

Ag Performance Standards: All farms in the state are being required to achieve and maintain compliance with Ag Performance Standards

Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Department (LWCD) employees are contacting farmers throughout the county in an effort to assess their current compliance status with state Ag Performance Standards. LWCD employees are informing farmers about the Standards, how they affect their operation, and what is required to bring them into compliance.

What are Wisconsin Ag Performance Standards?

NR151: Runoff Management is Wisconsin's administrative code that establishes polluted runoff performance standards for agricultural facilities and practices, as well as non-agricultural practices. These Ag Performance Standards are intended to be the minimum requirements to protect water quality. The code also establishes implementation and enforcement provisions.



The standards and prohibitions are intended to protect water quality by minimizing the amount of soil erosion, nutrients from manure and croplands, and other nonpoint source pollutants that enter waterways. This is done by evaluating 8 key elements:

1. Sheet, Rill, and Wind Erosion
2. Manure Storage Facilities
3. Clean Water Diversions
4. Nutrient Management
5. Tillage Setbacks
6. Phosphorous Index
7. Wastewater Handling
8. Manure Management

Winnebago County LWCD plays a key role in helping landowners understand and meet these new requirements.

What Does It Mean to Farmers?

Winnebago County LWCD will be working individually with farmers to check for compliance on their farms. In order to verify compliance county staff will:

- Walk fields for each farm looking for areas of erosion concern
- Walk farm sites & barnyards looking for runoff concerns from manure & feed storage leachate
- Verify the farmer has a phosphorous based Nutrient Management Plan

The goal of Winnebago County is to have all farms within the county in compliance. Due to requirements, LWCD employees are directing their focus first on FPP Participants. In the near future they will review all other farms.

Compliant or Not? What Happens Next?

After the walk through, each farm will be notified of their current compliance status. If it is found that a farm is not compliant a schedule and timeline will be set up to accomplish compliance. For those farms that are not, cost sharing may be available to help offset the costs of bringing a farm into compliance.

LWCD employees look forward to working with Winnebago County farmers to help bring the entire county into compliance. If you are interested in getting on the list, please contact:



Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Dept.

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For more information about runoff management in Wisconsin and topics found in this brochure please visit:

runoffinfo.uwex.edu