



State of Wisconsin

Land and Water Conservation Board

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Land and Water Conservation Board Agenda

August 4, 2026

The Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) will meet on **August 4, 2026**. The board will hold its official business meeting at 9:00 am via Microsoft Teams and at 2811 Agriculture Drive, Boardroom 106, Madison, WI 53718. To attend the meeting remotely, join by telephone at +1 608-571-2209 with Conference ID 174656686# or go to the following website and register to receive the access link: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/c6a5e766-9644-424c-98fd-9e7b9f8e7f4a@f4e2d11c-fae4-453b-b6c0-2964663779aa>. The agenda for the meeting is below.

AGENDA ITEMS AND TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

- | | | |
|----------|---|---|
| 9:00 AM | 1 | Call the Meeting to Order – Mark Cupp, LWCB Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Roll Callb. Pledge of allegiancec. Open meeting noticed. Introductions, Acknowledgementse. Approval of agendaf. Approval of June 2, 2026 meeting minutes |
| 9:10 AM | 2 | Public appearances*

<i>*Each speaker is limited to 5 minutes or less. Each speaker must complete a Public Appearance Request Card and submit it to a DATCP representative before the start of the meeting</i> |
| 9:15 AM | 3 | Recommendation for approval of LWRM 5-Year Review for Waukesha County
Alan Barrows, Land Resources Manager; Brian Meier, L.U.P.E Chair |
| 9:45 AM | 4 | Recommendation for approval of LWRM 5-Year Review for Florence County
Shawna Dishaw, County Conservationist/ Department Head; Matt Burnette, LCC Chair |
| 10:15 AM | 5 | Education Item-Nutrient Management Planning, including training, support and Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE)
Andrea Topper, DATCP |

Mark Cupp, Chair; Monte Osterman, Vice Chair
Brian McGraw, Secretary

Members: Andrew Buttles; Ron Grasshoff; Rebecca Clarke; Mike Hofberger; D.J. Nichols
Andrew Potts; Tim Anderson; Jason Knutson

- | | | |
|----------|----|---|
| 10:45 AM | 8 | Presentation of 2027 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan
Hailey Roessler, DATCP; |
| 10:55 AM | 9 | DNR Presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Projects for CY 2027
Shannon Haydin, DNR |
| 11:02 AM | 10 | DNR Presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Projects for CY 2027
Shannon Haydin, DNR |
| 11:10 AM | 11 | Agency reports
a. FSA
b. NRCS
c. UW-CALS
d. UW Madison - Extension
e. WI Land + Water
f. DOA
g. DATCP
h. DNR
i. Member Updates |
| 11:40 AM | 12 | Planning for October 2026 LWCB Meeting -
Mark Cupp, LWCB |
| 11:45 AM | 13 | Adjourn |

MINUTES
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING

June 2, 2026
2811 Agriculture Drive, Board Room &
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Item #1 Call to Order—pledge of allegiance, open meeting notice, approval of agenda, approval of April 7, 2026 LWCB meeting minutes.

Call to Order

The Land and Water Conservation Board (Board) met in person at 2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison WI 53718 and over Microsoft Teams on **June 2, 2026**. The meeting was preceded by public notice as required by Wis. Stat. § 19.84. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Cupp at **9:00 am** and the pledge of allegiance was conducted.

Members and Advisors Present

Members: Mark Cupp, Monte Osterman, Brian McGraw, Andy Buttles, Rebecca Clarke, Tim Anderson, Andrew Potts, Jason Knutson. A quorum was present.

Advisors: Ryan Gerlich (NRCS), Ian Krauss (FSA), and Amber Radatz (UW CALS)

Approval of Agenda

Motion

Osterman motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Knutson, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion

Osterman motioned to approve the April 7, 2026, meeting minutes as amended, seconded by Knutson, and the motion carried unanimously. The approved minutes shall be posted as the official meeting record for publication on the LWCB website.

Change Item 10 NR 151: amend to “DNR, DATCP, and Wisconsin Land and Water” and change “UW System” to “UW-Madison”

Item #2 Public Appearances

No public appearance cards were submitted.

Item #3 Recommendation for approval of LWRM Plan 5-Year Review for Waupaca County

Brian Haase, County Conservationist; Stefan Stults, Nutrient Management Specialist formally requested a recommendation of approval from the Board regarding the County's LWRM plan 5-Year Review.

The County provided written answers to the Board's standardized questions, recent work plans and accomplishments, and other materials (available on LWCBC's website: lwcb.wi.gov).

Motion

After a discussion between the Board and County representatives, Osterman motioned to recommend approval of Waupaca County's LWRM plan revision, seconded by Potts, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #4 Recommendation for approval of LWRM Plan 5-Year Review for Waushara County

Josh Saykally, County Conservationist formally requested a recommendation of approval from the Board regarding the County's LWRM plan 5-Year Review.

The County provided written answers to the Board's standardized questions, recent work plans and accomplishments, and other materials (available on LWCBC's website: lwcb.wi.gov).

Motion

After a discussion between the Board and County representatives, Osterman motioned to recommend deferring approval of Waushara County's LWRM plan revision to August or September meeting in order to have a LCC member present, seconded by Clark, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #5 Education Item: Jumping Worms

Brad Herrick, Lakeshore Nature Preserve Director, UW-Madison presented on the ecology and impacts of jumping worms.

Item #6 Agency Reports

- a. FSA- Krauss provided a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the June 2, 2026 [meeting packet](#).
- b. NRCS- Gerlich reported NRCS national leadership change, new leader is Chief Colton Buckley. Local workgroup is scheduled for June 23. Notice of funding opportunity for Conservation Innovation grants – Classic and On-farm Trials. \$65 million available between two programs. National F&W Foundation RFP out for 2026 grants to support conservation.

- c. UW-CALS- No updated provided.
- d. UW-Extension – No update provided.
- e. WI Land + Water- Osterman reported that WI L&W moved into new building on South Blount Street. Friday June 5 first of five training opportunities for state-wide trainings focused on relationships between LCC and LCD staff.
- f. DOA- Potts starting next budget cycle, beginning with JFC finalizing base budget. Working with Governor's office to get information out to Departments regarding budget instructions. Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program ends at the end of June 2026, so working with DNR to capitalize any available funds.
- g. DATCP- Clayton reports on Conservation Agronomy trainings starting this summer, targeting new county employees. 51 people signed up for field sessions this summer. 2026 NM regional meetings begin in August (5 meetings across the state). Application out for \$300,000 in engineering reserve funds to address runoff needs.
- h. DNR- DNR- Knutson referred to written update attached to meeting notes. A stakeholder meeting was held as part of the Nutrient loss reduction strategy with over 200 stakeholders in attendance. SOC to create two new standards for use of alum in stormwater ponds. Collaborative targeted watershed assessment of Four-Mile Creek includes Wood and Portage counties; Nepco Lake District, Petenwell and Castle Rock Stewards, farmers, Domtar paper mill, and UWSP. PRA project – measure the rate of compliance with each ag performance standard across the state and to determine if areas out of compliance are due cost-share. Grants application period closed April 15. Fewer TRM grant applications for 2027. Working with WI L&W to make the TRM grants more accessible. New staff for regional nonpoint coordinator: Rob Wheeler SE region. Three new CAFO staff: Jeremy Kleinsmith (LaCrosse), Phil Gruber (Wausau), Ben Mrdutt (Eau Claire).
- i. Member Updates- No member updates

Item #7 Planning for the August 2026 LWCB Meeting

The Board should expect the following at the next LWCB meeting, which will be a hybrid meeting:

- LWRM 5 Year Plan Review for Waukesha and Florence Counties (Dunn County swapped with Florence County and will present their revision in October)
- Presentation of the 2027 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan
- DNR Presentation of Preliminary Scores and Rankings of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) and Urban Nonpoint Source Stormwater Management Projects for CY 2027
- A presentation on the 2026 Soil and Water conservation Report (pending final publication)
- Education Item: Nutrient Management Planning, including training, support, and Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE), Andrea Topper-DATCP

Motion

Potts motioned to adjourn, seconded by Osterman, and the motion carried unanimously. The business meeting was adjourned at 11:49am.

DRAFT

2027 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan

Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Program and Nonpoint Source Program



August 2026

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Summary of Changes for Final Allocation

This section will be completed to account for any changes in the proposed allocation plan based on comments received, Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) input, and other factors identified by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) or Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Counties, project cooperators, and other interested people may comment on the 2027 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan either by:

- Requesting to appear and present comments before the LWCB at a regularly scheduled meeting (a Public Appearance Request Card must be completed before the start of the meeting); or
- Emailing written comments, no later than September 8, 2026, to datcpswrm@wisconsin.gov.

Approval Signatures

DATCP has determined that the action described in this allocation plan for the 2027 Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Program shown in Table A conforms to the applicable DATCP provisions of s. 92.14, Wis. Stats., and ch. ATCP 50, Wis. Admin. Code. DATCP reserves the right to reallocate grant funds unexpended by recipients.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2026

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Randy Romanski, Secretary

DNR has determined that the action described in this allocation plan for the 2027 allocations of DNR funds shown in Table B conforms with the provisions of ss. 281.62, and 281.66, Wis. Stats.,

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2026

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Dr. Karen Hyun, Secretary

Introduction

The allocations identified in this plan provide counties and others with grant funding for conservation staff and support costs, landowner cost-sharing, and runoff management projects. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are providing these allocations in support of Wisconsin's soil and water resources, consistent with the objectives in chs. 92 and 281, Wis. Stats.

DATCP is allocating grants to county land conservation committees (counties) and other project cooperators (OPC) in 2027 through the Soil and Water Resource Management (SWRM) Program ([Table A](#)).

DNR is allocating grants to counties through the Targeted Runoff Management (TRM), the Notice of Discharge (NOD), and the Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management Projects (UNPS) Grant programs ([Table B](#)).

For 2027, a total of \$26,872,725 is allocated based on the state budget for the 2025-2027 biennium. [Table C](#) summarizes all allocations by grantee. Organized by funding category, [Chart 1](#) summarizes grant fund requests, unmet funding requests, and allocation amounts. If required, these allocations may be adjusted based on reductions or lapses in appropriations or authorizations.

Funding Sources and Allocation Requests

CHART 1: GRANT REQUESTS AND ALLOCATIONS			
Funding Category	Total Requests	Unmet Requests	Allocation Amounts
DATCP			
County Staff/Support	\$22,250,142	\$6,845,035	\$15,405,107
LWRM Cost-Share	\$6,466,700	\$2,656,116	\$3,810,584
Bond Reserve (B)	\$1,057,914	\$757,914	\$300,000
LWRM Cost-Share (SEG)	\$2,905,000	\$565,000	\$2,340,000
Cooperator Contracts (SEG)	\$1,299,247	\$261,071	\$1,038,176
Innovation Grants (SEG)	\$124,055	\$124,055	\$0
NMFE Grants (SEG)	\$333,334	\$36,510	\$296,824
SUBTOTAL	\$34,436,392	\$11,245,701	\$23,190,691
DNR			
UNPS Planning	\$0	\$0	\$0
UNPS Construction	\$115,000	\$0	\$115,000
TRM	\$2,567,034	\$0	\$2,567,034
NOD Reserve (B)			\$1,000,000
SUBTOTAL	\$2,682,034	\$0	\$3,682,034
TOTAL			\$26,872,725

CHART 2: FUNDING SOURCES	
Staff and Support Grants	
\$9,698,000	DATCP SEG from s. 20.115(7)(qe)
\$5,707,107	DATCP GPR from s. 20.115(7)(c)
\$15,405,107	DATCP Subtotal
\$140,000	DNR SEG from s. 20.370(6)(aq)
\$231,265	DNR GPR from s. 20.370(6)(ag)
\$0	DNR SEG from s. 20.370(6)(dq)
\$28,363	DNR Sec. 319 Account (Federal)
\$399,628	DNR Subtotal
\$15,804,735	TOTAL Staff & Support Grants
Cost-Share Grants	
\$3,810,584	DATCP GPR from s. 20.115(7)(c)
\$300,000	DATCP Bond Reserve from s. 20.866(2)(we)
\$2,340,000	DATCP SEG from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$6,450,584	DATCP Subtotal
\$1,436,284	DNR Bond Revenue from s. 20.866(2)(tf)
\$1,203,086	DNR GPR from s. 20.370(6)(ag)
\$115,000	DNR GPR from s. 20.370(6)(aq)
\$160,000	DNR SEG from s. 20.370(6)(aq)
\$368,036	DNR Sec. 319 Account (Federal)
\$3,282,406	DNR Subtotal
\$9,732,990	TOTAL Cost-Share Grants
Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) & Other Project Cooperator (OPC) Grants	
\$296,824	DATCP SEG (NMFE) from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$1,038,176	DATCP SEG (OPC) from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$0	DATCP SEG (Innovation) from s.20.115(7)(qf)
\$1,335,000	TOTAL NMFE & Other Grants
\$26,872,725	Grand Total

DATCP Allocations

Staf and Support

The allocation made under this category provides county staf and support funding. Grant awards are consistent with the terms of the 2027 grant application and instructions located at https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/SWRMSect6.aspx. Allocations are made in support of local land conservation personnel under the SWRM program.

The allocations listed in [Table A-1](#) consist of the 2027 annual appropriations of \$5,664,400 in General Purpose Revenue (GPR) funds and \$9,698,000 in segregated (SEG) funds, including base appropriations and one-time funding increases. There was \$42,707 in underspending of the stafing grant awards in 2026 to increase the allocation for the 2027 grant year to \$15,405,107.

County staf and support grants are awarded according to a:

- Base allocation of \$5,400,000 composed of \$75,000 to each county
- Tier 1 award of \$3,010,408 for first position eligibility (round 1)
- Tier 2 award of \$4,797,972 for 70% of the second position (round 2)
- Tier 3 award of the remaining \$2,196,727 in funding (round 3)

Awards are allotted in three rounds to reach statutory percentage funding at 100, 70, and 50 percent of the prorated costs of three conservation staf positions in every county. For 2027, SEG and GPR allocations allowed for funding 100% of the first position, 70% of the second position, and 79% of the 50% third position funding goal. DATCP would need an increase of \$597,282 to meet the statutory amount in 2027. If requests equal the 10-year average increase, DATCP would need \$16,464,495 to meet estimated statutory goals in 2028.

DATCP awards grants for a county's first position only if the staf is actively engaged in qualified conservation activities. DATCP also requires annual work planning and reporting in order to qualify for DATCP funding. These requirements build county conservation capacity and better account for the performance of conservation activities using state funds.

If additional stafing funding remains available, DATCP may consider future adjustments to the grant formula to advance the goals of capacity building and accountability without compromising the basic funding for county staf.

DATCP reserves the right to adjust awards to accommodate changing state budgets. If adjustments to the stafing formula are made in the future, DATCP will proceed with caution in consideration of any challenges and after input from the counties.

General Purpose Revenue (GPR) and Bond Funds

The 2025-2027 Wisconsin Biennial Budget allocates \$7 million for structural cost-share.

This year's allocation amount consists of \$3.5 million, half of SWRM's \$7 million authorization in the 2025-2027 biennium budget of GPR funds. Previously allocated, but unspent 2024 extended GPR funds and unspent 2025 GPR funds increased the 2027 allocation by \$310,584. Approved extended Bond and GPR funds remain available for documented extended projects.

Cost Sharing Structural Practices

After providing each applying county with \$10,000 in base funding, DATCP awarded the remaining \$3,090,584 using two performance-based criteria (a three-year record of cumulative spending of cost-share funds and a three-year average of underspending of cost-share funds) and one needs-based criteria (farmland acres based on 2022 Census of Agriculture data).

[Table A-2](#) shows each county's total award amount and the factors that contributed to the county's award. DATCP was unable to meet 41% of the counties' requests for structural cost-share funds. The impact of this shortfall is limiting capacity to meet NR 151 performance standards.

Engineering Reserve Projects (Bond)

DATCP will allocate \$300,000 to projects primarily addressing discharges on farms. Funds may also be used for priority projects related to extreme weather events or other priority projects not otherwise addressed.

Segregated (SEG) Funds

The 2025-2027 Wisconsin Biennial Budget allocates \$6,475,000 under s. 92.14, with the following annual adjustments:

- \$1,000,000 redirected to Producer-led Watershed Protection grants
- \$1,000,000 redirected to the Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program (NOPP)
- \$800,000 redirected to the Crop Insurance Premium Rebates for Planting Cover Crops program

The allocations under this category provide funding for:

- Landowner cost sharing for "soft" practices in support of a nutrient management (NM) plan
- Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE)
- Nutrient Management implementation support and other projects of statewide importance
- Innovative projects focused on creative implementation of Nutrient Management projects

\$3,675,000 was allocated to SEG programming for cost-share grants, NMFE trainings, and cooperator grants. Unless otherwise noted, awards are consistent with the terms of the 2027 grant application and instructions located at https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/SWRMSect6.aspx.

Innovation Grants receive funding only if resources remain after priority projects have been awarded. There were no funds available to make innovation awards for 2027.

2027 SEG Allocations

Landowner Cost-share	\$2,340,000
Nutrient Management Farmer Education	\$296,824
Other Project Cooperators	\$1,038,176
Innovation Grants	No funds available
Total	\$3,675,000

Landowner Cost-Share

DATCP provides grants to counties primarily for cost-sharing NM plans to meet the 2015 NRCS 590 Standard. Sixty-three counties applied for \$2,905,000 and awards were made in the amount of \$2,340,000 based on scores in:

- Acres in Farmland Preservation Zoning and Agricultural Enterprise Areas
- Impaired water miles
- Nutrient management planning and implementation
- Last three years' positive spending

[Table A-3](#) enumerates each county's score, grouping, and grant award. NA identifies the nine counties who did not apply for funding. Applications are ranked according to scores and are organized into five groups. Counties receive the highest maximum award for their grouping unless a county requests, and subsequently receives, an amount lower than they are eligible for as indicated by the blue highlights in [Table A-3](#).

Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) Training Grants

NMFE grant recipients are contracted with DATCP to teach farmers to develop their own nutrient management plans. For 2027, DATCP funded 22 NMFE requests in the amounts listed in Chart 3 below.

All grant recipients contract with DATCP to incorporate the requirements of s. ATCP 50.35 to develop NM plans that meet the 2015 NRCS 590 Standard. Laptops remain eligible costs but due to limited funds no laptop purchases were funded for 2027.

Tier 1 funding supports NM training to farmers and plan writers to develop a 590 compliant plan, complete soil tests, training, and administrative costs. Tier 2 awards offer nutrient management related outreach and education opportunities but completed 590 compliant plans are not required.

Chart 3: 2027 NMFE Awards			
	Tier 1	Tier 2	Total Award
Ashland		\$3,000	\$3,000
Burnett	\$10,000		\$10,000
Calumet		\$3,000	\$3,000
Columbia		\$3,000	\$3,000
Dane	\$15,400		\$15,400
Douglas (with Ashland, Bayfield, & Iron)	\$21,630		\$21,630
Eau Claire	\$22,150		\$22,150
Glacierland Resource Conservation & Development Council	\$25,000	\$3,000	\$28,000
Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council		\$2,992	\$2,992
Green Lake	\$10,200		\$10,200
Kewaunee	\$35,000		\$35,000
Langlade	\$14,950		\$14,950
Manitowoc	\$18,500	\$800	\$19,300
Marathon et al (Clark, Lincoln, Marathon, Portage, Taylor, Wood)	\$49,400		\$49,400
Marinette & Oconto	\$12,127		\$12,127
Ozaukee		\$2,000	\$2,000
Shawano	\$4,325	\$450	\$4,775
Trempealeau	\$10,000		\$10,000
Vernon	\$20,900		\$20,900
Washington		\$3,000	\$3,000
Waukesha		\$3,000	\$3,000
WI State Cranberry Growers Association		\$3,000	\$3,000
Totals	\$269,582	\$27,242	\$296,824

Statewide Project Cooperator Grants (OPC)

DATCP uses a portion of its SEG appropriation for projects that contribute to statewide conservation goals, meeting the following grant priorities in s. ATCP 50.30(3):

- fund cost effective activities that address and resolve high priority problems
- build a systematic and comprehensive approach to soil erosion and water quality problems
- contribute to a coordinated soil and water resource management program and avoid duplication of efforts

To achieve these priorities, DATCP has selected the following areas for funding: nutrient management implementation activities including SnapPlus; statewide training of conservation professionals; development and support of technical standards; and the support of DATCP programming.

Other Project Cooperator	Award	Objectives
UW-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS)	\$300,000	SnapPlus Development and Support
UW-Extension Nutrient and Pest Management (NPM)	\$312,176	Nutrient Management Training Development, materials, and outreach
Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program Support (NOPP) - UW	\$80,000	NOPP Outreach and Education
Wisconsin Land+Water	\$300,000	Statewide training of conservation professionals and conservation staff support
Standards Oversight Council	\$46,000	Development of technical standards among statewide agencies and organizations for soil and water programs
Total	\$1,038,176	

DATCP continues to consider how it can best utilize its SEG funding to improve conservation and implement conservation practices. Emerging areas or practices where SEG funds could be used include grazing plans, agricultural conservation trainings, precision agriculture, and soil health. Before making major changes to what is funded and how it is distributed, DATCP will engage key stakeholders to develop a workable approach.

DNR Allocations

DNR's portion of this preliminary allocation provides funding to counties through three programs:

- 1) Targeted Runoff Management (TRM)
- 2) Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management (UNPS), and
- 3) Notice of Discharge (NOD).

[Table B](#) shows the preliminary allocation to each county grantee for TRM and UNPS-Planning projects. Additionally, NOD reserves are established as specific county allocations are unknown at this time.

Introduction

Allocations for TRM projects and NOD projects are from GPR funds appropriated under s. 20.370(6)(ag), Wis. Stats., bond revenue appropriated under s. 20.866(2)(tf), Wis. Stats., Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 funds, and segregated funds appropriated under s. 20.370(6)(aq), Wis. Stats.

Allocations to counties for UNPS-Construction projects, when requested, are from GPR funds appropriated under s. 20.370(6)(dg), Wis. Stats.

Allocations to counties for UNPS-Planning projects are from segregated funds appropriated under s. 20.370(6)(dq), Wis. Stats.

Note: DNR will also provide TRM grants and UNPS-Planning grants to non-county grantees. Wisconsin Statutes do not require that non-county grantees be listed in this allocation plan.

- For all grant programs, funds will be considered “committed” when a grantee has returned to the DNR a signed copy of the grant agreement.
- For the TRM program, grant agreements not signed by the deadline may be rescinded by DNR, and the associated grant funds may be used to fund other eligible projects in rank order based on project scores. If, for any reason, funds committed through this allocation plan become available after March 31, 2027, these funds may be held to fund projects selected in the next grant cycle.

TRM Preliminary Allocation

DNR allocates up to \$2,567,034 to counties for cost sharing of TRM projects during calendar year 2027. This amount is adequate to fully fund the estimated state share for all six eligible county Small-Scale TRM applications. Additionally, this amount is adequate to fully fund the estimated state share for all three eligible county Large-Scale TRM applications. As shown in [Chart 1](#), there are not any unmet needs for county TRM projects.

The maximum cost-share amount that can be awarded for a single Small-Scale TRM project is \$225,000. The maximum cost-share amount that can be awarded for a single Large-Scale TRM project is \$600,000.

TRM allocations made through this plan will be reimbursed to grantees during calendar years 2027 through 2028 for Small-Scale projects and through 2029 for Large-Scale projects. Project applications are screened, scored, and ranked in accordance with s. 281.65(4c), Wis. Stats. Adjustments to grant amounts may occur to account for eligibility of project components, cost-share rates, or ch. NR 151 enforcement action at the time that DNR negotiates the actual grant agreement with an applicant.

UNPS Preliminary Allocation

DNR implements an alternating schedule for UNPS-Planning and UNPS-Construction grants. The UNPS-Planning grants are solicited in odd years, and the UNPS-Construction grants are solicited in even years. The maximum cost-share amount that can be awarded for a UNPS-Construction grant is \$150,000, with an additional \$50,000 for land acquisition. The maximum cost-share amount that can be awarded for a UNPS-Planning grant is \$85,000.

UNPS grant awards will be reimbursed to grantees during calendar years 2027 and 2028. Project applications have been screened, scored, and ranked in accordance with s. 281.66, Wis. Stats.

CONSTRUCTION. UNPS-Construction grant applications were solicited in 2026 for the 2027 award cycle. One eligible application was received from a county. The DNR allocates up to \$115,000 to fully fund the grant application.

PLANNING. UNPS-Planning grant applications were not solicited in 2025 for the 2026 award cycle. UNPS-Planning grant applications will be available early 2027 for 2028 awards.

Notice of Discharge (NOD) Program

This Preliminary Allocation Plan establishes a reserve of \$763,329 for NOD projects during calendar year 2027. The reserve includes funds for structural practices in eligible locations. DNR may use its discretion to increase this reserve if needed. To receive a grant award, a governmental unit must submit an

application to DNR that describes a specific project and includes documentation that an NOD or NOI has either already been issued or will be issued by DNR concurrent with the grant award. Once DNR issues a grant to the governmental unit to address an NOD or NOI, DNR will designate a portion of the reserve specifically for that project.

DNR will require that county grantees commit funds to a cost-share agreement with the landowner within a timeframe that is consistent with the compliance schedule in the NOD. The county grantee shall use the grant award to reimburse the landowner for costs incurred during the grant period, which may extend beyond calendar year 2027. If the landowner fails to install practices listed in the cost-share agreement within the timeframe identified, DNR will terminate its grant with the county, leaving the landowner to correct the problems identified in the NOD without the benefit of state cost sharing.

Fund balances from terminated NOD grants and projects completed under budget may be returned to the reserve account and made available to other NOD applicants. Reserve funds remaining at the end of calendar year 2026 may either be carried over for the calendar year 2027 NOD reserve account or may be allocated for calendar year 2027 TRM projects.

Tables

Table A: DATCP Allocations

STAFFING AND COST-SHARE ALLOCATIONS										
County	DATCP Staffing & Support Allocation	LWRM Plan Implementation Allocation		Total DATCP Allocation		County	DATCP Staffing & Support Allocation	LWRM Plan Implementation Allocation		Total DATCP Allocation
		Structural Cost-Sharing	SEG Cost-Sharing					Structural Cost-Sharing	SEG Cost-Sharing	
Adams	191,090	65,000	29,000	285,090		Marinette	212,471	38,800	64,000	315,271
Ashland	204,630	70,000	30,000	304,630		Marquette	205,221	35,000	80,000	320,221
Barron	245,338	65,000	25,000	335,338		Menominee	139,182	20,000	0	159,182
Bayfield	248,025	72,500	29,000	349,525		Milwaukee	101,585	10,000	5,000	116,585
Brown	246,556	50,000	50,000	346,556		Monroe	206,014	80,000	50,000	336,014
Buffalo	232,396	60,000	20,000	312,396		Oconto	219,879	67,500	0	287,379
Burnett	134,130	35,000	8,000	177,130		Oneida	185,389	30,000	0	215,389
Calumet	302,821	38,800	40,000	381,621		Outagamie	287,173	65,000	60,000	412,173
Chippewa	252,176	75,000	75,000	402,176		Ozaukee	232,424	35,000	25,000	292,424
Clark	217,790	75,000	75,000	367,790		Pepin	173,246	31,000	29,000	233,246
Columbia	221,608	58,000	75,000	354,608		Pierce	230,782	70,000	20,000	320,782
Crawford	193,014	52,500	8,000	253,514		Polk	221,980	42,500	0	264,480
Dane	371,835	90,000	90,000	551,835		Portage	232,792	80,000	10,000	322,792
Dodge	254,439	60,000	20,000	334,439		Price	152,407	47,500	0	199,907
Door	265,193	32,500	10,000	307,693		Racine	239,302	62,500	64,000	365,802
Douglas	193,055	30,000	10,000	233,055		Richland	141,474	55,000	10,000	206,474
Dunn	288,621	80,000	35,000	403,621		Rock	199,784	59,000	90,000	348,784
Eau Claire	229,016	52,500	30,000	311,516		Rusk	146,305	50,000	25,000	221,305
Florence	101,940	34,000	0	135,940		Saint Croix	225,995	55,000	45,000	325,995
Fond du Lac	212,970	40,000	15,000	267,970		Sauk	280,166	80,000	80,000	440,166
Forest	103,140	14,000	10,000	127,140		Sawyer	151,625	18,000	8,000	177,625
Grant	205,723	75,000	25,000	305,723		Shawano	222,783	45,500	31,000	299,283
Green	234,508	80,000	20,000	334,508		Sheboygan	205,132	77,500	25,000	307,632
Green Lake	250,690	55,000	30,000	335,690		Taylor	210,982	42,500	64,000	317,482
Iowa	223,087	45,000	65,000	333,087		Trempealeau	176,189	65,000	60,000	301,189
Iron	163,174	46,500	2,000	211,674		Vernon	210,048	90,000	80,000	380,048
Jackson	230,741	58,984	0	289,725		Vilas	206,246	29,000	0	235,246
Jefferson	262,497	35,000	12,000	309,497		Walworth	268,299	77,500	20,000	365,799
Juneau	215,753	50,000	20,000	285,753		Washburn	158,440	47,500	10,000	215,940
Kenosha	151,743	30,000	10,000	191,743		Washington	241,842	49,000	29,000	319,842
Kewaunee	227,970	42,500	15,000	285,470		Waukesha	298,428	35,000	10,000	343,428
LaCrosse	258,613	75,000	20,000	353,613		Waupaca	245,111	80,000	80,000	405,111
Lafayette	186,204	52,000	0	238,204		Waushara	191,020	43,000	31,000	265,020
Langlade	155,302	35,000	55,000	245,302		Winnebago	265,843	65,000	50,000	380,843
Lincoln	153,391	35,000	8,000	196,391		Wood	214,026	55,000	54,000	323,026
Manitowoc	223,153	42,500	75,000	340,653		Reserve		300,000		300,000
Marathon	253,190	70,000	90,000	413,190		Sub-Totals	\$15,405,107	\$4,110,584	\$2,340,000	\$21,855,691
PROJECT COOPERATOR ALLOCATIONS										
UW Madison CALS SnapPlus				300,000		WLWCA-SOC				46,000
UW Extension NPM				312,176		Nutrient Management Farmer Education				296,824
UW NOPP Support				80,000		Innovation Grants				-
WLWCA				300,000		Sub-Total Cooperator Allocation				\$1,335,000
DATCP PROGRAM ALLOCATION TOTALS:							\$15,405,107	\$4,110,584	\$2,340,000	\$23,190,691

Table A-1

County Staffing and Support Awards										
County	Base Allocation	Tier 1			Tier 2			Tier 3		Total
		First Position at 100% (Round 1)	Round 1 Award	Adjusted Award (Base + Round 1)	Second Position at 70% (Round 2)	Eligible Round 2 Award	Round 2 Award at 100% of 70%	Third Position at 50% (Round 3)	Round 3 Award 70% of 50% Third Position	2027 DATCP Staffing and Support Allocation
Adams	\$75,000	\$105,775	\$30,775	\$105,775	\$55,759	\$55,759	\$55,759	\$37,592	\$29,556	\$191,090
Ashland	\$75,000	\$121,300	\$46,300	\$121,300	\$58,591	\$58,591	\$58,591	\$31,465	\$24,739	\$204,630
Barron	\$75,000	\$120,161	\$45,161	\$120,161	\$81,186	\$81,186	\$81,186	\$55,952	\$43,991	\$245,338
Bayfield	\$75,000	\$131,266	\$56,266	\$131,266	\$77,496	\$77,496	\$77,496	\$49,938	\$39,263	\$248,025
Brown	\$75,000	\$130,835	\$55,835	\$130,835	\$76,698	\$76,698	\$76,698	\$49,633	\$39,023	\$246,556
Buffalo	\$75,000	\$139,558	\$64,558	\$139,558	\$62,581	\$62,581	\$62,581	\$38,484	\$30,257	\$232,396
Burnett	\$75,000	\$94,458	\$19,458	\$94,458	\$32,393	\$32,393	\$32,393	\$9,258	\$7,279	\$134,130
Calumet	\$75,000	\$155,600	\$80,600	\$155,600	\$94,436	\$94,436	\$94,436	\$67,137	\$52,785	\$302,821
Chippewa	\$75,000	\$126,655	\$51,655	\$126,655	\$80,833	\$80,833	\$80,833	\$56,839	\$44,688	\$252,176
Clark	\$75,000	\$122,215	\$47,215	\$122,215	\$63,659	\$63,659	\$63,659	\$40,594	\$31,916	\$217,790
Columbia	\$75,000	\$109,398	\$34,398	\$109,398	\$72,269	\$72,269	\$72,269	\$50,801	\$39,941	\$221,608
Crawford	\$75,000	\$105,773	\$30,773	\$105,773	\$68,713	\$68,713	\$68,713	\$23,566	\$18,528	\$193,014
Dane	\$75,000	\$183,067	\$108,067	\$183,067	\$127,892	\$127,892	\$127,892	\$77,428	\$60,876	\$371,835
Dodge	\$75,000	\$134,007	\$59,007	\$134,007	\$80,658	\$80,658	\$80,658	\$50,588	\$39,774	\$254,439
Door	\$75,000	\$143,178	\$68,178	\$143,178	\$78,173	\$78,173	\$78,173	\$55,763	\$43,842	\$265,193
Douglas	\$75,000	\$96,138	\$21,138	\$96,138	\$62,141	\$62,141	\$62,141	\$44,232	\$34,776	\$193,055
Dunn	\$75,000	\$150,409	\$75,409	\$150,409	\$88,663	\$88,663	\$88,663	\$63,021	\$49,549	\$288,621
Eau Claire	\$75,000	\$127,644	\$52,644	\$127,644	\$69,602	\$69,602	\$69,602	\$40,408	\$31,770	\$229,016
Florence	\$75,000	\$67,685	\$0	\$75,000	\$34,255	\$26,940	\$26,940		\$0	\$101,940
Fond du Lac	\$75,000	\$114,082	\$39,082	\$114,082	\$63,713	\$63,713	\$63,713	\$44,739	\$35,175	\$212,970
Forest	\$75,000	\$65,728	\$0	\$75,000	\$31,395	\$22,123	\$22,123	\$7,653	\$6,017	\$103,140
Grant	\$75,000	\$116,872	\$41,872	\$116,872	\$62,172	\$62,172	\$62,172	\$33,933	\$26,679	\$205,723
Green	\$75,000	\$131,338	\$56,338	\$131,338	\$71,597	\$71,597	\$71,597	\$40,157	\$31,573	\$234,508
Green Lake	\$75,000	\$129,153	\$54,153	\$129,153	\$81,027	\$81,027	\$81,027	\$51,525	\$40,510	\$250,690
Iowa	\$75,000	\$135,843	\$60,843	\$135,843	\$56,054	\$56,054	\$56,054	\$39,670	\$31,190	\$223,087
Iron	\$75,000	\$87,570	\$12,570	\$87,570	\$62,755	\$62,755	\$62,755	\$16,342	\$12,849	\$163,174
Jackson	\$75,000	\$113,387	\$38,387	\$113,387	\$75,921	\$75,921	\$75,921	\$52,702	\$41,433	\$230,741
Jefferson	\$75,000	\$146,725	\$71,725	\$146,725	\$82,344	\$82,344	\$82,344	\$42,517	\$33,428	\$262,497
Juneau	\$75,000	\$118,956	\$43,956	\$118,956	\$66,304	\$66,304	\$66,304	\$38,784	\$30,493	\$215,753
Kenosha	\$75,000	\$102,330	\$27,330	\$102,330	\$37,782	\$37,782	\$37,782	\$14,793	\$11,631	\$151,743
Kewaunee	\$75,000	\$131,949	\$56,949	\$131,949	\$61,521	\$61,521	\$61,521	\$43,881	\$34,500	\$227,970
LaCrosse	\$75,000	\$133,762	\$58,762	\$133,762	\$80,758	\$80,758	\$80,758	\$56,082	\$44,093	\$258,613
Lafayette	\$75,000	\$102,012	\$27,012	\$102,012	\$57,128	\$57,128	\$57,128	\$34,422	\$27,064	\$186,204
Langlade	\$75,000	\$90,214	\$15,214	\$90,214	\$44,724	\$44,724	\$44,724	\$25,901	\$20,364	\$155,302
Lincoln	\$75,000	\$86,201	\$11,201	\$86,201	\$58,174	\$58,174	\$58,174	\$11,468	\$9,016	\$153,391
Manitowoc	\$75,000	\$131,552	\$56,552	\$131,552	\$58,929	\$58,929	\$58,929	\$41,555	\$32,672	\$223,153
Marathon	\$75,000	\$122,792	\$47,792	\$122,792	\$84,452	\$84,452	\$84,452	\$58,438	\$45,946	\$253,190
Marinette	\$75,000	\$111,213	\$36,213	\$111,213	\$70,597	\$70,597	\$70,597	\$38,998	\$30,661	\$212,471

County	Base Allocation	Tier 1			Tier 2			Adjusted Award (Tier 1 + Round 1&2)	Tier 3			Total
		First Position at 100% (Round 1)	Round 1 Award	Adjusted Award (Base + Round 1)	Second Position at 70% (Round 2)	Eligible Round 2 Award	Round 2 Award at 100% of 70%		Third Position at 50% (Round 3)	Round 3 Award 70% of 50% Third position	Round 3 Award 70% of 50% Third position	
Marquette	\$75,000	\$128,357.00	\$53,357.00	\$128,357.00	\$53,489.00	\$53,489.00	\$53,489.00	\$181,846.00	\$29,730.00	\$23,374.55	\$23,375.00	\$205,221
Menominee	\$75,000	\$76,295.00	\$1,295.00	\$76,295.00	\$62,887.00	\$62,887.00	\$62,887.00	\$139,182.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$139,182
Milwaukee	\$75,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$57,558.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$33,813.00	\$26,584.71	\$26,585.00	\$101,585
Monroe	\$75,000	\$133,396.00	\$58,396.00	\$133,396.00	\$48,105.00	\$48,105.00	\$48,105.00	\$181,501.00	\$31,178.00	\$24,513.00	\$24,513.00	\$206,014
Oconto	\$75,000	\$111,976.00	\$36,976.00	\$111,976.00	\$73,249.00	\$73,249.00	\$73,249.00	\$185,225.00	\$44,076.00	\$34,653.77	\$34,654.00	\$219,879
Oneida	\$75,000	\$113,153.00	\$38,153.00	\$113,153.00	\$63,194.00	\$63,194.00	\$63,194.00	\$176,347.00	\$11,500.00	\$9,041.62	\$9,042.00	\$185,389
Outagamie	\$75,000	\$157,062.00	\$82,062.00	\$157,062.00	\$83,213.00	\$83,213.00	\$83,213.00	\$240,275.00	\$59,649.00	\$46,897.69	\$46,898.00	\$287,173
Ozaukee	\$75,000	\$129,195.00	\$54,195.00	\$129,195.00	\$72,759.00	\$72,759.00	\$72,759.00	\$201,954.00	\$38,755.00	\$30,470.25	\$30,470.00	\$232,424
Pepin	\$75,000	\$72,592.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$80,805.00	\$78,397.00	\$78,397.00	\$153,397.00	\$25,246.00	\$19,849.10	\$19,849.00	\$173,246
Pierce	\$75,000	\$113,550.00	\$38,550.00	\$113,550.00	\$76,068.00	\$76,068.00	\$76,068.00	\$189,618.00	\$52,356.00	\$41,163.73	\$41,164.00	\$230,782
Polk	\$75,000	\$124,151.00	\$49,151.00	\$124,151.00	\$63,790.00	\$63,790.00	\$63,790.00	\$187,941.00	\$43,294.00	\$34,038.94	\$34,039.00	\$221,980
Portage	\$75,000	\$117,508.00	\$42,508.00	\$117,508.00	\$76,830.00	\$76,830.00	\$76,830.00	\$194,338.00	\$48,909.00	\$38,453.61	\$38,454.00	\$232,792
Price	\$75,000	\$88,577.00	\$13,577.00	\$88,577.00	\$58,372.00	\$58,372.00	\$58,372.00	\$146,949.00	\$6,942.00	\$5,457.99	\$5,458.00	\$152,407
Racine	\$75,000	\$128,557.00	\$53,557.00	\$128,557.00	\$81,705.00	\$81,705.00	\$81,705.00	\$210,262.00	\$36,936.00	\$29,040.10	\$29,040.00	\$239,302
Richland	\$75,000	\$75,165.00	\$165.00	\$75,165.00	\$44,594.00	\$44,594.00	\$44,594.00	\$119,759.00	\$27,619.00	\$21,714.82	\$21,715.00	\$141,474
Rock	\$75,000	\$96,891.00	\$21,891.00	\$96,891.00	\$66,074.00	\$66,074.00	\$66,074.00	\$162,965.00	\$46,830.00	\$36,819.04	\$36,819.00	\$199,784
Rusk	\$75,000	\$68,792.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$62,462.00	\$56,254.00	\$56,254.00	\$131,254.00	\$19,143.00	\$15,050.76	\$15,051.00	\$146,305
Saint Croix	\$75,000	\$116,262.00	\$41,262.00	\$116,262.00	\$75,156.00	\$75,156.00	\$75,156.00	\$191,418.00	\$43,978.00	\$34,576.72	\$34,577.00	\$225,995
Sauk	\$75,000	\$142,497.00	\$67,497.00	\$142,497.00	\$89,611.00	\$89,611.00	\$89,611.00	\$232,108.00	\$61,125.00	\$48,058.16	\$48,058.00	\$280,166
Sawyer	\$75,000	\$78,641.00	\$3,641.00	\$78,641.00	\$50,493.00	\$50,493.00	\$50,493.00	\$129,134.00	\$28,606.00	\$22,490.83	\$22,491.00	\$151,625
Shawano	\$75,000	\$125,857.00	\$50,857.00	\$125,857.00	\$67,675.00	\$67,675.00	\$67,675.00	\$193,532.00	\$37,204.00	\$29,250.81	\$29,251.00	\$222,783
Sheboygan	\$75,000	\$104,480.00	\$29,480.00	\$104,480.00	\$69,393.00	\$69,393.00	\$69,393.00	\$173,873.00	\$39,758.00	\$31,258.84	\$31,259.00	\$205,132
Taylor	\$75,000	\$118,589.00	\$43,589.00	\$118,589.00	\$67,826.00	\$67,826.00	\$67,826.00	\$186,415.00	\$31,247.00	\$24,567.25	\$24,567.00	\$210,982
Trempealeau	\$75,000	\$98,479.00	\$23,479.00	\$98,479.00	\$52,688.00	\$52,688.00	\$52,688.00	\$151,167.00	\$31,825.00	\$25,021.69	\$25,022.00	\$176,189
Vernon	\$75,000	\$107,230.00	\$32,230.00	\$107,230.00	\$68,676.00	\$68,676.00	\$68,676.00	\$175,906.00	\$43,425.00	\$34,141.93	\$34,142.00	\$210,048
Vilas	\$75,000	\$102,997.00	\$27,997.00	\$102,997.00	\$69,882.00	\$69,882.00	\$69,882.00	\$172,879.00	\$42,440.00	\$33,367.50	\$33,367.00	\$206,246
Walworth	\$75,000	\$124,409.00	\$49,409.00	\$124,409.00	\$100,752.00	\$100,752.00	\$100,752.00	\$225,161.00	\$54,867.00	\$43,137.95	\$43,138.00	\$268,299
Washburn	\$75,000	\$99,410.00	\$24,410.00	\$99,410.00	\$52,466.00	\$52,466.00	\$52,466.00	\$151,876.00	\$8,349.00	\$6,564.21	\$6,564.00	\$158,440
Washington	\$75,000	\$128,893.00	\$53,893.00	\$128,893.00	\$75,049.00	\$75,049.00	\$75,049.00	\$203,942.00	\$48,205.00	\$37,900.10	\$37,900.00	\$241,842
Waukesha	\$75,000	\$167,194.00	\$92,194.00	\$167,194.00	\$84,818.00	\$84,818.00	\$84,818.00	\$252,012.00	\$59,036.00	\$46,415.73	\$46,416.00	\$298,428
Waupaca	\$75,000	\$121,538.00	\$46,538.00	\$121,538.00	\$79,481.00	\$79,481.00	\$79,481.00	\$201,019.00	\$56,081.00	\$44,092.43	\$44,092.00	\$245,111
Waushara	\$75,000	\$111,417.00	\$36,417.00	\$111,417.00	\$51,221.00	\$51,221.00	\$51,221.00	\$162,638.00	\$36,099.00	\$28,382.03	\$28,382.00	\$191,020
Winnebago	\$75,000	\$147,779.00	\$72,779.00	\$147,779.00	\$77,615.00	\$77,615.00	\$77,615.00	\$225,394.00	\$51,447.00	\$40,449.05	\$40,449.00	\$265,843
Wood	\$75,000	\$142,515.00	\$67,515.00	\$142,515.00	\$49,432.00	\$49,432.00	\$49,432.00	\$191,947.00	\$28,082.00	\$22,078.84	\$22,079.00	\$214,026

Table B: DNR Allocations

County	Targeted Runoff Mgmt. BMP Construction	Local Assistance Funding for Large Scale TRM	Urban NPS & Storm Water Mgmt. BMP Construction	Urban NPS & Storm Water Mgmt. Planning	Total DNR Final Allocations
Ashland	\$225,000				\$225,000
Brown	\$225,000				\$225,000
Columbia	\$123,960				\$123,960
Fond du Lac	\$323,850	\$123,200			\$447,050
Outagamie	\$126,024				\$126,024
Polk	\$225,000				\$225,000
St. Croix	\$265,000	\$105,000			\$370,000
Walworth	\$225,000				\$225,000
Washington			\$115,000		\$115,000
Wood	\$428,572	\$171,428			\$600,000
DNR NR243 NOD Reserve					\$1,000,000
Total	\$2,167,406	\$399,628	\$115,000	\$0	\$3,682,034

Table C: Summary of DATCP and DNR Allocations

County	Staffing & Support from DATCP and DNR	Cost-Sharing from DATCP and DNR	Total Allocation of DATCP and DNR Funding	County	Staffing & Support from DATCP and DNR	Cost-Sharing from DATCP and DNR	Total Allocation of DATCP and DNR Funding
Adams	191,090	94,000	285,090	Marinette	212,471	102,800	315,271
Ashland	204,630	325,000	529,630	Marquette	205,221	115,000	320,221
Barron	245,338	90,000	335,338	Menominee	139,182	20,000	159,182
Bayfield	248,025	101,500	349,525	Milwaukee	101,585	15,000	116,585
Brown	246,556	325,000	571,556	Monroe	206,014	130,000	336,014
Buffalo	232,396	80,000	312,396	Oconto	219,879	67,500	287,379
Burnett	134,130	43,000	177,130	Oneida	185,389	30,000	215,389
Calumet	302,821	78,800	381,621	Outagamie	287,173	251,024	538,197
Chippewa	252,176	150,000	402,176	Ozaukee	232,424	60,000	292,424
Clark	217,790	150,000	367,790	Pepin	173,246	60,000	233,246
Columbia	221,608	256,960	478,568	Pierce	230,782	90,000	320,782
Crawford	193,014	60,500	253,514	Polk	221,980	267,500	489,480
Dane	371,835	180,000	551,835	Portage	232,792	90,000	322,792
Dodge	254,439	80,000	334,439	Price	152,407	47,500	199,907
Door	265,193	42,500	307,693	Racine	239,302	126,500	365,802
Douglas	193,055	40,000	233,055	Richland	141,474	65,000	206,474
Dunn	288,621	115,000	403,621	Rock	199,784	149,000	348,784
Eau Claire	229,016	82,500	311,516	Rusk	146,305	75,000	221,305
Florence	101,940	34,000	135,940	Saint Croix	490,995	205,000	695,995
Fond du Lac	336,170	378,850	715,020	Sauk	280,166	160,000	440,166
Forest	103,140	24,000	127,140	Sawyer	151,625	26,000	177,625
Grant	205,723	100,000	305,723	Shawano	222,783	76,500	299,283
Green	234,508	100,000	334,508	Sheboygan	205,132	102,500	307,632
Green Lake	250,690	85,000	335,690	Taylor	210,982	106,500	317,482
Iowa	223,087	110,000	333,087	Trempealeau	176,189	125,000	301,189
Iron	163,174	48,500	211,674	Vernon	210,048	170,000	380,048
Jackson	230,741	58,984	289,725	Vilas	206,246	29,000	235,246
Jefferson	262,497	47,000	309,497	Walworth	268,299	322,500	590,799
Juneau	215,753	70,000	285,753	Washburn	158,440	57,500	215,940
Kenosha	151,743	40,000	191,743	Washington	241,842	193,000	434,842
Kewaunee	227,970	57,500	285,470	Waukesha	298,428	45,000	343,428
LaCrosse	258,613	95,000	353,613	Waupaca	245,111	160,000	405,111
Lafayette	186,204	52,000	238,204	Waushara	191,020	74,000	265,020
Langlade	155,302	90,000	245,302	Winnebago	265,843	115,000	380,843
Lincoln	153,391	43,000	196,391	Wood	642,598	280,428	923,026
Manitowoc	223,153	117,500	340,653	DATCP NR243 Res.		300,000	300,000
Marathon	253,190	160,000	413,190	DNR NR243 Res.		1,000,000	1,000,000
				Sub-Totals	16,221,879	9,315,846	25,537,725
PROJECT COOPERATOR ALLOCATIONS							
UW Madison CALS SnapPlus			300,000	WLWCA SOC			80,000
UW Extension NPM			312,176	Nutrient Management Farmer Education			296,824
UW NOPP Support			300,000	Innovation Grants			-
WLWCA			46,000	Sub-Total Cooperator Allocation			1,335,000
JOINT PROGRAM ALLOCATION TOTALS					\$ 16,221,879	\$ 9,315,846	\$ 26,872,725

Table A-2: County Structural Cost-Share Awards

County	Structural Practice Awards				County	Structural Practice Awards			
	23-25 Cumulative Average Under-Spending*	2022 Census Acres**	23-25 Percent of Total Allocation Spent***	Award		23-25 Cumulative Average Under-Spending*	2022 Census Acres**	23-25 Percent of Total Allocation Spent***	Award
Adams	0.16%	114,792	49%	\$65,000	Marathon	0.47%	477,577	25%	\$70,000
Ashland	0.00%	68,629	83%	\$70,000	Marinette	0.00%	132,155	38%	\$38,800
Barron	0.00%	282,265	57%	\$65,000	Marquette	33.82%	104,952	49%	\$35,000
Bayfield	0.00%	93,254	95%	\$72,500	Menominee	0.00%	290	90%	\$20,000
Brown	0.00%	181,018	61%	\$50,000	Milwaukee	0.00%	98	0%	\$10,000
Buffalo	0.23%	309,976	24%	\$60,000	Monroe	0.00%	263,476	65%	\$80,000
Burnett	0.23%	77,858	21%	\$35,000	Oconto	0.00%	194,482	64%	\$67,500
Calumet	10.56%	143,801	54%	\$38,800	Oneida	0.00%	42,083	19%	\$30,000
Chippewa	0.00%	338,969	51%	\$75,000	Outagamie	6.45%	241,653	86%	\$65,000
Clark	0.00%	409,582	87%	\$75,000	Ozaukee	0.01%	49,769	31%	\$35,000
Columbia	2.45%	290,003	22%	\$58,000	Pepin	1.75%	111,859	27%	\$31,000
Crawford	0.00%	194,544	46%	\$52,500	Pierce	0.00%	229,659	62%	\$70,000
Dane	0.23%	449,464	72%	\$90,000	Polk	0.00%	239,493	37%	\$42,500
Dodge	0.00%	374,456	41%	\$60,000	Portage	0.00%	273,256	61%	\$80,000
Door	0.00%	108,658	11%	\$32,500	Price	0.00%	84,387	53%	\$47,500
Douglas	0.00%	67,866	33%	\$30,000	Racine	0.00%	99,108	76%	\$62,500
Dunn	0.00%	372,774	86%	\$80,000	Richland	16.64%	244,767	63%	\$55,000
Eau Claire	0.00%	168,016	41%	\$52,500	Rock	1.27%	296,636	49%	\$59,000
Florence	0.00%	17,926	28%	\$34,000	Rusk	5.15%	118,421	75%	\$50,000
Fond du Lac	1.58%	308,888	45%	\$40,000	Saint Croix	0.00%	254,630	78%	\$55,000
Forest	7.09%	27,368	13%	\$14,000	Sauk	0.04%	298,103	72%	\$80,000
Grant	0.00%	586,453	44%	\$75,000	Sawyer	7.78%	40,786	3%	\$18,000
Green	0.00%	282,888	77%	\$80,000	Shawano	1.79%	253,092	62%	\$45,500
Green Lake	3.42%	122,086	66%	\$55,000	Sheboygan	0.02%	198,776	84%	\$77,500
Iowa	0.00%	374,179	71%	\$45,000	Taylor	0.00%	216,009	36%	\$42,500
Iron	0.00%	8,578	57%	\$46,500	Trempealeau	0.00%	296,684	58%	\$65,000
Jackson	0.00%	228,011	51%	\$58,984	Vernon	0.00%	354,885	69%	\$90,000
Jefferson	0.00%	191,783	1%	\$35,000	Vilas	0.00%	5,847	5%	\$29,000
Juneau	3.67%	167,871	90%	\$50,000	Walworth	0.00%	179,902	83%	\$77,500
Kenosha	13.94%	67,322	63%	\$30,000	Washburn	0.00%	70,390	41%	\$47,500
Kewaunee	3.71%	168,893	45%	\$42,500	Washington	0.00%	118,210	30%	\$49,000
LaCrosse	0.00%	138,200	89%	\$75,000	Waukesha	0.00%	70,268	39%	\$35,000
Lafayette	1.65%	316,462	15%	\$52,000	Waupaca	0.45%	230,412	82%	\$80,000
Langlade	0.00%	109,487	100%	\$35,000	Waushara	1.87%	149,098	55%	\$43,000
Lincoln	0.00%	79,496	25%	\$35,000	Winnebago	0.00%	145,208	61%	\$65,000
Manitowoc	0.00%	236,367	38%	\$42,500	Wood	0.00%	216,635	58%	\$55,000
									Total
									\$3,810,584
Each County was given a base of \$10,000 to help counties receive closer to their requested amount. The following criteria were also applied to finalize a county's Structural Practice award.									
*Graduated awards based on 3-yr avg underspending, excluding extended underspending: less than 1% = \$15,000, 1-1.99% = \$8,000, 2-4.99% = \$5,000, >5% = \$0.									
**Graduated awards based on 2022 Census acres: 300,000 or more=\$30,000; 250,000-299,999=\$20,000; 200,000-249,999=\$10,000; 150,000-199,999 = \$7,500; 100,000-149,999=\$5,000 40,000-99,999 = \$2,500; <40,000=\$1,500.									
***Graduated awards based on % of Three-year total allocation spent: >80% = \$45,000; 60%-80% = \$35,000; 40%-60% = \$20,000; 20%-40% = \$7,500; <20%=\$2,500									
County Name in <i>Italics</i> = County transferred funds awarded in prior grant year									
County Name Shaded: County awarded the amount of its request, which was less than the maximum grant award.									

Table A-3: County SEG Cost-Share Awards

County	Ranking and Award			County	Ranking and Award		
	Score	Grouping	Award		Score	Grouping	Award
Adams	45	4	\$29,000	Marathon	100	1	\$90,000
Ashland	50	3	\$30,000	Marinette	60	3	\$64,000
Barron	45	4	\$25,000	Marquette	70	2	\$80,000
Bayfield	30	4	\$29,000	Menominee			NA
Brown	60	3	\$50,000	Milwaukee	25	4	\$5,000
Buffalo	55	3	\$20,000	Monroe	55	3	\$50,000
Burnett	50	3	\$8,000	Oconto			NA
Calumet	60	3	\$40,000	Oneida			NA
Chippewa	75	2	\$75,000	Outagamie	50	3	\$60,000
Clark	75	2	\$75,000	Ozaukee	55	3	\$25,000
Columbia	85	2	\$75,000	Pepin	40	4	\$29,000
Crawford	30	4	\$8,000	Pierce	40	4	\$20,000
Dane	110	1	\$90,000	Polk			NA
Dodge	70	2	\$20,000	Portage	35	4	\$10,000
Door	35	4	\$10,000	Price			NA
Douglas	35	4	\$10,000	Racine	60	3	\$64,000
Dunn	60	3	\$35,000	Richland	60	3	\$10,000
Eau Claire	55	3	\$30,000	Rock	105	1	\$90,000
Florence			NA	Rusk	30	4	\$25,000
Fond du Lac	85	2	\$15,000	Saint Croix	55	3	\$45,000
Forest	10	5	\$10,000	Sauk	70	2	\$80,000
Grant	60	0	\$25,000	Sawyer	10	5	\$8,000
Green	40	4	\$20,000	Shawano	45	4	\$31,000
Green Lake	55	3	\$30,000	Sheboygan	45	4	\$25,000
Iowa	80	2	\$65,000	Taylor	50	3	\$64,000
Iron	30	4	\$2,000	Trempealeau	60	3	\$60,000
Jackson			NA	Vernon	70	2	\$80,000
Jefferson	60	3	\$12,000	Vilas			NA
Juneau	40	4	\$20,000	Walworth	50	3	\$20,000
Kenosha	25	4	\$10,000	Washburn	10	5	\$10,000
Kewaunee	45	4	\$15,000	Washington	35	4	\$29,000
La Crosse	70	2	\$20,000	Waukesha	25	4	\$10,000
Lafayette			NA	Waupaca	85	2	\$80,000
Langlade	60	3	\$55,000	Waushara	35	4	\$31,000
Lincoln	25	4	\$8,000	Winnebago	60	3	\$50,000
Manitowoc	95	1	\$75,000	Wood	55	3	\$54,000
							Total \$2,340,000
County Name in Italics = County transferred funds awarded in prior grant year NA= County did not apply for SEG funds				County Name Shaded = County awarded the amount of its request, which was less than the maximum grant award.			

Glossary of Terms

Chapter 92: Wisconsin statute establishing soil and water conservation and animal waste management.

ATCP 50: State administrative rule (updated June 1, 2024) that provides the framework to cost-share conservation practices including nutrient management plans. It describes the parameters for grants for conservation practices; identifies the costs to be included in cost-share grants to landowners; identifies conservation practice standards available for cost-sharing; defines the requirements for a land and water resource management plan; establishes the process and priorities for allocating grants to support county conservation efforts; describes conservation compliance requirements for the Farmland Preservation Program; describes the process to certify conservation engineering practitioners; establishes qualifications for nutrient management planners; allows for certification of soil and manure testing laboratories; and ensures access to education and training opportunities.

Agricultural Enterprise Areas (AEAs): A locally identified area of contiguous agricultural lands that has received designation from the state (DATCP), at the joint request of landowners and local governments through a petition, to qualify it as important to preserve and invest in. As a part of the state's Farmland Preservation Program, AEAs strive to support local farmland protection goals and enable landowners to sign voluntary 15-year farmland preservation agreements.

Bond: Bond authority was appropriated to DATCP through state's biennial budget process prior to the 2023-2025 cycle. Bonds can only be used to fund projects with a minimum of a 10-year life span. County LCDs have used bonding for cost-sharing of hard practices. As part of the 2024 Allocation Plan, the only bond funds are approved extension funds and the engineering reserve fund.

Farmland Preservation Program (FPP): Program through which counties are encouraged to plan for agricultural and agricultural-related uses; local governments may adopt zoning ordinances that restrict lands to agricultural or agricultural-related uses; landowners and local governments may jointly petition for an agricultural enterprise area (AEA) to qualify local areas important to Wisconsin's agricultural and economic future; landowners may enter into a farmland preservation agreement with the state for farms within an AEA to commit to keeping all or a part of their farm in agricultural use and to implement farm conservation practices for 15 years. Participating landowners must implement applicable soil and water conservation standards (see ATCP 50.04)* to qualify for an income tax credit. *Note: Landowners of farmland subject to a farmland preservation agreement must meet the soil and water conservation standards in place at the time the agreement was signed. Contact DATCP for assistance in determining which standards apply to a specific agreement.

General Purpose Revenue (GPR): GPR is funding that comes from the state's income and sales tax revenues. These dollars are very flexible and can be used for most purposes. In relation to the joint allocation plan, DATCP has a small GPR appropriation that helps fund the staffing grants. Additionally, the 2023-2025 biennium budget approves \$7 million in GPR to fund structural practices associated with SWRM, at \$3.5 million a year over the two years. When the governor calls for budget cuts from agencies, GPR is usually the money that is targeted for reductions. GPR is allocated on an annual basis.

Land Conservation Committee (LCC): Committee of county-board elected officials that oversee the LCDs.

Land Conservation Department (LCD): County government department that receives staffing and cost-share grants from DATCP and DNR to implement soil and water conservation programs at the local level. In some counties, the department may go by a slightly different name such as soil and water conservation department, planning and land conservation department, etc.

Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) Plan: Each county must have an approved LWRM plan in order to receive funding from DATCP and DNR as part of the joint allocation plan. An approved LWRM plan ensures a county is eligible for staffing grants and a base amount of structural practice funding. DATCP coordinates the LWRM planning program. LWRM plans are approved by the LWCB for 10 years, with a progress check-in after five years.

Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE): NMFE is a grant program funded through SWRM's SEG appropriation. The NMFE program provides grants to counties and technical colleges to deliver training for farmers to write their own nutrient management plans. Funding from the NMFE program can go to farmer incentives, soil tests and training materials.

Notice of Discharge (NOD): The notice of discharge program is an enforcement process through Ch. NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code, addressing unacceptable practices at animal feeding operations with less than 1,000 animal units. Local governmental units (typically county land conservation offices) work with department staff to identify and categorize discharges at animal feeding operations.

Other Project Cooperators (OPC): OPCs include non-county entities such as the Universities of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Land+Water that receive SEG grants from the SWRM program in order to advance the SWRM programs. OPC grants are often used for training and infrastructure services. The OPC recipients and the size of the grants have changed over time as needs have changed.

Producer Led Watershed Protection Grants Program (PLWPG): The PLWPG funds farmer-led projects intended to reduce nonpoint source pollution and improve water quality. By statute, the PLWPG is funded via the SWRM SEG account and is capped at \$1,000,000 annually.

Segregated Funds (SEG): Segregated funds are collected from fees and held in designated funds for specific purposes under state law. In relation to the joint allocation plan, the Environmental Fund is the source of the segregated funds. The joint allocation plan has two uses for these segregated funds. One appropriation designates some segregated funds to the staffing allocation. The second appropriation of segregated funds is for "aids" that explicitly excludes county conservation staffing and is used for nutrient management and other soft practice cost-sharing, training and other related purposes.

Three programs are funded via these funds outside of this allocation plan:

- \$1,000,000 annually is directed to Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grants.
- \$1,000,000 annually is directed to Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program
- \$800,000 annually is directed to Crop Insurance Premium Rebates for Planting Cover Crops

SEG funds are allocated on an annual basis and if not utilized they return to the Environmental Fund and are no longer available for this allocation.

SnapPlus/Soil Nutrient Application Planner: The software program Wisconsin landowners and agronomists use to develop a compliant NM plan. The UW SnapPlus team developed, maintains, and offers technical assistance on SnapPlus.

Soft Practices: Soft practices are those conservation practices that are implemented on an annual or short-term basis. Soft practices include nutrient management planning, cover crops, residue management, contour farming, and strip-cropping, among others. Soft practices can only be cost-shared with SEG funding.

Structural Practices: Structural Practices are conservation practices that have a lifespan of at least 10 years, such as streambank stabilization, manure storage, well abandonment, managed grazing systems, and others. In past allocations, bond funding was only used to cost-share structural, or hard, practices. SEG funding can also be used to fund hard practices with permission from DATCP. SEG funding is not the preferred funding source for hard practices since that money is the only available funding for soft practices and OPCs.

Soil and Water Resource Management Program (SWRM): The SWRM program is DATCP's signature grant program that provides staffing and cost-share grants to county LCDs. The SWRM funding is distributed through the annual joint allocation plan process.

Targeted Runoff Management (TRM): The TRM program is a competitive grant program administered by DNR for targeted nonpoint source pollution control projects. TRM grants use multiple funding sources to allocate funds to counties and non-county governmental units.

Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management (UNPS): The UNPS program administered by DNR for urban nonpoint source and storm water management projects. UNPS grants use multiple funding sources to allocate funds to counties and non-county governmental units for construction and planning projects.

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP): Administers many conservation programs that are implemented by counties including the soil and water resource management grant program, Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant Program, Farmland Preservation Program, Agricultural Enterprise Areas, Nutrient Management Farmer Education Program, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, Land and Water Resource Management Planning Grants Program, Livestock Facility Siting Program, Drainage Program, and conservation engineering support.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR): Administers the TRM, NOD, and UNPS grant programs. Responsible for agricultural and nonagricultural performance standards and manages the WPDES permit program for concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs).

DATCP's Environmental Assessment for the 2027 Joint Allocation Plan – Preliminary

Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Program and Nonpoint Source
Program



August 2026

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Signature Page and Final Determination

This assessment finds that the 2027 Final Allocation Plan will have no significant negative environmental impact and is not a major state action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. No environmental impact statement is necessary under s. 1.11(2), Stats.

Date_____ By _____

Susan Mockert
Land and Water Resources Bureau Unit Supervisor
Agricultural Resource Management Division

The decision indicating that this document is in compliance with s. 1.11, Stats., is not final until certified by the Administrator of the Agricultural Resource Management Division.

Date_____ By _____

Timothy P. Anderson
Administrator
Agricultural Resource Management Division

Nature and Purpose of the Proposed Action

Each year, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), together with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), allocates grant funds to counties and others for the purpose of supporting county conservation staff, landowner cost-sharing, and other soil and water resource management (SWRM) activities. DATCP funds are allocated in accordance with chs. 92 and 281, Wis Stats. and ATP 50, Wis. Adm. Code. Counties are required to have DATCP-approved Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) plans as an eligibility condition for grants. The details of DATCP's proposed action are set forth in charts and tables in the 2027 Joint Allocation Plan that accompanies this Environmental Assessment.

I. The Environment Affected by the Proposed Action

DATCP's Soil and Water Resource Management (SWRM) grant program operates in every county, potentially covering all of Wisconsin's approximately 35 million acres. While the program can fund a range of activities that protect surface and ground waters throughout the state, grant funds are primarily used to protect rural areas and install conservation practices on farms, which account for 13.7 million acres (*2022 Census of Agriculture*), nearly 40% of Wisconsin's land. Ultimately, each county's Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) plan determines the nature and scope of conservation activities in the area and the natural resources impacted by DATCP funds.

II. Foreseeable Environmental Effects of the Proposed Action

a. Immediate Effects

The environmental effects of the proposed allocation plan are positive. Through support for conservation staff and landowner cost-sharing, the proposed allocation plan will result in actions on farms and other areas that reduce soil erosion, prevent farm runoff, improve soil health, increase nutrient management planning, and minimize pollution of surface and ground water.

County Staffing: The annual funding for conservation staff increases from a recent low of \$10.9 million in 2024 to a program high of \$15.4 million in 2027. Staffing grants enable counties to hire and retain conservation staff who have the experience and technical skills required to implement county resource management plans, including:

- Supporting compliance with state agricultural performance standards
- Facilitating landowner participation in state and federal cost-share programs
- Ensuring eligibility of producers in the Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)
- Supporting the development of technical standards, nutrient management training, and coordination between the public and private sector.

The significant increase in staff and support grant funding may better enable counties to provide support for programs such as producer-led watershed councils, phosphorus and nitrate management, and creation of programming to address the persistence of intractable ground and surface water issues throughout the state.

Cost-sharing for conservation practices: Each year counties use cost-share funds to address state and local priorities identified in their local plans. In 2024 and 2025, counties spent a cumulative total of \$10.52 million in DATCP funds to install cost-shared practices. Table A highlights the top conservation practices funded by DATCP cost-share and spent by counties in 2024 and 2025.

Table A: Cost-Share Expenditure Comparison				
Conservation Practice	2024 Cost-Share Dollars Spent (in millions)	2024 Units of Practice Installed	2025 Cost-Share Dollars Spent (in millions)	2025 Units of Practice Installed
Barnyard Runoff Control	0.15	10 systems	0.15	10 systems
Manure Storage System	0.27	7 systems	0.13	6 systems
Manure Storage Closure	0.42	50 systems	0.30	30 systems
Cover and Green Manure	0.8	18,496 acres	0.92	19,437 acres
Grade Stabilization	0.40	45 structures	0.32	40 structures
Livestock Watering Facilities	0.12	25 systems	0.12	17 systems
Nutrient Management Planning	1.25	31,961 acres	0.88	22,078 acres
Prescribed Grazing /Permanent Fencing	0.12	83,707 feet	0.06	25,967 feet
Streambank Crossing	0.18	1,688 feet	0.23	2,953 feet
Streambank and Shoreline Protection	0.35	10,386 feet	0.46	11,271 feet
Waterway Systems	0.47	2,073 acres	0.49	1,546 acres

Notably, from 2024 to 2025 there were:

- an increase in streambank crossings, streambank, and shoreline protection installed;
- an increase in cover and green manure practices installed, reflecting the multiple levels of cover crop support in ATCP 50; and
- continued significant grant funds to support nutrient management planning.

b. Long-Term Effects

Over time, DATCP's annual financial support of county staff and other project cooperators, including the Universities of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association, has built and sustained a statewide conservation infrastructure that delivers the following benefits:

- Conservation outreach and education
- Development of conservation technologies (such as SnapPlus and the Manure Advisory System) and the training systems to effectively use these technologies
- Technical and engineering assistance that ensures proper design and installation of conservation practices
- Resource management planning that addresses local and state priorities with an emphasis on annual work planning and reporting
- Permitting and other regulation of livestock farms that require properly designed manure storage and nutrient management plans
- Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) administration that protects valuable resources and promotes conservation compliance
- Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grant Program administration and technical assistance

With the increase to the staffing allocation for fiscal biennium 2025-2027, the amount of funding DATCP can give to support county conservation increased by \$815,607 from the 2026 allocation for a total of \$15.4 million. This level of funding covers the first and second positions fully and 79% of a third position (funded at 50%), the most funding ever available via SWRM staffing grants.

DATCP cost-share grants are critical in helping landowners and other producers meet their individual needs and essential to make progress in achieving broader water quality goals. Most producers are not required to meet state runoff standards without cost-sharing. Long-term state commitment to farmer cost-sharing determines the extent to which conservation practices are installed, and ultimately the degree to which water quality is improved. Installing conservation practices in a watershed or other area over time results in water quality improvement.

Fully assessing the long-term benefits, however, is complicated. The DATCP grant program operates within a collection of conservation and natural resource programs, and as such, other program priorities will affect DATCP funds.

c. Direct Effects

DATCP cost-share grants result in the installation of conservation practices and capital improvements on rural and agricultural lands for the purpose of protecting water quality and improving soil health. Grants to counties and cooperators also secure access to technical or other assistance that supports conservation efforts, including conservation education and nutrient management planning.

d. Indirect Effects

Installed conservation practices not only improve resources in the immediate area, but also benefit surrounding areas, including resources located downstream from the installed practice. For example, nutrient management and cropping practices implemented on fields upstream from a lake reduce sediment and nutrients that would otherwise be deposited in surface waters and can provide additional protection for groundwater. Installed practices may have secondary benefits at a site, such as shoreline buffers, which not only serve to control runoff and impede erosion but also increase wildlife habitat.

DATCP policies and rules mitigate secondary impacts from the installation and maintenance of conservation practices. Prior to any land-disturbing activity, counties are required to evaluate impacts to cultural resources. To minimize erosion from excavation and construction projects, such as a manure storage facility or barnyard runoff control system, landowners are required to implement measures to manage sediment runoff from construction sites involving DATCP cost-shared practices. Adverse environmental impacts may result from improper design and installation of practices. DATCP rules help prevent this outcome by requiring the design and construction of cost-shared projects according to established technical standards. Improper maintenance can undermine the benefits of a long-term conservation practice. Requiring landowners to maintain conservation projects installed with DATCP cost-share dollars ensures DATCP that practices perform in the long-term as intended.

In rare cases, certain negative impacts are unavoidable. For example, unusual storm events can cause manure runoff from the best-designed barnyard. Unavoidable impacts may also arise if a cost-shared practice is not maintained or is improperly abandoned. Manure storage facilities that are not properly abandoned or emptied may present a water quality threat if they aren't closed in accordance with technical standards.

Overall, the positive benefits of reducing nonpoint runoff through conservation measures significantly outweigh the slight risks associated with the installation and maintenance of conservation practices.

e. Cumulative Effects

While it is difficult to accurately gauge the cumulative effects of delivery of this allocation plan, SWRM grant funds play an integral part in supporting a comprehensive framework of federal, state, and local resource management programs. With the increase to the staffing allocation for the 2025-2027 biennium, DATCP can provide support for 119 of the 383 conservation employees in the state's 72 counties. This helps to secure the foundation necessary for delivering myriad conservation programs, which, among other accomplishments, achieved the following:

- The conservation reserve enhancement program (CREP) protects important soil and water resources while allowing landowners to make use of valuable adjacent agricultural lands. As of early 2026, there are 39,433 acres of water quality conservation practices currently under active agreements. During the 2025 federal fiscal year, the state processed and paid incentives for 79 CREP contracts totaling 533 acres. New enrollments account for 40 of the contracts on 234 acres

with an additional reenrollment of 39 existing contracts on 299 acres that expired in 2025. Approximately 23.34 miles of stream or shoreline were buffered by CREP conservation practices (e.g. riparian buffers and filter strips) enrolled in federal fiscal year 2025. These practices have resulted in an estimated annual reduction of 2,181 pounds of phosphorus, 1,177 pounds of nitrogen, and 1,014 tons of sediment runoff.

- The DNR continued annual funding in 2025 for Targeted Runoff Management Projects (TRM), providing over \$5.2 million to counties to cost-share 13 small-scale and five large-scale projects. The DNR set aside \$1 million for farms issued a notice of discharge. The DNR received 24 applications for cost-sharing of Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Construction Projects. The Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Planning grants were not solicited for 2025.

Table B: DNR Funding 2025		
Program	Number of Projects	Total Amount Awarded
Large-scale TRM	5	\$2,925,000
Small-scale TRM	13	\$2,279,010
Urban NPS & Storm Water Mgmt. Construction	21	\$2,757,391

- In 2025, through the Producer-Led Watershed Protection grant program, DATCP offered support to 49 producer-led groups around the state, encompassing 2,310 members managing 972,693 farmland acres. DATCP has awarded over \$8.2 million since the program's inception in 2016.
- Through 2025, there have been 49 unique Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program projects with 159 individual trials across the state actively contributing to the data used to create nitrogen recommendations in Wisconsin.

III. Persons, Groups, and Agencies Affected by the Activity

a. Those Directly Affected

County Conservation Programs and Cooperators: The proposed allocation plan provides funding to support 72 county conservation programs. The increase to the staffing grant allocation for the 2027 Allocation will enable DATCP to completely support one employee, 70% of a second employee, and 79% of the requests for the third position (funded at 50%) per program. The DATCP awards fall short of funding three staff per county at the prescribed rates in s. 92.14(6)(b), Stats, but funding levels are the highest in the program's history.

Landowners and Producers: Producers and other landowners rely on many services, including technical assistance provided by conservation staff funded with DATCP grants. They also benefit from cost-share dollars to install conservation practices. Long-term use of some conservation practices, such as nutrient management planning and cover crops, may have a positive impact on the finances of landowners and producers by helping plan needed purchases to maximize the yield of a field while minimizing additional fertilizers and pesticides required.

Other county residents: County residents benefit from resource management planning, technical and financial assistance, permitting, and other services provided by county conservation staff funded through DATCP grants. Through information and education efforts, for example, a county can help non-farm residents better manage lawn fertilizers, encourage diversity in lawns, improve backyard wildlife habitat, control invasive species, and minimize construction site erosion.

Farm-related businesses: Farm supply organizations, private agronomists, nutrient management planners, soil testing laboratories, agricultural engineers, and construction contractors benefit from state grants to counties. Landowners who receive cost-sharing purchase goods and services from these entities.

b. Those Significantly Affected

Landowners whose soil and water resources are improved or protected because of DATCP funded activities benefit from DATCP allocations. Benefits may include protection of drinking water and improved soil health and stability or reduction in upstream nutrient and sediment delivery runoff. Certain measures, such as nutrient management plans and protective cropping practices, can help protect drinking water wells that serve neighboring landowners and communities. The public benefits from conservation practices that protect water resources and promote natural resources.

IV. Significant Economic and Social Effects of the Proposed Action

DATCP grants support cost-sharing and technical assistance that enable producers and other landowners to meet their conservation goals and maintain eligibility for state program benefits. The economic impacts of installing conservation practices vary with each farmer and the type of practices involved. To receive cost-sharing, producers usually pay 30% of the costs (10% in the case of economic hardship) to install a practice. Non-agricultural practices are capped at 50% cost-share. By providing financial support to meet state runoff standards for farms, DATCP cost-sharing helps producers with the cost of compliance.

Producers often need to adjust their management routines when adopting conservation practices. With these changes, producers may face new risks, including potential for reduced productivity. However, producers implementing these practices may also see long-term benefits, including savings on labor and fertilizer and improved soil health that may lead to yield gains and reduced liability for environmental problems.

From the standpoint of local economies, grant funds will generate demand for the purchase of goods and services to design, install, and maintain conservation practices. The farm-related businesses listed in III.A. will directly profit from this increased demand.

Socially, DATCP allocations provide needed support for the farming community and others who take an active role in the protection and preservation of natural and agricultural resources. Through the increased adoption of conservation measures, producers and landowners showcase their role as responsible and conscientious neighbors in rural communities. Improved water quality enhances recreational opportunities and protects the scenic rural landscape, essential to tourism.

V. Controversial Issues Associated with the Proposed Action

For the 2025-2027 biennium, the SWRM grant program will monitor impacts of the increase in staffing funds.

The \$7 million authorization for structural cost-sharing has not increased since 2002 and fails to meet current program needs. Over the last 20+ years, landowner costs for practices have increased for several reasons:

- Rising labor and material costs means construction costs of engineered practices in the last five to 10 years have increased significantly. ([United States Construction Market Trends | CBRE](#)).
- Expanded conservation responsibilities require producers to install more conservation practices. For example, the Silurian bedrock standard will influence the need for conservation practices in specific areas of the state.

The unmet need for cost-sharing structural practices may call for creative solutions, including the expanded use of SEG funds to pay for these practices. Increases in conservation spending are critically needed.

VI. Possible Alternatives to the Proposed Action

a. No Action

Taking no action on the proposed allocations is inconsistent with legal requirements. DATCP and DNR are statutorily mandated to provide grant assistance for their respective programs through an annual allocation if the state appropriates the necessary funds.

b. Delay Action

DATCP is under legal obligation to make an annual allocation within a specific timetable. Furthermore, there is no financial justification for a delay since the funding is available. Delaying the grant allocation runs the risk of hampering counties in meeting their legal responsibilities, including their contractual responsibilities to landowners, and undermines the significant environmental, economic, and social benefits of the program.

c. Decrease the Level of Activity

Decreasing the allocations would reduce environmental benefits, impede local program delivery, is not warranted based on the available funding for DATCP programs, and would be inconsistent with legislative intent to implement the nonpoint pollution control program.

d. Increase the Level of Activity

Available appropriations and authorizations determine the overall level of activity. However, subject to the factors discussed in Item E below, DATCP may increase the allocation in each project category to better target spending to achieve desired conservation benefits and further legislative objectives.

e. Change the Amounts Allocated to Some or All Recipients

The awards made in the allocation plan are based on specific grant criteria and reflect the input and consensus of the counties on funding issues. The allocation plan implements ch. ATCP 50, Wis. Adm. Code and legislative directives regarding allocation of grant funds. It also reflects the input and consensus of the counties on funding issues.

VII. Mitigation of Adverse Environmental Effects

The allocations are expected to have positive environmental effects. Any adverse environmental effects will be of a secondary and minor nature that can be mitigated. DATCP minimizes adverse impacts through construction runoff control requirements, outreach and training, and improvements in the technical standards.

DATE: July 21, 2026

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) and Advisor

FROM: Matthew Kaelin
Acting Runoff Management Grants Coordinator
Watershed Management Bureau
Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

SUBJECT: DNR Proposed Scoring and Ranking of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Applications for Calendar Year (CY) 2027 Funding

Recommended Action: This is an informational item.

Summary: Through this memo, DNR is informing the LWCB of the preliminary ranked list of TRM grant applicants for CY 2027. Scoring results for projects being considered for CY 2027 funding are presented in the attached tables.

Chapter NR 153, Wis. Adm. Code, which governs the TRM Grant Program, became effective on Jan. 1, 2011, and includes four separate TRM project categories as noted below. Projects are scored individually and ranked against other projects in the same category. Once total available funding is determined, funds are allocated among the four project categories. The maximum possible awards are \$225,000 for Small-Scale projects and \$600,000 for Large-Scale projects. For CY 2027, DNR had \$4,415,830 available to award in TRM grant funds.

Scoring And Ranking Summary To Date:

A. Small-Scale Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

- Nine (9) applications were submitted and are eligible for grant consideration.
- Funding requests for the applications total \$1,739,847.
- Based on available funding, the department proposes to allocate \$1,739,874 to fully fund grant requests from all projects.

B. Small-Scale Non-TMDL

- No applications were submitted in this project category.

C. Large-Scale TMDL

- Four (4) applications were submitted and are eligible for consideration.
- Funding requests for these applications total \$1,951,550.
- Based on available funding, the department proposes to allocate \$1,951,550 to fully fund grant requests from all projects.

D. Large-Scale Non-TMDL

- No applications were submitted in this project category.

All projects were scored and then ranked by score for each project category.

TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2026

The department will include final allocations to counties for TRM projects in the *CY 2027 Joint Final Allocation Plan*. Once the *2027 Joint Final Allocation Plan* is signed, the DNR will develop grant agreements for successful applications. During the grant agreement development process, funding amounts may be adjusted as necessary to reflect final cost-share rates and eligible project components.

All Large-Scale And Small-Scale TRM Applications

	Preliminary Allocation			
	Bond Revenue	GPR	319	Seg
Total Available	1,160,717	2,250,00	705,113	300,00
Structural BMPs (including force account and engineering)	\$436,284	\$2,018,735	\$0	\$0
Non-Structural Practices (e.g., cropping)	\$0	\$0	\$524,036	\$160,000
Local Assistance	\$0	\$231,265	\$181,077	\$140,000
Total TRM Allocated	\$436,284	\$2,250,000	\$705,113	\$300,000

Large-Scale And Small-Scale TRM Applications From Counties

	Preliminary Allocation - Counties			
	Bond Revenue	GPR	319	Seg
Structural BMPs (including force account and engineering)	\$436,284	\$1,203,086	\$0	\$0
Non-Structural Practices (e.g., cropping)	\$0	\$0	\$368,036	\$160,000
Local Assistance	\$0	\$231,265	\$28,363	\$140,000
Total TRM	\$436,284	\$1,434,351	\$369,399	\$300,000

Materials Provided:

CY 2027 Small-Scale TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank

CY 2027 Large-Scale TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank

TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2027

Table 1. Small-Scale TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	West Allis, City	Stabilization of the Orchard Hills Canal, A Tributary to the Root River	SER	163.3	\$146,470	\$146,470
2	Polk County Land and Water Resource Department		NOR	147.4	\$225,000	\$371,470
3	Port Washington, City	Valley Creek Regenerative Stormwater Conveyance - Phase 1	SER	143.4	\$218,393	\$589,863
4	Ashland County Land and Water Conservation Dept	Richardson Project	NOR	132.3	\$225,000	\$814,863
5	Delavan, City	Ray Street Storm Water Filtration Basin	SER	131.0	\$225,000	\$1,039,863
6	Columbia County Land and Water Conservation Dept	Ryan/Grove Farm Grazing Project	SCR	130.0	\$123,960	\$1,163,823
7	Brown County	Prokash Farm Manure Storage	NER	126.5	\$225,000	\$1,388,823
8	Outagamie County Land Conservation Department	Gamers Creek Streambank Stabilization	NER	107.0	\$126,024	\$1,514,847
9	Walworth County Land Use and Resource Management Department	Kauer Properties LLC Manure Storage Project	SER	106.0	\$225,000	\$1,739,847

Table 2. Large-Scale TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Green Lake Sanitary District	Big Green Lake Watershed Best Management Practices Grant #2	NER	166	\$534,500	\$534,500
2	Fond du Lac County Land and Water	Silver Creek TRM Grant	NER	164.1	\$447,050	\$981,550
3	St Croix County Land and Water Conservation	Kinnickinnic River TMDL TRM Phase II	NOR	148.5	\$370,000	\$1,351,550
4	Wood County Land & Water Conservation Department	Mill Creek Watershed 9 Key TMDL Project Phase III	WCR	139.7	\$600,000	\$1,951,550

DATE: July 21, 2026

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) and Advisor

FROM: Matthew Kaelin
Acting Runoff Management Grants Coordinator
Watershed Management Bureau
Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

SUBJECT: DNR Proposed Scoring and Ranking of Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management (UNPS) Applications for Calendar Year (CY) 2027 Funding

Recommended Action: This is an informational item.

Summary: Through this memo, the DNR is informing the LWCB of the preliminary ranked list of UNPS grant applicants for CY 2027 grant funding. Scoring results for projects being considered in CY 2027 are presented in the attached tables.

The DNR funds UNPS projects under authority of s. 281.66, Wis. Stats. The purpose of this program is to control polluted runoff from urban project areas. Funds may be used for two types of projects:

1. Construction projects (may also include land acquisition) and 2. Planning projects. Each project type has its own application process and funding source. Consequently, construction projects and planning projects do not compete against each other for funding.

The DNR has been implementing an alternating schedule for UNPS Planning and UNPS Construction grants since 2016. UNPS Construction grant applications were solicited in 2026 for the CY 2027 award cycle. The UNPS Planning grant application will be available in 2027 for CY 2028 awards. Due to the alternating schedule for the UNPS grants, only the scoring and ranking summary for UNPS Construction projects is provided here.

Scoring and Ranking Summary to Date for UNPS – Construction Projects:

The maximum state cost share per successful application is \$150,000 plus an additional \$50,000 for land acquisition.

- Eighteen (18) applications were submitted; all are eligible for funding.
- Grant requests for the 18 eligible applications total \$2,562,735.
- DNR has \$2,381,832 available in funding for CY 2027.
- Based on available funding, DNR proposes to allocate \$2,335,585 to fully fund grant requests from sixteen (16) of the eighteen (18) projects.
- Additionally, DNR is applying for funding from the USEPA Sewer Overflow and Storm Water Reuse Municipal (OSG) Grants Program. If USEPA awards the OSG grant, the DNR plans to award these funds to remaining eligible UNPS grant applicants (<http://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/sewer-overflow-and-stormwater-reuse-municipal-grants-program>). The amount of funding and eligible projects will be identified in the next few months.

The attached table shows the current rank order of applications. Note that a requirement in s. NR 155.20(2)(b), Wis. Adm. Code, states that no one applicant may receive multiple grants that exceed

20% of the total available funding in a given project category. Applicants on the ranked list whose total funding requests exceed 20% of the total available funding may be awarded funds for the projects that do not exceed 20%; the balance of the applicant's requests are moved to the bottom of the ranked list. This is the reason why the Milwaukee Public Schools Greener Schools, Soaking Up Stormwater - MPS Wedgewood and Honey Creek School project is at the bottom of the ranked list despite being scored higher than projects ranked above it. Additional funding is provided to those projects moved to the bottom of the ranked list only after all other eligible projects have been funded. Therefore, adjustments to the rank order may be made once total available funding is determined.

Once the *2027 Joint Final Allocation Plan* is signed, the DNR will develop grant agreements for successful applications. During the grant agreement development process, funding amounts may be adjusted as necessary to reflect final cost-share rates and eligible project components.

Preliminary Allocation Bond Revenue & GPR				
	City	Village	Town	County
Total BMP Allocation	\$1,465,585	\$405,000	\$350,000	\$115,000

UNPS Construction Scoring by Rank for 2027

Rank	Applicant	Region	Project Name	Score	State Share Requested
1	Washington County	SER	Washington County Highway Runoff Improvements	127.6	\$115,000
2	Milwaukee Public Schools	SER	Greener Schools, Soaking Up Stormwater - MPS Lowell International School	121	\$150,000
2	Milwaukee Public Schools	SER	Greener Schools, Soaking Up Stormwater - MPS Fifty-Third Street School	121	\$150,000
2	Milwaukee Public Schools	SER	Greener Schools, Soaking Up Stormwater - MPS Morgandale School	121	\$150,000
3	Algoma Town	NER	Leonard Point Pond	115.5	\$200,000
3	Marshfield City	WCR	Mill Creek Business Park Dry to Wet Pond Conversion	115.5	\$150,000
4	Allouez, Village	NER	Riverview Park Pond	112.2	\$150,000
5	Neenah, Town	NER	Town of Neenah 2027 Ditch Amendments	108.9	\$150,000
6	Pewaukee, Village	SER	Street Sweeper	102.3	\$105,000
7	Onalaska, City	WCR	Sand Lake Road/USH 53 Regional Pond	99	\$125,000
8	Beloit, City	SCR	Henderson Storm Water Pond	92.4	\$150,000
9	Port Washington, City	SER	Valley Creek Corridor Green Stormwater Solutions at Upper Lake Park	90.2	\$150,000
9	North Fond du Lac, Village	WCR	Harrison St Pond	90.2	\$150,000
10	Beaver Dam, City	NER	Edgewater Park Shoreline Restoration	89.1	\$119,087
10	Watertown, City	SER	Watertown New Street Sweeper	89.1	\$96,498
11	Rice Lake, City	WCR	Short Street Storm Sewer Re-routing and Treatment Pond	81.4	\$150,000
12	Two Rivers, City	NER	City of Two Rivers Resilient Lake Michigan Waterfront Parkland	69.3	\$77,153
2	Milwaukee Public Schools	SER	Greener Schools, Soaking Up Stormwater - MPS Wedgewood and Honey Creek School	121	\$150,000

Black font = proposed to be fully funded

Red font = funding not available