

Chapter ATCP 50

SOIL AND WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Soil and Water Conservation on Farms

Note: Under s. 281.16, Stats., DNR is primarily responsible for adopting performance standards to prevent pollution runoff from farms. The department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection ("DATCP") must prescribe conservation practices to implement the DNR performance standards. DATCP must also establish soil conservation and farm nutrient management requirements. ATCP 50 spells out a single set of farm conservation practices that incorporates DNR performance standards by reference. Counties play a major role in implementing conservation practices on farms. Conservation requirements are contingent on cost-sharing.

ATCP 50.04 Farm conservation practices. Except as provided in s. ATCP 50.08, a landowner engaged in agricultural practices in this state shall implement the following conservation practices:

(1) **NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION CONTROL.** A landowner shall implement conservation practices that achieve compliance with DNR performance standards under ss. NR 151.02 to 151.08, in effect on May 1, 2014.

(2) **SOIL EROSION CONTROL.** A landowner shall manage all fields including pastures, and related field practices, so that soil erosion rates on cropped and pastured soils do not exceed T-value.

(3) **NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN.** (a) A landowner shall have and follow an annual nutrient management plan when applying nutrients to any field, including pastures, after the date specified in par. (h).

(4) **TILLAGE SETBACK.** (a) A landowner shall manage cropland to achieve compliance with the DNR performance standard for tillage setback under s. NR 151.03.

ATCP 50.40 Cost-share grants to landowners.

(1) **GENERAL.** ATCP 50.40(1)(a) A county land conservation committee may use grant funds awarded to the county under s. ATCP 50.34 to make cost-share grants to landowners for any of the purposes authorized under s. ATCP 50.34 (1).

The Forest County Land Conservation Department has contacts with State and Federal Agencies to provide resources and cost sharing to assist you in meeting the requirements of the State laws.

The Forest County Land Conservation Department works closely with DATCP and the Natural Resource Conservation Service to find resources to assist farmers and agricultural producers in meeting requirements to protect our natural resources. The following are some practices that qualify for cost share assistance:

DATCP

ATCP 50.66 Trails and walkways.
ATCP 50.67 Contour farming.
ATCP 50.68 Cover crop.
ATCP 50.69 Critical area stabilization
ATCP 50.62 Manure storage systems.
ATCP 50.63 Manure storage system closure.
ATCP 50.64 Barnyard runoff control systems.
ATCP 50.65 Access road.
ATCP 50.70 Diversions.
ATCP 50.705 Feed storage runoff control systems.
ATCP 50.71 Field windbreaks.
ATCP 50.72 Filter strips.
ATCP 50.73 Grade stabilization structures.
ATCP 50.75 Livestock fencing
ATCP 50.76 Livestock watering facilities.
ATCP 50.77 Milking center waste control systems.
ATCP 50.78 Nutrient management.
ATCP 50.79 Pesticide management.
ATCP 50.80 Prescribed grazing.
ATCP 50.81 Relocating or abandoning animal feeding operations.
ATCP 50.82 Residue management.
ATCP 50.83 Riparian buffers.
ATCP 50.84 Roofs.
ATCP 50.85 Roof runoff systems.
ATCP 50.86 Sediment basins.
ATCP 50.87 Sinkhole treatment.
ATCP 50.88 Streambank or shoreline protection.
ATCP 50.885 Stream Crossing.
ATCP 50.89 Stripcropping.
ATCP 50.90 Subsurface drains.
ATCP 50.91 Terrace systems.
ATCP 50.92 Underground outlets.
ATCP 50.93 Waste transfer systems.
ATCP 50.94 Wastewater treatment strips.
ATCP 50.95 Water and sediment control basins.
ATCP 50.96 Waterway systems.
ATCP 50.98 Wetland development or restoration

FOREST COUNTY HAS OVER 400

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS AND SOME OF THESE PRODUCERS ARE NEGATIVELY EFFECTING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES!

PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO :
1. DISCUSS THE APPLICABLE REGULATIONS
2. DISCUSS COST SHARE PROGRAMS
3. SCHEDULE A "NO HASSLE" VISIT

PLEASE CALL

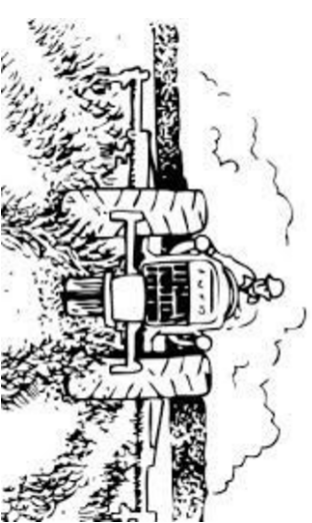
FOREST COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION

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FOREST COUNTY



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**FARMERS AND
AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCERS
STATE REGULATIONS
AND COST SHARE
OPPORTUNITIES**

This document was produced by the Forest County Land Conservation Department to provide farmers and agricultural producers with basic information regarding state regulations which may affect their operations. The document also includes information on programs which may offer assistance in meeting the requirements of those regulations.

Small and Family Farms

More than 90 percent of farms in the U.S. are classified as small, with a gross cash farm income of \$250,000, or less. These farms, most of which are family-owned and operated, confront considerable challenges due to current trends, such as increased movement into cities, an aging population, farm consolidation, and changing weather patterns.

Forest County has its own unique challenges for small farms including very limited markets, long distances to suppliers, short growing seasons, and challenging soil conditions.

IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY AND SMALL FARMS

Family and small farms are vital to our economy and well-being as a county and a nation. Not only do they support the competitiveness and sustainability of rural and farm economies, they serve to:

1. Protect and enhance natural resources and the environment
2. Provide a nursery for the development of new enterprises and marketing systems
3. Maintain rural populations

Small farms like yours are critical to the economy and well being of Forest County to protect our natural resources, provide local food sources, and maintain our population!

As a farmer or agricultural producer you do have a substantial liability in regards to state statutes with special attention to soil erosion and water quality. Two primary statutes that affect your operations are:

Chapter NR 151- RUNOFF MANAGEMENT

Chapter ATCP 50- SOIL AND WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Chapter NR 151 RUNOFF MANAGEMENT- BASICS

NR 151.001 Purpose. This chapter establishes runoff pollution performance standards for non-agricultural facilities and transportation facilities and performance standards and prohibitions for agricultural facilities and practices designed to achieve water quality standards as required by s. 281.16 (2) and (3), Stats.

NR 151.02 Sheet, rill and wind erosion performance standard. (1) All land where crops or feed are grown, including pastures, shall be managed to achieve a soil erosion rate equal to, or less than, the "tolerable" (T) rate established for that soil. (2) This standard first applies to pastures beginning July 1, 2012.

NR 151.03 Tillage setback performance standard. The purpose of this standard is to prevent tillage operations from destroying stream banks and depositing soil directly in surface waters. In this section, "surface water" has the meaning given in s. NR 102.03 (7). (1) No crop producer may conduct a tillage operation that negatively impacts stream bank integrity or deposits soil directly in surface waters. (2) No tillage operations may be conducted within 5 feet of the top of the channel of surface waters. Tillage setbacks greater than 5 feet but no more than 20 feet may be required to meet this standard. (3) Crop producers shall maintain the area within the tillage setback required under sub. (2) in adequate sod or self-sustaining vegetative cover that provides a minimum of 70% coverage. (4) This section does not apply to grassed waterways installed as conservation practices.

NR 151.04 Phosphorus index performance standard. (1) All crop and livestock producers shall comply with this section. (2) (a) Croplands, pastures, and winter grazing areas shall average a phosphorus index of 6 or less over the accounting period and may not exceed a phosphorus index of 12 in any individual year within the accounting period. (b) Except as provided under sub. (3), for purposes of compliance with this section the phosphorus index shall be calculated using the version of the Wisconsin Phosphorus Index available as of January 1, 2011.

NR 151.05 Manure storage facilities performance standards. (1) APPLICABILITY. All livestock producers building new manure storage facilities, or substantially altering manure storage facilities, or choosing to abandon their manure storage facilities shall comply with this section.

NR 151.055 Process wastewater handling performance standard. (1) All livestock producers shall comply with this section. (2) There may be no significant discharge of process wastewater to waters of the state.

NR 151.06 Clean water diversion performance standard. (1) All livestock producers within a water quality management area shall comply with this section. (2) Runoff shall be diverted away from contacting feedlot, manure storage areas and barnyard areas within water quality management areas except that a diversion to protect a private well under s. NR 151.015 (18) (a) is required only when the feedlot, manure storage

NR 151.07 Nutrient management. (1) All crop producers and livestock producers that apply manure or other nutrients directly or through contract to agricultural fields shall comply with this section.

NR 151.08 Manure management prohibitions. (1) All livestock producers shall comply with this section. (2) A livestock operation shall have no overflow of manure storage facilities. (3) A livestock operation shall have no unconfined manure pile in a water quality management area. (4) A livestock operation shall have no direct runoff from a feedlot or stored manure into the waters of the state. (5) (a) A livestock operation may not allow unlimited access by livestock to waters of the state in a location where high concentrations of animals prevent the maintenance of adequate sod or self-sustaining vegetative cover. (b) This prohibition does not apply to properly designed, installed and maintained livestock or farm equipment crossings.