

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN PRACTICE GUIDELINES

590 Nutrient Management Plan (No.) & (Acres)
\$8/acre; \$2/acre supplement (landuser) \$4/acre (TSP)
TMDL watershed areas only: \$12/acre; \$2/acre supplement (landuser) \$4/acre (TSP)
Additional \$2/acre w/ conservation practice installation

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Nutrient Management Plan Practice, eligible under the C-2000 Program, is to provide an incentive and an educational tool to assist agricultural producers in optimizing the application of nutrients for plant production while minimizing offsite impacts to the environment and protecting water quality. Eligibility is limited to fields where the next crop planted is scheduled for an application of N, P or K fertilizer.

PRACTICE STANDARD

To be eligible for a C-2000 Program incentive payment, a Nutrient Management Plan must follow the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservation practice standard for Nutrient Management (Code 590). The NRCS conservation practice standard for nutrient management plans includes the *University of Illinois, Illinois Agronomy Handbook* recommendations for rate, timing and placement of nutrients and procedures for soil sampling and calculating yield potential.

NOTE: NRCS Practice Standard 590 requires that records documenting plan implementation be maintained for five years (one year following expiration of the plan). Appropriate records are listed in NRCS Nutrient Management Practice Standard 590 (590 - 7).

LAND ELIGIBILITY

A landuser is eligible to apply for and receive Nutrient Management Planning assistance provided he/she is a Cooperator or has a signed agreement with the SWCD and has a conservation plan or appropriate agreement (C-2000/NMP-1) on file approved by the SWCD. Renters of land may also apply for cost-share assistance provided that the landowner or authorized agent of the landowner also signs an agreement for C-2000 Program monies to be received. Public entities (i.e. community colleges, municipalities, county forest preserves, etc.) can qualify for C-2000 Program assistance only if monies are available after all eligible private sector requests have been approved. All cropland and pastureland that is actively used for producing an agricultural commodity or plant material is eligible for the Nutrient Management Plan Practice provided other eligibility and selection criteria are met. There is a 200 acre limit for which incentive payments may be received in any fiscal year and plans must be prepared for a minimum of 10 acres. SWCDs may choose to further limit the number of acres on which a landuser may have nutrient management plans prepared.

LANDUSER ELIGIBILITY

Landusers who meet program eligibility and selection criteria may receive a Nutrient Management Plan incentive payment one time only on the same farm, operating unit or acreage.

APPLICATION

Landusers who are interested in the Nutrient Management Plan Practice may apply at the SWCD office in the county where the agricultural land is located. Form C-2000/NMP-1 (Application/Payment Form) will be used to request the Nutrient Management Plan Practice, along with other eligible conservation projects.