**BMP Criteria & Incentive Payments**

**Program Requirements for all practices:***
- Within 14-county Project Area
- Must have a Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan
- Must not be participating in other programs on enrolled acres
- May be enrolled for up to 4 Year

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| **1. Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan** | - Voluntary Nutrient Management Plans (VNMP) developed through this program must meet the minimum requirements set forth in ORC 905.31(DD)  
- VNMP may be developed by a 4R Certified Ag Retailer, Certified Crop Advisor (CCA), Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), or producer  
- Plans must be reviewed and approved by the local SWCD Board of Supervisors or director’s designee  
- Producers utilizing a 4R Certified Ag Retailer, who is a director’s designee, will need to submit their nutrient management plan to the local SWCD  
- Average yield goals shall be used for phosphorus and potassium fertilizer recommendations | $2.00/Ac. For development  
$2.00/Ac for Implementation for up to 4 years |
| **2. Variable Rate Phosphorus Application** | - Grids may be no greater than six acres, zones may be no greater than 12 acres  
- All phosphorus nutrients will be variable rate applied, consistent with prescription provided  
- Phosphorus prescriptions and applications shall not exceed two-year crop recommendations  
- Producer is eligible for payment in fields where phosphorus variable rate application is completed  
- If prescription calls for no phosphorus application, that field is not eligible for variable rate application  
- Broadcast applications of wheat starter are ineligible  
- A geo-referenced as-applied map will be submitted to the local SWCD | $8.00/Ac for verified enrolled acres |
| **3. Subsurface Phosphorus Placement** | - Producer must provide detailed plan of fertilizer and placement equipment to be used to achieve program requirements  
- For the length of the agreement, all phosphorus will be placed a minimum of two inches below the surface for each acre contracted  
- Phosphorus rates shall not exceed more than two years Tri-State Fertilizer Recommendation  
- Phosphorus may be placed in multiple applications, if the total amount does not exceed VNMP  
- Wheat starter at removal rate is exempt from the placement requirement, however, no placement payment will be made for that crop year  
- Subsurface placement equipment includes, but is not limited to; planter, sidedress, strip-till or nutrient placement toolbars  
- Broadcasting and incorporation of phosphorus is not eligible  
- Producers will only be paid for acres on which fertilizer is prescribed and applied in accordance with Tri-State Fertilizer Recommendations  
- Potassium may be broadcast | $30.00/Ac for verified as-applied acres |
| **4. Manure Incorporation** | - Producer must provide a nutrient management plan consistent with Ohio NRCS 590 Standard  
- Manure application is consistent with the requirements established in Ohio NRCS 590 Standard  
- Manure cannot be surface applied to frozen, snow-covered or saturated soils  
- Manure cannot be surface applied when the local weather forecast for the application area contains greater than a 50% chance of precipitation exceeding one-half inch in a 24-hour period  
- Fields receiving manure must have soil tests showing Bray P1 levels of 50 ppm or less. Grid sampled fields must have an average Bray P1 soil test phosphorus of 50 ppm  
- Manure applied for this practice must originate in the county of application or from within the Maumee watershed  
- Manure application must be accomplished consistent with one of the following methods and timing  
- Manure is applied via side dress injection to a growing corn crop after emergence  
- Manure is surface applied to a growing corn crop after emergence and incorporated using a row cultivator within 24 hours of application  
- Manure is surface applied after the harvest of a small grain and incorporated within 24 hours of application; furthermore, all incorporation shall be completed prior to October 15 | $35.00/Ac for verified as-applied acres of poultry litter  
$60.00/Ac for verified as-applied acres all other manure |
## BMP Criteria & Incentive Payments

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| **4. Manure Incorporation (Cont.)** | - Manure is injected directly into the soil through a strip-till toolbar or similar tool with minimal surface disruption after harvest and prior to October 15  
- All manure will be placed a minimum of two inches below the surface  
- Surface applied manure must be incorporated using a full-width disturbance tillage tool to mix the manure with the soil  
- A cover crop is required for manure applications completed after July 1 and where a growing crop is not present  
- If an overwintering cover crop is used, the producer may also be eligible for the Overwintering Cover Crop practice  
- Plant available nitrogen applied through the manure shall not exceed the nitrogen recommendations for the existing crop or the following years planned crop, whichever is applicable. If the following crop is a legume, nitrogen can be applied at the nitrogen removal rate for the legume crop up to a maximum of 150 pounds of plant available nitrogen  
- All manure applications and incorporation must be completed by October 15 |

|        | **$35.00/Ac for verified acres of poultry litter** |
|        | **$60.00/Ac for verified acres all other manure** |

| **5a. Conservation Crop Rotation – Small Grains** | - Small grains are winter annuals (wheat, barley, rye, etc.)  
- Crop must be harvested as a grain, crop cannot be harvested as a forage  
- A cover crop or double crop is required to be planted following the harvest of the small grain crop  
- Cover crops or double crop must be planted by October 15  
- Seeding rates and dates for cover crops shall follow NRCS Appendix A (11-19-19) seeding table  
- If an overwintering cover crop is used, the producer may also be eligible for the Overwintering Cover Crop practice  
- All nutrients must be applied in accordance with approved VNMP  
- No manure shall be applied following the seeding of the cover crop nor prior to March 15  
- Fertilizer may be placed a minimum of two inches below the soil surface with a placement tool or by strip tillage providing cover crop residue is maintained outside the placement area  
- No broadcast fertilizer applications are allowed during the time period the cover crop or double crop is required to be maintained  
- Crop residue must be maintained until March 15, no fall or winter full width tillage is allowed |

|        | **$35.00/Ac for verified acres** |

| **5b. Conservation Crop Rotation – Forages** | - Perennial forages must be established in the rotation  
- Seeding rates for forages shall follow NRCS Appendix A seeding table or OSU Agronomy Guide, 15th ed.  
- Manure and/or fertilizer applications, following the approved VNMP, are permitted between March 15 and October 15  
- Practice must be maintained a minimum of two years from the date of practice installation  
- Residual forage height must be a minimum of four inches height by October 15 each year  
- Residual forage must be maintained during the non-growing season  
- Grazing according to a Grazing Management Plan between March 15 and October 15 is permitted |

|        | **$35.00/Ac for verified acres** |

| **6. Overwintering Cover Crops** | - Establish overwintering cover crop no later than October 15  
- The completed practice must meet the criteria for seeding, establishment and maintenance per NRCS Appendix A, including seed quality and testing requirements  
- Seed mix must include a minimum of 50% of full rate of an overwintering species  
- Cover crop must be maintained until March 15  
- Crop can be harvested as a forage or grazed after March 15  
- Manure and/or fertilizer, based on the VNMP, may be applied prior to seeding or after March 15  
- Manure shall not be applied on frozen, snow-covered or saturated soils or applied when the local weather forecast for the application area contains greater than a 50% chance of precipitation exceeding one-half inch in a 24-hour period  
- Fertilizer shall not be applied on frozen, snow-covered or saturated soils or applied when the local weather forecast for the application area contains greater than a 50% chance of precipitation exceeding one inch in a 12-hour period |

|        | **$25.00/Ac for verified acres** |

| **7. Drainage Water Management** | - Outlet pipe needs to be a minimum of six inches in diameter  
- Outlet structures need to be installed per engineering plan  
- Minimum 10 acres controllable area based on a 30 inches control height without submain installation  
- Minimum 20 acres controllable area based on a 30 inches control height with submain installation  
- Structures should not be installed on a main tile that drains another landowner’s land, unless written permission is obtained from the upstream landowners  
- Producer will provide SWCD or DSWC access to the control structure |

|        | **$1,500 per site w/o main.**  
|        | **$4,000 per site with main**  
|        | **$200/structure/year for verified management** |
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For more information stop in the SWCD office: