

Nutrient Management Plan Policy Checklist

The following is an outline of information needed for the development of a nutrient management plan (NMP) for all animal feeding operations with greater than 8 animal units or any person who owns, leases, or otherwise controls property in excess of 10 acres upon which nutrients are applied.

I. Plan Identification

1. Operator name, mailing address, telephone number _____
2. Farm/property identification(s) state watershed designation _____
3. Out of state properties _____
4. Nutrient consultant's name and company _____
 - (a) Address and telephone number _____
 - (b) Nutrient Management Consultant Delaware Certification Number _____
 - (c) State issuing certification _____
 - (d) Date of plan and duration of plan (not to exceed 3 years) _____
5. Description of agricultural commodities produced within the operation _____
6. Certification statement, signed by the operator, documenting the intention of nutrient management plan (NMP) or animal waste management plan implementation _____

II. Field maps and aerial photographs that include:

1. Individual field identification and boundaries _____
2. Copy of soil survey map showing all soil types on each field or the soil texture identification of all pertinent soils _____
3. Location of all surface waters including drainage ditches, streams, ponds, etc. _____
4. Irrigation systems where applicable _____

III. Crop and Nutrient Information

1. Total number and type of animals and annual waste generation estimation and handling methods _____
2. Budget of intended manure disposition identifying amounts for land application, exportation from farm, or other use. _____
3. Animal mortality disposal method _____
4. Description of any outside storage/stockpiling of manure _____
5. Total acres represented by this nutrient management plan and summary of needed nutrients _____
6. Realistic yield goal determined (average yield for the best 4 of the last 7 years) _____
7. Without yield records or with yield goals higher than average, use soil productivity classes with written justification. _____
8. Soil test (no older than 3 years) from an agronomic laboratory approved by DNMC _____
9. Current and planned crop rotation _____
10. Determine nitrogen rate based on expected crop yield of crop(s) to be grown _____

11. Phosphorus application is limited to 3-year crop removal rate in soils with a Fertility Index Value (FIV) of 150 or higher. Optionally, a University of Delaware Phosphorus Site Index (PSI) may be performed and Phosphorus may be added as recommended by the PSI value. Application rates limited to a 3-year crop removal may be exceeded in unforeseen situations and must be justified in writing by a certified nutrient consultant. For plans established prior to the deadline as established by the Delaware Agricultural Nutrient Management Policy, the phosphorus rate shall be recommended as reference, but only be limited by the nitrogen base rate. _____
12. Manure analysis results or a nutrient value estimate with written justification _____
13. Estimate residual nitrogen (organic nutrients, fertilizer, or legume crops from prior year) _____
14. Nutrient source(s) selected, rates, and approximate timing of application(s) _____

IV. Best Management Practices

Best Management Practices (BMPs) recommendations to enhance agronomic and environmental practices. BMPs shall be recommended to better advise and educate persons and are not to be interpreted as mandatory implementation actions of a plan (e.g., Pre-sidedress Soil Nitrate Test, cover crops, vegetative buffer strips, litter additives, manure incorporation, timing/method, etc.) _____

V. Implementation Requirements and Records

1. Department notified of plan changes due to circumstances beyond operator control _____
2. Manure stored or stockpiled in other than approved storage facility:
 - (a) At least 100 feet from any body of water or drainage ditch; _____
 - (b) At least 100 feet from any public road; _____
 - (c) At least 200 feet from any residence that is not located on the landowner's property; _____
 - (d) At least 6 feet high and in a conical shape. _____
3. Implementation records shall be maintained at the operation and shall include:
 - (a) Soil test results and recommended nutrient application rates or the NMP; _____
 - (b) Quantities, analyses, and sources of nutrients applied to cropland; _____
 - (c) Dates and methods of nutrient application; _____
 - (d) Crops planted, yields, and residues removed from land; _____
 - (e) Amount and type of manure exported from farm and the name, address, and organization responsible for utilizing exported manure. _____

VI. Reporting Requirements

1. The following information to be reported by March 1 of every calendar year:
 - (a) The amount of animal wastes applied and the quantity of land to which applied; _____
 - (b) The amount of animal wastes transferred for alternative uses (if applicable); _____
 - (c) The amount of inorganic fertilizers applied to the land; _____
 - (d) The Nutrient Management Plan Identification information. _____
2. Department notified within 60 days of completion and implementation of initial, legally required NMP _____
3. Updated Nutrient Management Plan by December 15
 - (a) The year requiring update (3years) _____
 - (b) Upon a 25% increase in animal units or acres of crops grown _____