

# Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District

## Fact Sheet

### Nutrient Management Program



Nutrient Management Planning involves managing the amount, source, placement, and timing of applications of manure, commercial fertilizer, and soil amendments to improve and protect soil and water resources while maintaining crop production.

The USDA- Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) provides payments for the establishment and implementation of a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) that utilizes manure and is completed by NRCS or Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) staff. The SWCD provides an additional matching payment through their Incentive Payment Practices (IPP) Program and works with the landowner to complete the NMP.

#### Payments:

- The EQIP pays \$4 per acre, per year, on a maximum of 250 acres, for a maximum of 3 years, for the implementation of a NMP that utilizes manure and is completed by NRCS or SWCD staff. The EQIP payment is made over a 3-year period. See the NRCS for additional details.
- The SWCD pays an additional \$4 per acre, per year, on a maximum of 250 acres, for a maximum of 3 years, for the implementation of a NMP that utilizes manure and is completed by NRCS or SWCD staff. Half of the total payment is made after the plan is completed. The other half of the total payment is made once the plan has been implemented for one year.

#### Example:

- EQIP = \$4/ac./yr. @ 250 ac. @ 3 yrs. = \$3,000
- SWCD = \$4/ac./yr. @ 250 ac. @ 3 yrs. = \$3,000
- Max. payment over life of contract = \$6,000

#### Landowner Responsibilities:

Creating a Nutrient Management Plan involves the following, but is not limited to:

- Develop realistic crop yield goals.
- Collect soil and manure samples.
- Keep field specific records of crops, yields, commercial fertilizer, and manure applications.
- Calibrate manure application equipment to determine the tons or gallons per acre applied, and to ensure that manure is applied uniformly.
- Develop a map that delineates setbacks for manure application from sensitive features (i.e. lakes, streams, tile intakes, wetlands, wells, etc.). Setbacks vary for land applied manure, injected or incorporated manure, and manure applied to frozen, snow-covered, or actively thawing soils.
- Follow all local, state and federal manure application rules and regulations.
- An SWCD or NRCS employee with the appropriate Technical Approval Authority must develop the NMP.
- The NMP must be developed, operated, and maintained according to USDA-EQIP Nutrient Management Requirements listed within the Minnesota NRCS EQIP Conservation Practice Payment Docket and according to the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide Conservation Practice Standard for Nutrient Management.
- All land under contract where manure will be applied must have wind, sheet, and rill erosion controlled to at least 6 tons per acre per year and have gully erosion under control.
- Other NRCS conditions may apply. See the NRCS for details.

#### Process:

Interested landowners should contact the SWCD. To be eligible for payment the landowner must sign up for EQIP and sign an IPP Program contract. All IPP Program payments are subject to approval by the SWCD Board of Supervisors.



### DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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