



AGENCY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD & MARKETS

Water Quality Division
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Vermont Pay for Phosphorus (VPFP) Program Application
For Management Planning and Data Entry Payment for Calendar Year 2022

This application provides information necessary for the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFMM) to determine eligibility and review your application for funding for Management Planning and Data Entry. Selection for Phosphorus Reduction contracts will occur after data entry is complete. The deadline for this form is January 31, 2022.

1. Name (as shown on your income tax return) Phone

2. Business Name (as registered with Farm Service Agency (FSA))

3. Business Mailing Address
City, State, ZIP

4. Email

5. Farm Operation Size: SFO CSFO MFO LFO
6. Do you have farm records established with FSA? Yes No

7. Do you/your operation qualify as a Historically Underserved Producer (HUP)?
Yes No

8. If you/your operation qualify as a HUP, which of the following applies? (Leave blank if N/A)
Limited Resource Beginning Socially Disadvantaged Veteran Prefer not to say

9. What major watershed are you primarily located in?
Lake Champlain Lake Memphremagog Connecticut River Hudson River

10. Eligible Land Use Types Managed:

Table with 2 columns: Land Use Type, # Acres Annually. Rows include Corn, Hay, Soy, Vegetables, Small Grains, and TOTAL (may be verified).

11. Acres of Pasture:

Due to modelling limitations, pasture is not an eligible practice for 2022 program enrollment. However, we are investigating ways to incorporate pasture into future years / iterations of VPFP.

12. If enrolled in this program, would you like to be referred to work with a local Conservation District staff member who could assist you with data entry and upkeep for this program?

Yes, please refer me for help with data entry and upkeep
No, will perform the data entry and upkeep

**13. Which of the following conservation practices do you/would you implement on your operation?**

<b>Practice</b>	<b>Currently implement (~acres)</b>	<b>Might implement in future (~acres)</b>
Buffer		
Cover Crop		
Crop Rotation		
Grassed Waterway		
Reduced tillage/No till		
Manure incorporation		
Phosphorus Removal Technology		
Other		

**14. Which of the following payment programs support/have supported the implementation of field conservation practices on your operation?**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Currently supports (~acres)</b>	<b>Supported your field practices in the past?</b>
Field Agronomic Practices (FAP) program		
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)		
Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)		
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)		
Conservation Equipment Assistance Program (CEAP)		
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)		
Other		

**15. Approximately what proportion of your field acres would you estimate are under some sort of state or federal contract for conservation practice payments for this upcoming year?**

None      Much less than half      Approximately half      Much more than half      All

**16. Please describe which practices you are currently under contract/grant agreements for, and the scale of that installation funded on your farm.**

**17. Can you confirm that for all fields on your farm that are enrolled in an active federal contract for a specific practice or practices (e.g. cover crop), at least one additional conservation practice (e.g. reduced tillage, nutrient management, crop rotation, etc.) will be implemented during your enrollment in VFPF?**

Yes                      No

**APPLICATION CONTINUED – Eligibility Requirements**

<i><b>You <u>must</u> meet these requirements to be eligible for the VFPF program:</b></i>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>18.</b> Do you have farm records established through FSA?		
<b>19.</b> Do you have an up-to-date Nutrient Management Plan (NMP that meets the requirements of your farm size per the RAPs? <i>CSFOs, MFOs, and LFOs are required by the RAPs to maintain NMPs that meet the USDA NRCS 590 standard. SFOs are required to test soil and keep detailed records of nutrient applications and field management.</i>		
<b>20.</b> Do you have up-to-date soil tests on all fields? <i>According to the RAPs, CSFOs, MFOs, and LFOs must soil test each field at least once every 3 years. SFOs must soil test each field at least once every 5 years.</i>		
<b>21.</b> Do you have up-to-date manure tests for all sources? <i>According to the RAPs, CSFOs, MFOs, and LFOs must test each manure source at least once annually. There is no manure testing requirement for SFOs. More frequent manure tests are strongly recommended for farms who participate in this program.</i>		

*If you are not registered with FSA or do not have soil or manure tests or an up-to-date Nutrient Management Plan that meets the RAPs for your farm size, you must work to meet these requirements **PRIOR** to application. Your local Conservation District and/or FSA office can help you with this process.*

**22. What format are your field maps (that match the field IDs in your NMP)?**

Paper Copy      PDF      FSA shapefiles      TSP-generated shapefiles      \_\_\_\_\_

**23. What format is your NMP?**

GoCrop      Agricultural Consulting Services      Bourdeau Bros.      \_\_\_\_\_

**24. How recently was your NMP certified, and who certified it?**

**25. Please describe the work you have done in the past year to keep your NMP updated.**

When was your most recent NMP update completed? When do you anticipate that your next NMP update will be completed?  
Who are you working with on NMP planning and updates?

**26. Please describe the format of nutrient application records that you keep and the work that you do to keep that information up-to-date and organized.**

**27. Please describe the format of field management records that you keep and the work that you do to keep that information up-to-date and organized.**

**Producer information provided through this program will not be shared with regulatory staff or used for regulatory purposes and is protected from disclosure by Section 1619 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.**

*I understand that the VFPF Program relies on modeling of whole-farm nutrient reductions, based on records and verification of crop rotations, conservation practice implementation, and nutrient management. I consent to the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets collecting this information for the purpose of evaluating my farm management for payment through the Vermont Pay for Phosphorus Program.*

*I further understand that all management information collected through this program may be aggregated across all farm participants and shared in a manner that does not identify the data of individual producers.*

*Please indicate your understanding of and willingness to adhere to the following program expectations below:*

<b>As a requirement to participate in this program, I am willing to:</b>	YES	NO
<b>Share my complete nutrient management plan and maps</b> with technical assistance providers and AAFM program managers.		
<b>Keep detailed and accurate crop, planting and nutrient application records</b> and share them with program staff, if selected to receive Phosphorus Reduction Payment.		
<b>Learn about my farm management</b> through the Farm Phosphorus Reduction Planner (FarmPREP).		

Although administered by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM), the Vermont Pay for Phosphorus program is supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA NRCS), under Regional Conservation Partnership Program Agreement number 2145. Applicants must meet both state and federal requirements to be eligible.

*By signing below, you consent to all information shared on this page, in addition to the following authorizations:*

*I hereby authorize the NRCS and AAFM to share information concerning the location (including tract and field numbers) and the extent of cropland on my farm (including crop history for current year and conservation practice implementation by field under contract) with each other in relation to this application.*

*I further authorize the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) to release information regarding my farm to Brodie Haenke (AAFM) for farm records for any farms on which I am an owner/operator, or other producer, including the following:*

- Aerial Photography Property Map which includes farm ID, tract ID, field ID, acres and land use determinations such as HEL and WC.*
- Shapefiles which include farm ID, tract ID, field ID, and acres.*
- USDA - FSA form AD-1026A – Farming Interest*
- USDA - FSA form FSA-578 – Report of Acreage*
- Crop Records*

*This information will be used for the sole purpose of the Vermont Pay for Phosphorus Program.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ (Rev. 12/2021)

This grant application must be fully completed, signed, and submitted to the Agency by January 31, 2022 for consideration. Please submit to Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, VFPF Program, 116 State St. Montpelier VT 05620.

If you are deemed eligible and selected for Conservation Planning and Data Entry funding, a grant agreement will be sent to you.