



# Nutrient Management Fact Sheet: Louisiana

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**Disclaimer:** This document does not constitute legal advice and is intended for educational purposes only. Readers and users are solely responsible for determining, and complying with, all federal, state and local laws, ordinances and regulations.

## Nutrient Management Plans

Topic	Summary
Coverage	Dairy operations seeking coverage under a General Permit/LPDES must implement a Nutrient Management Plan. <sup>1</sup>
Content	<p>A Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) must: <sup>2</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure adequate storage of manure and process wastewater, including proper operation and maintenance and meeting the requirements described below.</li> <li>- Ensure that clean water is diverted from the production area.</li> <li>- Prevent direct contact of confined animals with the waters of the state.</li> <li>- Identify appropriate site-specific conservation practices to be implemented, including buffers or equivalent practices, as appropriate.</li> <li>- Identify protocols for appropriate testing of manure, process wastewater, and soil.</li> <li>- Establish protocols to land apply manure or process wastewater in accordance with site-specific nutrient management practices.</li> <li>- Identify specific records that will be maintained.</li> </ul>
Frequency of Updates	There is not a reference to update frequency requirements, but annual reports are required.
Paperwork	Records must be kept for five years, and both records and the NMP must be made available to state officials upon request. The NMP is made available for public comment. <sup>3</sup>
Planner Qualifications	The annual report must include a statement indicating whether the current version of the NMP was developed or approved by an NRCS certified nutrient management planner. <sup>4</sup>

## Manure Storage and Application

Topic	Summary
Storage	<p><a href="#"><u>Structure</u></a></p> <p>Under the LPDES, the production area must be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to contain all manure and process wastewater, including the runoff and the direct precipitation from a 25-year, 24-hour rainfall event. Alternatives to these standards may be accepted. <sup>5</sup></p>
Application	<p><a href="#"><u>Spreading</u></a></p>



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Under the LPDES, land application rates must be developed using the linear or narrative rate approaches. Manure and process wastewater land application setback of 100 feet to any down-gradient surface waters, open tile line intake structures, sinkholes, agriculture well heads, or other conduits to surface waters. A 35-foot-wide vegetated buffer or other conservation practice may be used in place of the 100-foot setback.<sup>6</sup>

### Testing

Under the LPDES permit, manure must be analyzed a minimum of once annually for nitrogen and phosphorus content, and soil analyzed a minimum of once every five years for phosphorus content.<sup>7</sup>

### Technical Assistance

Topic	Summary
Software Tools	<p>The <a href="#">Cover Crop Decision Tool</a> can assist LA farmers in adopting cover crop and tillage practices to reduce soil erosion and nutrient use.</p> <p><a href="#">NetDMR</a> is a web-based tool that allows facilities to electronically sign and submit LPDES discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) to the LA Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ).</p> <p><a href="#">Manure Management Planner (MMP)</a> is a software tool created by Purdue University for Louisiana farmers to create manure management plans for crop and animal feeding operations.</p>
Guides / Handbooks	<p>LA NRCS <a href="#">nutrient management 590 standard</a>.</p> <p>A template to create a Best Management Practices Plan for solid waste management can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>LSU AgCenter published this <a href="#">guide</a> to ensure proper on-farm manure management.</p>
Classes / Trainings	<p>The <a href="#">LA Master Farmer Program</a> is a voluntary certification program that focuses on helping agricultural producers address environmental concerns while enhancing production and resource management skills through three phases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Be present for 5-6 hours of classroom instruction on environmental stewardship topics like the Non-point Source Pollution Program.</li> <li>2. Attend one in-person or virtual tours of a demonstration farm or research station where specific BMPs are discussed and demonstrated.</li> <li>3. Develop a farm-specific Resource Management System (RMS) plan.</li> </ol>



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### Financial Assistance

#### Summary

LA NRCS provides assistance through:

- Environmental Quality Incentives Program ([EQIP](#)) - offers financial cost-share assistance to farmers for the adoption of conservation practices and development of nutrient management plans.
- Conservation Stewardship Program ([CSP](#)), which gives producers financial assistance to implement new conservation management practices and enhancements.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://deq.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/Legal\\_Affairs/33v09-201605-Water-Quality.pdf](https://deq.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/Legal_Affairs/33v09-201605-Water-Quality.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://deq.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/Legal\\_Affairs/33v09-201605-Water-Quality.pdf](https://deq.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/Legal_Affairs/33v09-201605-Water-Quality.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [https://deq.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/Legal\\_Affairs/33v09-201605-Water-Quality.pdf](https://deq.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/Legal_Affairs/33v09-201605-Water-Quality.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [https://deq.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/Legal\\_Affairs/33v09-201605-Water-Quality.pdf](https://deq.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/Legal_Affairs/33v09-201605-Water-Quality.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/40/part-412>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/40/part-412>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/40/part-412>