cannot be processed within a 2-day period it is important that the sample is air dried or frozen until processed. Additionally, N fertilizer applications should be completed with one week following lab test results. The PSNT does not replace the need for traditional routine soil sampling and this practice is not recommended for sand and loamy sand soil types. Please refer to www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/factsheets/PSNT.html

Program Payment: Up to \$8 per PSNT.

Program Requirements: PSNT test results must be submitted by December 31, 2014 each year to be eligible for payment.

This grant application must be fully completed, signed, and submitted to the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets, hereby referred to as the Agency, for eligibility. If selected, a grant agreement will be sent to you by the Agency. **PSNTs taken and NMP developed or updated prior to a fully executed grant agreement will not be eligible for payment.** Payment is contingent upon meeting all State MFO Nutrient Management requirements. A NMP prepared according to MFO requirements will fully meet the NRCS Standard for Nutrient Management (TPC 590). These requirements include, but are not limited to, soil and animal waste testing, nutrient recommendations, animal waste applications, NMP content and format, reporting and recordkeeping. These requirements are detailed in the MFO General Permit which can be downloaded at <http://www.vermontagriculture.com/ARMES/awq/MFO.html>

Funds are dependent on State allocation and are prioritized and distributed by the Agency. Priority is given to farms required to develop a NMP by Federal CAFO law or Vermont's MFO law and to farms without a 590 NMP. Farms already receiving State or Federal financial assistance for the development of a NMP are not eligible. To be eligible for funding the participant must be in good standing with the Agency of Agriculture regarding regulatory requirements and resulting penalties.

I hereby authorize the NRCS to release information to the Agency concerning the location (including tract and field numbers) and the extent of cropland (including crop history for current year and acreage planted by field listed on this application) to make eligibility determinations. This information will remain privacy protected by the Agency as per a signed agreement between the USDA and the Agency.