



# Nutrient Management Fact Sheet: West Virginia

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## Nutrient Management Plans

Topic	Summary
Coverage	<p>Large CAFOs (700 mature dairy cows) seeking coverage under an NPDES Permit must have a Nutrient Management Plan. <sup>1</sup></p> <p>Unpermitted large CAFOs must have a Nutrient Management Plan and maintain the documentation on-site or at a nearby office. <sup>2</sup></p> <p>According to West Virginia’s Watershed Improvement Plan for the Chesapeake Bay, the West Virginia Department of Agricultural manages a voluntary Nutrient Management Program that incorporates soil sampling, soil and manure analysis, and plan writing at no cost to West Virginia agricultural producers. <sup>3</sup></p>
Content	<p>Nutrient Management Plans must: <sup>4</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure adequate storage of manure and process wastewater.</li> <li>- Ensure that clean water is diverted.</li> <li>- Prevent direct contact of confined animals with the waters of West Virginia.</li> <li>- Ensure that chemicals and other contaminants handled on-site are not disposed of in manure, process wastewater or stormwater.</li> <li>- Identify appropriate site-specific conservation practices to be implemented.</li> <li>- Identify protocols for appropriate testing of manure, process wastewater and soil.</li> <li>- Establish protocols to land-apply manure and/or process wastewater in accordance with site-specific nutrient management practices.</li> <li>- Identify specific records that will be maintained to document the implantation and management.</li> </ul>
Frequency of Updates	<p>There is not a reference to update frequency, but annual reports are required.</p>
Paperwork	<p>Records must be maintained for 5 years. Annual reports must be submitted to the Director. <sup>5</sup> Permits are made available for public review and comment.</p>
Planner Qualifications	<p>The annual report must contain a statement indicating whether the current version of the NMP was developed or approved by a certified nutrient management planner. <sup>6</sup></p>



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### Manure Storage and Application

Topic	Summary
Storage	<p><u><a href="#">Structure</a></u></p> <p>The NMP includes a requirement for ensuring adequate storage of manure and process wastewater.</p> <p>Under the NPDES, 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. <sup>7</sup></p>
Application	<p><u><a href="#">Spreading</a></u></p> <p>The NMP must include land application rates calculated using the linear or narrative rate approaches. <sup>8</sup></p> <p>Under the NPDES, manure and process wastewater may not be applied closer than 100 feet to any down-gradient surface waters, open tile line intake structures, sinkholes, and agricultural well heads or other conduits to surface waters. A 35-foot buffer or alternative conservation practice may be substituted. <sup>9</sup></p> <p><u><a href="#">Testing</a></u></p> <p>Under the NPDES, 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>10</sup></p> <p>Soil samples are analyzed by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture's laboratory in Moorefield, with soil sampling performed every three years. <sup>11</sup></p>

### Technical Assistance

Topic	Summary
Software Tools	<p><u><a href="#">Manure Management Planner (MMP)</a></u> is a software tool created by Purdue University that includes state-specific information for West Virginia farmers to create manure management plans for crop and animal feeding operations.</p>
Guides / Handbooks	<p>WV NRCS <u><a href="#">nutrient management 590 standard</a></u>.</p>
Classes / Trainings	<p>WV has a <u><a href="#">voluntary certification program</a></u> available to individuals guiding farmers or others to manage manures or organic by-products.</p>
Tailored Expert Assistance	<p>WVDA currently employs four full-time <u><a href="#">Nutrient Management Specialists</a></u> who work with agricultural producers to provide them with NMPs.</p>



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### Financial Assistance

#### Summary

The WV Agricultural Enhancement Program ([AgEP](#)) offers financial incentives for producers to adopt BMPs, including cover crops, critical area planting, and heavy use protection areas. Producers interested in applying for cost-share funding should check with their Conservation District for eligible AgEP BMPs.

WV 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://apps.sos.wv.gov/adlaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=23653&Format=PDF>

<sup>2</sup> <https://apps.sos.wv.gov/adlaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=23653&Format=PDF>

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.wvca.us/bay/files/bay\\_documents/1298\\_WV\\_WIP3\\_final\\_082319.pdf](https://www.wvca.us/bay/files/bay_documents/1298_WV_WIP3_final_082319.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://apps.sos.wv.gov/adlaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=23653&Format=PDF>

<sup>5</sup> <https://apps.sos.wv.gov/adlaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=23653&Format=PDF>

<sup>6</sup> <https://apps.sos.wv.gov/adlaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=23653&Format=PDF>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/40/412.31>

<sup>8</sup> <https://apps.sos.wv.gov/adlaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=23653&Format=PDF>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/40/412.4>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/40/412.4>

<sup>11</sup> [https://www.wvca.us/bay/files/bay\\_documents/1298\\_WV\\_WIP3\\_final\\_082319.pdf](https://www.wvca.us/bay/files/bay_documents/1298_WV_WIP3_final_082319.pdf)