

WISCONSIN'S RUNOFF RULES

Preserving farmland maintains productive farms, farmers, farm service providers, and therefore our agricultural community. Farms, like all major industries must follow environmental requirements to control runoff from fields, pastures, and livestock facilities that may harm the quality of our lakes, streams, wetlands, and groundwater. This brochure provides basic information landowners need to know about these practices and how to meet them.



HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

(only for Farmland Preservation Program participants after 7/1/2009)

Status reviews include a farm visit and performance review of soil and water conservation performance practices. The status review and associated service fee occurs every four years:

Acres	Cost
1-100	\$50
101-200	\$100
Each additional 200 acres	\$50

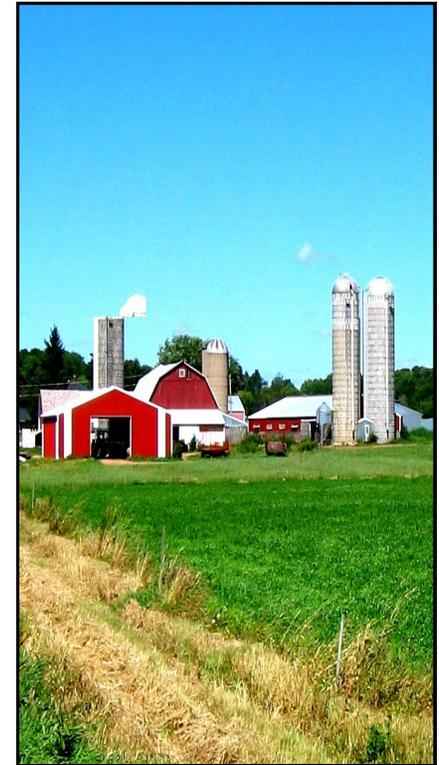


MARATHON COUNTY

What landowners need to know about Conservation Performance Practices



Conservation, Planning & Zoning Department



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Agricultural Standards and Prohibitions

All farmers must:

- Develop and follow a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) for cropland (and pastures*) designed to keep nutrients and sediment from entering surface and ground waters.
- Use the WI Phosphorus Index to ensure that their NMP adequately controls phosphorus runoff.*
- Meet tolerable soil loss ("T") on cropped fields (and pastures*).



Farmers with livestock must:

- Prevent direct runoff from feedlots, barnyards, and manure storage into waters of the state.
- Prevent significant discharges of process wastewater (milkhouse waste, feed leachate, etc.) into lakes, streams, wetlands, or groundwater.*

Farmers who have, or plan to build, manure storage structures must:

- Repair or upgrade any failing or leaking structures to prevent negative impacts to public health, aquatic life, and groundwater.
- Prevent overflowing of structures.
- Close idle structures according to accepted standards.
- Meet technical standards for newly constructed or significantly altered structures.

Farmers with land in a water quality management area (300 feet from a river or stream, 1,000 feet from a lake, pond or flowage, or in areas susceptible to groundwater contamination) must:

- Never stack manure in unconfined piles.
- Divert clean water away from feedlots/ barnyards, and manure storage areas located within this area.
- Avoid tillage along the edge of the bank of perennial surface waters.*
- Limit access or manage livestock along lakes, streams, and wetlands to maintain vegetative cover and prevent erosion.

* Delayed implementation for Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) participants until January 1, 2016; and, not required for FPP Agreements signed prior to May 1, 2014.

How do Farmland Preservation Program participants know if they are meeting the standards and prohibitions?

Contact the county land conservation staff for further details on these practices and to schedule a farm visit to conduct a status review to evaluate the farm according to the conservation performance standards.



COST-SHARE FUNDING may be available to assist with conservation performance practice installation and implementation. Some state and local programs may require participants to meet the standards whether or not cost-share funds are available.