

Why have a Nutrient Management Plan?

Improve farm economics

Gain an understanding of farm environmental features and considerations.

Inform your neighbors

Your plan can be used as a public relations talking tool. The more farmers know the more leverage they have with their community.

Get ahead of and **be compliant** with State Regulations.



Vermont farmers who have developed Nutrient Management Plans have reduced their fertilizer cost, on average, by **23%** and have increased implementation of agronomics conservation practices.



Contact your local Conservation District

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Farm Nutrient Management Planning in Vermont

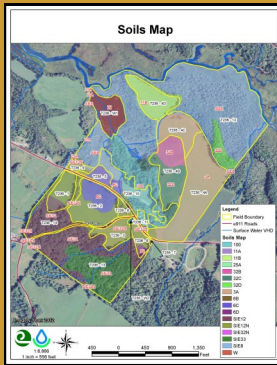
Vermont Association of Conservation Districts

Protecting our working landscape

What is a Nutrient Management Plan?

A nutrient management plan (NMP) is a relevant farm analysis tool.

Nutrient planning can optimize yield goals, minimize inputs, and increase awareness of potential environmental risk of non-point source pollution. This is accomplished by using farm nutrients more efficiently through planning, detailing and budgeting manure and fertilizer usage based on plant production, environmental conditions and utilization of agronomic conservation practices.



Farm planning and observation combined with management and efficient application of nutrients in the right form, in the right place, and at the right time are the basic principles of nutrient management.

If these principles are understood and followed, profitability will increase with more informed crop production at reduced costs while maintaining, improving and protecting water and soil resources.

Components Needed to Complete a Plan

Current soil tests for at least 50% of fields.

Current manure analysis from each storage area.

Production information for manure, other nutrients, waste water, and bedding.

Maps

Six maps are needed for all areas managed by the farm. Conservation Map, Soils Map, Topographical Map, Nitrate Leaching Map, Environmental Concerns Map, & Farm Headquarters Proximity Map.

RUSLE2

The Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation—version 2 is a calculated model of the erosion rate for each particular field soil type that must be at or below the tolerable soil loss level.

Phosphorus Index

An assessment used to identify high potential phosphorous runoff from farm fields.

Cropping History

Annual Updates and Record Keeping



Financial and Technical Assistance



UVM Extension goCrop app

Conservation Districts

- Soil and Manure Sampling Support and Services
- Assistance with State Accepted Agricultural Practices (AAPs)
- Farm Assessments
- Support with State and Federal Program

NRCS

- Nutrient Management Plan Development and Implementation Funding Assistance and Guidance
- Soil Health and Agronomic Conservation Practice Implementation Funding Assistance and Guidance

UVM Extension

- Offers Nutrient Management Plan Development Courses for Farmers.
- Designs and Delivers Web Application, goCrop.
- Provides Research and Experimental Cropping Information and Guidance