

State of Wisconsin

Land and Water Conservation Board

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Land and Water Conservation Board Agenda

October 7, 2025

The Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) will meet on **October 7, 2025**. 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, click the following Teams [hyperlink](#) and register to attend. The agenda for the meeting is shown below.

AGENDA ITEMS AND TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

- 1 Call the Meeting to Order – **Mark Cupp, LWCB Chair**
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Pledge of allegiance
 - c. Open meeting notice
 - d. Introductions, Acknowledgements
 - e. Approval of agenda
 - f. Approval of August 5, 2025 meeting minutes

- 2 Public appearances*

**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*

- 3 Recommendation for approval of LWRM Plan Revision for Manitowoc County
David Wetenkamp, Department Director
- 4 Recommendation for approval of LWRM 5-Year Review for Walworth County
Mandy Bonneville, Deputy Director/County Conservationist; Heather Marquardt, Senior Urban Conservation Specialist; Katie Porubcan, Conservation Technician; Brian Holt, LCC Chair
- 5 Education Item: Climate Change & LWRM Plans
Jenny Pethan, WI Land+Water; Helena Tiedmann, DNR

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

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

- 6 Recommendation for approval of LWRM 5-Year Review for Pepin County
Jessica McMahon, Land Conservation & Planning Director/County Conservationist;
Angie Bocksell, LCC Chair
- 7 Presentation on the Annual Soil and Water Conservation Report
Alex Elias, DATCP
- 8 Presentation of 2026 Joint Final Allocation Plan
Susan Mockert, DATCP; Joanna Griffin, DNR
- 9 DNR Presentation of the Final Scores and Rankings of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Projects for CY 2026
Joanna Griffin, DNR
- 10 DNR Presentation of the Final Scores and Rankings of Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Projects for CY 2026
Joanna Griffin, DNR
- 11 LWCB Advisory Committee on Research - Committee Updates
- 12 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
- 13 Planning for December 2025 LWCB Meeting -
Mark Cupp, LWCB
- 14 Adjourn

**MINUTES
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING**

August 5, 2025
2811 Agriculture Drive, Board Room &
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Item #1 Call to Order—pledge of allegiance, open meeting notice, approval of agenda, approval of June 3, 2025, 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 **August 5, 2025**. 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, Brian McGraw, Andy Butties, Ron Grasshoff, Mike Hofberger, Tim Anderson, Andrew Potts, D.J. Nichols, and Jason Knutson. A quorum was present.

Advisors: Nathan Fikkert (NRCS), Ian Krauss (FSA) and Matt Krueger (WI Land + Water)

Approval of Agenda

Motion

Grasshoff motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by McGraw, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion

Hofberger motioned to approve the June 3, 2025, 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.

Item #2 Public Appearances

No public appearance cards were submitted.

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

Heather Palmquist, County Conservationist; Roy Haeger, LCC Chair, formally requested a recommendation of approval from the Board regarding the County's 5-year LWRM plan review.

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

Motion

After a discussion between the Board and County representatives, McGraw motioned to recommend approval of Iron County's 5-year LWRM plan review, seconded by Anderson, and the motion carried unanimously.

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

Greg Coulthurst, County Conservationist; Roy Englebert, LCC member; Jacob Brey, LCC member, formally requested a recommendation of approval from the Board regarding the County's 5-year LWRM plan review.

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

Motion

After a discussion between the Board and County representatives, Knutson motioned to recommend approval of Door County's 5-year LWRM plan review, seconded by Anderson, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #5 Climate Change Research

Dr. Evan Larson presented his work on Driftless Oak tree chronology, and its implications for water quantity, drought history, and crop yield in the driftless region.

Item #6 Recommendation for approval of LWRM Plan revision for Oconto County

Ken Dolata, County Conservationist; Tim Cole, Land and Water Conservation Committee Chair, formally requested a recommendation of approval from the Board regarding the County's LWRM Plan Revision.

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

Motion

After a discussion between the Board and County representatives, Hoffberger motioned to recommend approval of Oconto County's LWRM plan review, seconded by McGraw, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #7 Update on the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy

Joe Bonnell, DNR delivered an update on the nutrient loss reduction strategy update underway by state stakeholders to identify opportunities and challenges to accelerate and support conservation work by implementing a shared strategic vision for nutrient loss reduction via social and behavioral changes across agencies.

Item #8 Presentation of 2025 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan

Susan Mockert, DATCP; Joanna Griffin, DNR delivered a presentation of the 2025 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan and Environmental Assessment.

Motion to receive the Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan and Environmental Assessment by Grasshoff, seconded by Anderson, and the motion carried unanimously.

Item #9 DNR presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM)

Joanna Griffin, DNR presented the applications and ranked list for the projects that applied for and received TRM grant support for 2025.

Item #10 DNR presentation of the Scores and Rankings of Urban Nonpoint Source (NPS) and Storm Water Management Projects for CY 2025

Joanna Griffin, DNR presented the projects receiving NPS and Storm Water Management support for CY 2025.

Item #11 Agency Reports

Due to audio issues occurring during the agency reports some reports were received via email and included as updates within the minutes.

- a. FSA- Krauss submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the August 5, 2025 [meeting packet](#).
- b. NRCS- Gerlich submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the August 5, 2025 [meeting packet](#). Fikkert reported EQUIP, CSP, and IRA funds will not be available for 2025. They have started making payments for existing agreements. NRCS has experienced significant staffing cuts.
- c. UW-Extension- No report provided.
- d. WI Land + Water- Krueger reported they hosted the National Association of Conservation Districts Summer Meeting in Milwaukee this past week. Around 200 attendees came from all over the US, and heard from USDA-NRCS Secretary Rollins, as well as Gov. Evers. They toured a number of conservation sites in Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha, and Walworth counties, and highlighted several Wisconsin conservation programs, including our nonpoint program (NR 151 and Farmland Preservation), Producer-Led Program, and demo farms.
- e. DOA- Potts submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the August 5, 2025 [meeting packet](#).

Commented [TSL1]: Add new link when available

- f. DATCP- Anderson submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the August 5, 2025 [meeting packet](#). They also indicated that the Producer-Led Application was available and the monthly newsletter was sent out with agency updates.
- g. DNR- Knutson submitted a written report that is available online at the Land and Water Conservation Board website within the August 5, 2025 [meeting packet](#). See Items 8-10: DNR preliminary allocation presentations. In response to a question regarding DNR CAFO program staffing, Knutson shared that DNR has 25 FTEs at DNR that work with CAFOs, and only one of those positions is currently vacant. He noted that DNR strives to maintain a 20:1 ratio of CAFOs to DNR regional CAFO staff and is currently at 24:1, as the number of CAFOs continues to rise as farms consolidate and exceed the 1000 animal unit permitting threshold.
- h. Member Updates- Grasshoff indicated that the Research Committee would meet next month to discuss the wakeboat, Driftless Oak Tree, and NLRS presentations at the previous LWCB meetings and prepare next year's schedule of informational presenters.

Item #12 Planning for the October 2025 LWCB Meeting

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

- LWRM Plan Revision for Manitowoc County
- Plan Reviews for Pepin and Walworth Counties
- DNR Presentation of the Final Scores and Rankings of Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) and Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Projects for CY 2026
- Recommendation for approval of the 2026 Joint Final Allocation Plan
 - Response to comments regarding the 2026 Joint Preliminary Allocation Plan
- Presentation on the Annual Soil and Water Conservation Report
- LWCB Advisory Committee on Research Updates
- Board Education Item: Climate Change in LWRM Plans (WI Land + Water & DNR)

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Item #13 Adjourn

Motion

Hoffberger motioned to adjourn, seconded by Grasshoff, and the motion carried unanimously. The business meeting was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

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CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ **State of Wisconsin**

DATE: October 7, 2025

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

FROM: Jenn Chakravorty , DATCP
Resource Management Section,
Bureau of Land and Water Resources

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Approval of the *Manitowoc County Land and Water Resource Management Plan*

Action Requested: This is an action item. The department has determined that the Manitowoc *County Land and Water Resource Management Plan* meets applicable statutory and rule requirements and requests that the LWCB make a recommendation regarding approval of the plan consistent with the Board's guidance.

Summary: The plan is written as a 10 year plan, and if approved, the plan would remain in effect through December 31, 2035, and would be subject to a five-year review prior to December 31, 2030.

DATCP staff reviewed the plan using the checklist and finds that the plan complies with all the requirements of section 92.10, Wisconsin Statutes, and Chapter ATCP 50, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

To qualify for 10-year approval of its plan, Manitowoc County must submit an annual work plan meeting DATCP requirements during each year of its 10-year plan approval.

Manitowoc County held a public hearing on July 17, 2025, as part of its public input and review process. The Manitowoc County Land Conservation Committee presented the LWRM plan for County Board approval September 16, 2025. The plan was approved.

Materials Provided:

- LWRM Plan Review Checklist
- Completed LWRM Plan Review form
- 2024 workplan with accomplishments and current 2025 workplan

Presenters: David Wetenkamp, Department Director



Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
 Agricultural Resource Management Division
 2811 Agriculture Drive, PO Box 8911
 Madison WI 53708-8911
 Phone: (608) 224-4608

Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM)

LWRM Plan Review Checklist

Wis. Stats. § 92.10 & Wis. Adm. Code § ATCP 50.12.

County: Manitowoc

Date Plan Submitted for Review: 7/25/2025

I. ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Yes	No	Page
1. Did the county convene a local advisory committee that included a broad spectrum of public interests and perspectives (such as affected landowners, partner organizations, government officials, educational institutions)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	18-26

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COUNTY BOARD APPROVAL	Date(s)
1. Provide the dates that the local advisory committee met to discuss the development of the LWRM plan and the county plan of work	6/6/24, 11/13/24, 1/13/25, 2/25/25
2. Provide the date the county held a public hearing on the LWRM plan ¹	8/13/25
3. Provide the date of county board approval of the plan, or the date the county board is expected to approve the plan after the LWCB makes its recommendation. ²	after LWCB on 10/7 (LCC approved 7/17/25)

III. RESOURCE ASSESSMENT AND WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES	Yes	No	Page
1. Does the plan include the following information as part of a county-wide resource assessment:			
a. Soil erosion conditions in the county ³ , including:			
i. identification of areas within county that have high erosion rates or other soil erosion problems that merit action within the next 10 years	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	77-78
b. Water quality conditions of watersheds in the county ³ , including:			

¹ Appropriate notice must be provided for the required public hearing. The public hearing notice serves to notify landowners and land users of the results of any determinations concerning soil erosion rates and nonpoint source water pollution, and provides an opportunity for landowners and land users input on the county's plan. Individual notice to landowners is required if the landowners are referenced directly in the LWRM plan. DATCP may request verification that appropriate notice was provided.

² The county board may approve the county LWRM plan after the department approves the plan. The plan approved by the county board must be the same plan approved by the department. If the department requires changes to a plan previously approved by the county board, the department's approval does not take effect until the county board approves the modified plan.

³ Counties should support their analysis of soil and water conditions by referencing relevant land use and natural resource information, including the distribution of major soil types and surface topographic features, and land use categories and their distribution. Sec. ATCP 50.12(3)(b) requires that a county assemble relevant data, including relevant land use, natural resource, water quality and soil data.

i.	location of watershed areas, showing their geographic boundaries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	41
ii.	identification of the causes and sources of the water quality impairments and pollutant sources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	51-53, 55-58, 60-76, 87
iii.	identification of areas within the county that have water quality problems that merit action within the next 10 years.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	42-43

2. Does the LWRM plan address objectives by including the following:

- | | | | | |
|----|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| a. | specific water quality objectives identified for each watershed based upon the resource assessment, if available | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 45 |
| b. | pollutant load reduction targets for the watersheds, if available | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 44-45 |

Other comments: 9 key element plan for Pine Creek Watershed approved in 2019, NE Lakeshore TMDL approved in 2023 (TP and TSS)

IV. DNR CONSULTATION		Yes	No	Page
1.	Did the county consult with DNR ⁴ to obtain water quality assessments, if available; to identify key water quality problem areas; to determine water quality objectives; and to identify pollutant load reduction targets, if any; and to review NR 151 implementation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	104, 127

Other comments: Erin Hansen and Travis Buckley on advisory committee, also worked with Andrew Craig & DNR staff

V. PLAN IMPLEMENTATION		Yes	No	Page
1.	Does the LWRM plan include the following implementation components: :			
a.	A voluntary implementation strategy to encourage adoption of farm conservation practices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	97, 116- 119
b.	State and local regulations used to implement the plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	98, 103
c.	Compliance procedures that apply for failure to implement the conservation practices in ATCP 50, ch. NR 151 and related local regulations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	98, 104
d.	Relevant conservation practices to achieve compliance with performance standards and prohibitions and to address identified water quality and erosion problems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	103, 110- 116

⁴ While requirements for DNR consultation may be satisfied by including relevant DNR representatives on the advisory committee, counties may also need to interact with DNR staff in central or regional offices to meet all of the consultation requirements. DNR may point counties to other resources to obtain information including consultants who can calculate pollutant load reduction targets.

e. A system for meeting county responsibilities to monitor the compliance of participants in the farmland preservation program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	106-107
2. Does the LWRM plan (or accompanying work plan) estimate:			
a. expected costs of implementing the plan including cost-sharing for conservation practices needed to achieve plan objectives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	131-141
b. the staff time needed to provide technical assistance and education and outreach to implement the plan.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	142
3. Does the LWRM plan describe a priority farm strategy designed to make reasonable progress in implementing state performance standards and conservation practices on farms appropriately classified as a priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	105
Other comments: Work plan and 10-year plan include details			

VI. OUTREACH AND PARTNERING	Yes	No	Page
1. Does the LWRM plan describe a strategy to provide information and education on soil and water resource management, conservation practices and available cost-share funding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	120-122
2. Does the LWRM plan describe coordination activities with local, state and federal agencies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	124-127
Other comments: _____			

VII. WORK PLANNING AND PROGRESS MONITORING	Yes	No	Page
1. Does the county's most recent annual work plan ⁵ do both of the following:			
a. Provide measurable performance benchmarks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA
b. Identify priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA
2. Does the LWRM plan describe a strategy and framework for monitoring county progress implementing its plan including methodology to track and measure progress in meeting performance benchmarks and plan objectives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	127-129
Other comments: _____			

VIII. EPA SECTION 319 CONSIDERATIONS
1. IS THE COUNTY WORKING WITH DNR TO SEEK EPA APPROVAL OF THIS PLAN AS MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF A 9 KEY ELEMENT PLAN UNDER SECTION 319 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT: N/A__

⁵ Counties must submit annual work plan by no later than April 15th of every year to meet the requirement in s. ATCP 50.12(2)(i) for counties to have multi-year work plans.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has reviewed the above-referenced county LWRM plan based on the criteria required in s. ATCP 50.12, Wis. Admin. Code, and s. 92.10, Stats., and has determined that the plan meets the criteria for DATCP approval of this plan. This checklist review is prepared to enable the LWCB to make recommendations regarding plan approval, and for DATCP to make its final decision regarding plan approval.

Staff Signature: Jennifer Chakravorty

Date: 8/11/2025

2026-2035 LWRMP

View the 2026-2035 Manitowoc County Land & Water Resource Management Plan at the link below:

https://www.canva.com/design/DAGgTvSx0dQ/KxpD1TyrZX6fIHQo1BYeCA/view?utm_content=DAGgTvSx0dQ&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=uniquelinks&utlId=h70da324a63



Land and Water Conservation Board

County Land and Water Resource Management Plan

Review of LWRM Plan Revisions

County: Manitowoc County Soil & Water Conservation Department

Implementation Covering Past 10-Years and Future Directions

Answer these four questions in writing (not to exceed 4 pages)

1. Provide a representative number of accomplishments within the last five years that can be directly traced to activities identified in multiple work plans. For each accomplishment, explain how the planning process helped the county achieve its outcome, including planning adjustments that helped better target county activities.

For the past 10 years the county has submitted annual reports. These reports are directly related to the DATCP annual work plan and internal county annual work plan. The annual workplans are specific to Chapters 4&5 – Priorities and Staffing Implementation Plan. Pages. 14-16 of the proposed Land & Water Plan show specifics on the 10-year outcomes. As with any plan there is variability in goals achieved based on plan estimates due to staffing changes, weather, funding availability, landowner participation and economic factors. As can be seen the staff have been steadily achieving installation of beneficial bmp's and making positive relationships with landowners and producers. Please feel free to ask questions on these accomplishments as all are a result to the effective implementation of the 2016-2025 Land & Water Plan. Since being appointed the Soil & Water Director in 2022, I believe these several accomplishments are great examples of achieving work plan goals.

- Hiring a Grants & Education Coordinator (pg. 12)

Notwithstanding efforts of prior & current staff contributions, the Grants & Education Coordinator position has shown to be an invaluable addition to SWCD activities, cooperation, communication and accomplishments with our landowners, farmers and community. The 2016-2025 LWRMP outlined the need and target for this position and former director Jerry Halverson developed the work plan, goals and justification to the County Board for approving the new position. This position has led to expanded groundwater testing, increased financial opportunities and outreach with citizens, schools and farmers.

- Carstens (pg. 11), Gass (pg. 12) & English (pg. 13) Lake Projects

The LWRMP and annual work plans had set goals to reduce phosphorus and nutrient loading by 10% in inland lakes not meeting water quality standards. These 3 lakes were targeted and had successful projects completed. Over 15 lakeshore owners, farmers, lake association members and community groups collaborated and cooperated together to get funds, permits and construction projects and dozens of bmp's completed. Will give details in our presentation.

- Harvestable Buffer Innovation Grant (pg. 13)

Doing the same things sometimes gets the same results. Innovative approaches as supported by DATCP Innovation Grants Program allowed Manitowoc County staff to develop the first Harvestable Buffer Program in the County. This buffer program allowed flexibility in buffer widths, vegetation, harvest and agreements for 5, 10 & 15-year buffer installations, which some programs don't allow. Over 19 acres of shoreland corridor buffers were installed during this 3-year program. This practice was used on more installations in the Pine Creek Surface Water Grant and with the Multi-Discharger Variance Program adding an additional 14 acres. These successes helped lead to development of the new "Harvestable Buffer", bmp now available statewide through ATCP 50 and DATCP cost/share programs. SWCD continues to install buffers using MDV funds.

- Seven Rivers Soil Cooperative (pg. 13 & 88)

To keep county staffing conservative and efficient, approaches to getting better conservation buy-in and cooperation with farmers has led to engaging farmers to help mentor and share with farmers. This was not new to the state as many producer-led groups had already formed in the state by 2023, but DATCP programs that allow start-up grants for producer led groups helped support the movement in Manitowoc County with 10 founding farmer members, UW-Extension and SWCD staff. Currently there are 28+ members in one-year with 42,000 acres pledged in working towards soil health initiatives and research.

- 88% NMP Coverage in County

One of the highest participation rates in the state, a milestone to meet and maintain. This is a testament to the past efforts of past and present staff in promoting, monitoring and educating activities surrounding nutrient management. This includes working with WDNR, UW, NRCS, other counties and DATCP staff in regards to the FPP and Nutrient Management Farmer Education Program (NMFE). Most for our landowners have embraced the benefits and continue to participate in these efforts.

2. Identify any areas where the county was unable to make desired progress in implementing activities identified in recent work plans. For each area identified, explain the work plan adjustments that were made to refocus planned activities. If no areas are identified, explain how the county was able to make progress in all the areas planned.

As department director for the past three years, I can't speak for the entire 10-year plan, most of this work was developed and implemented by the prior department director and two other staff that retired 3-4 years ago. The expiring plan set water quality goals based on maintaining phosphorus levels in 8 lakes and reducing phosphorus levels by 10% in 8 lakes. Lake data and water quality data from the water action volunteers, WDNR Water Resources Specialist and UW-GB water quality testing efforts have shown mixed results in the waters tested. Of the 17 lakes monitored data shows 4 lakes had reductions in phosphorus and 13 lakes have increased. This may be due to several factors including increase rainfall and runoff, lake development and increased agricultural runoff. Due to this more efforts will be placed on lake watershed improvements in the 2026-2035 LWRMP. Surface water goal was to reduce phosphorus levels by 10% in impaired streams. Not all rivers and streams have long term monitoring data, have 5 years or less of testing data or incomplete data sets. The Manitowoc River Basin, the largest in the County has been monitored consistently since 1977, 48 years. Since 1977 annual average stream phosphorus has decreased 12.58%. Water quality data taken from 2016-2025 has shown the annual average Total Phosphorus (TP) levels have decreased 0.84% and 14.32% respectively for Total Suspended Solids (TSS) compared to the prior ten years between 2006-2015. This shows an improvement in average, but real effects of this are not fully understood unless total P loads are calculated based on flow models. Manitowoc County has been monitoring well water nitrate levels county-wide for 30 years. A citizen monitoring group was established in 2016 with 28 members currently testing the same wells 3-4 times per year. Data tabulated from this testing has shown that average nitrate levels have reduced 20% overall in the monitoring group wells. A measurable improvement, however several community and village wells have been trending up in nitrates and the county is engaged with WDNR and WGNHS on a water quality initiative grant to develop groundwater modeling across the county and conduct well water recharge area assessments for possible solutions.

3. Describe the county's approach to implementation of its priority farm strategy including outreach, farm inventories and making use of multiple funding sources. How has the county evaluated the effectiveness of its priority farm strategy and used this information to improve implementation of the agricultural performance standards and conservation practices on farms?

Manitowoc County had set goals to curb most barnyard runoff and farmstead issues many years ago. Given this and meeting goals set to NR151 compliance in the past, the 2016-2025 plan was set to maintain compliance on farms through farmland preservation site visits, nmp compliance, groundwater education and talks, county ordinance compliance, livestock facility licenses, CCA & manure hauler trainings, groundwater monitoring, soil health and producer led group strategies. Funding sources from DATCP including: SWRM, Innovation Grant, NMFE and PLG Grants were used. Funds and grants were also sought and received from the WDNR to include: 9-KE Plan Grant, Surface Water Grants, TRM & NOD grants and TMDL Implementation Grant. Additional funds and grants were applied for and

accepted from the NRCS (NWQI), TNC, Sand County, SARE, EPA, West Foundation and Cellcom to name a few.

Manitowoc County has the most CAFO's and Livestock Facility Licenses in the state. Due to this our smaller farms have been in decline as this shift has occurred. Staffing workload has shifted to more compliance and education with farms and as such have 89% of our cropland acreage in nutrient management plans. The county also maintains landowner relations and compliance through the FPP & CREP program. Manitowoc currently has 155,000+ acres enrolled in FPP, conducts over 200 compliance checks per year with 955 participants. This relates to good compliance with runoff standards and rules being met. CREP compliance has been maintained and currently have 128 participants and 774 acres enrolled. Manitowoc County currently maintains good relations with the WDNR CAFO Specialist & NE Area Non-Point Coordinator working through complaints, spills and NOI/NOD issues. Conservation planning and construction plans are reviewed and approved with training, job approvals, oversight and meetings with our DATCP Engineering Contact. With all these positive actions and progress continuing, water quality improvements have been mixed. Groundwater testing data gathered from our quarterly monitoring group has shown the goal was met in those areas to reduce average nitrate tests by 20%. Surface water quality has improved in some watersheds. The Pine Creek 9KE Plan and implementation has helped in the waterbody being removed from the 303D list, while other tributaries on the lakeshore are still in need of more improvements to be delisted. The larger watersheds of the Manitowoc River, East & West Twin Rivers and the Meeme/Pigeon Rivers have not improved significantly to remove them from the impaired waters list. Climate and rainfall changes have affected the dynamics of stream hydrology leading to increase streambank erosion. Intensive agriculture, increased tiling, increased waste streams from large farms and fertilizer use also effects nutrient loading. Shift has been with soil health practices, buffers, monitoring of land through nutrient management plans and manure agreements as well as technology with engineering consultants. The 2026-2035 plan builds on the last plan and has been developed to address this and many other resource concerns. Groundwater and surface water quality remains our community's number one and two priorities. It is hoped that producer led initiatives will help address cropland nutrient losses for the long term with soil health and integration of nitrogen optimization, cover crops and no-till are utilized more. This will be difficult as crop rotations shift to less diverse crop rotations and efforts with more high yield crops and increased inputs of manure and fertilizer from dairy. Technology may help; however, you can't cheat your body or nature...what you put in it will determine outcome.

4. Provide representative examples that show changes in direction in the county's LWRM plan and annual work plans, with specific examples provided showing adjustments in goals, objectives or planned activities.

As stated above, staffing hours and annual work plan activities include initiatives to engage with producer led groups to help pave the way for soil health and related water quality benefits, work on community-based groundwater recharge area improvement projects coordinated with WDNR, WGNHS and NRCS with NQWI Grants. These grants allow for increase cost-share rates of 90% and encouragement to stack multiple bmp's on fields. Work has been started on the NE Lakeshore TMDL Implementation Project (3-year study) for sub-basin phosphorus reductions as well as continuing with the MDV program. New Mapping applications have been developed as well as a GIS tracking system App for manure haulers to use 24-7 to include aeriels, hazards and ordinance setbacks. Continuation to cooperate with schools, community groups, lake associations and fish & wildlife habitat projects will continue. The LAC also has concerns with grid tile systems and possible effects on water quality. A tile task force may be formed depending on how political climate, existing law and public acceptance is realized. There is a fine line between conservation, public health, water quality, regulation and community led group establishment and future end results.

Please consider answering the following optional question (not to exceed 1 page)

1. The LWCB is interested in learning how county conservation staff are addressing changing weather patterns. To this end, the LWCB reached out to WI Land+Water for guidance, see the [WI](#)

Land+Water memo dated for October 28, 2020. Your response to the following question will be appreciated.

Manitowoc County has taken the time to share critical information on past, present and future climate data and predictions in the new plan. Consideration was taken to include implementing educational activities and beneficial bmp's to help with the county's environmental resource concerns as confirmed by community survey, LAC, LCC and current resource data.

Is climate change resiliency contained in your LWRM plan (Yes ☒ or No ☐). If yes, indicate with page number(s) or statement(s) where within the LWRM plan it is located and please consider the factors below, as examples, in your answer.

- a. *Plants and natural communities (forests, wetlands, prairies, invasive species) pgs. 17,20-23,39,89-95, 122*
- b. *Soil and agriculture pgs. 81-88, 114-115*
- c. *Weather (growing season, seasonal temperatures, precipitation) pgs.1-2,17,31-39*
- d. *Infrastructure pgs. 39,116*
- e. *Land owners (residents) no specific page*
- f. *Water resources (groundwater and surface water quality and quantity) pgs. 40-76*
- g. *Fisheries pgs. 112-113*
- h. *Wildlife pgs. 89-95, 122*
- i. *Human health and recreation pgs. 17-23*

Climate resiliency and adaptation to changing weather was addressed as an overall positive effort, but not called out specifically for each example a-i above. The pages listed are where the information on the resource can be found. The major section on climate is found on pages 17-23 (community survey) and pages 31-39. Examples a-i were directly or indirectly addressed in the body of the document in regards to educating and promoting diversity in soil health, water quality, bmp's, educational outreach, and habitat projects. Implementing this plan will hopefully lead to better citizen health, enjoyable recreational opportunities, farm viability, improve surface and groundwater quality and teach our upcoming generation of the ways and methods used and which will work better over time with climate changes realized.

As such this plan remains flexible to allow for the 5-year update and any new practices approved.

Annual Work Plans

Attach both of the following:

- a. The most current annual work plan, prepared in the current format from DATCP, and addresses all required items such as needed funding and staff hours. 2025 AWP attached
- b. The work plan for the previous year that includes a column that identifies the progress in implementing the planned activities for that year. 2024 AWP +Accomplishments attached

Presentation Regarding County Resource Concerns – (IP, not sure if a or b yet)

Prepare and present an 8-10 minute snapshot to the board regarding county resources and management issues. The county must prepare one of following as part of this brief presentation:

- a. A PowerPoint (showing what your county looks like, can include maps), or
- b. A hand out (2-page max)

Guidance on Board Review Process

The LWCB's review supplements, but does not replace compliance with the DATCP checklist for LWRM plan approval. This encourages and supports honest presentations from the county. The county is

strongly encouraged to have the LCC chair or committee member be a part of the presentation to the Board to contribute policy and other insights to the discussion. The goal of the review is not to fail counties. The board recognizes the dynamic nature of the planning process. Board members are interested in how counties tackle priorities over time and how they respond to changing conditions in pursuing their priorities. The board will evaluate a county's planning and implementation based on how well the county balances and prioritizes the following: agricultural performance standards, other state priorities (impaired waters, FPP checks), and local priorities. When needed, the Board will provide constructive support to counties to improve the quality of their planning.

Land Conservation Committee Notification

The LCC was provided a completed copy of this form (including attachments) on: 08/15/2025 and was approved during LCC Meeting by motion on 8/21/2025.

Signature of Authorized Representative: David Wetzel **Date:** 09/02/2025
(County Soil & Water Director)

Send completed form and attachments to:
Katy.Smith@wisconsin.gov

Manitowoc County SWCD 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code (examples of types of “planned activities” in italics)	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (examples in italics)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Cropland</i> 		
Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management <i>LWP 2016-2025 Priority B, C, D, E, F, G</i>	Gully Erosion Control Practices Cost-shared NMP acres/practices Referrals to NRCS EQIP/GLRI Cover Crops FPP Reviews: Site visits & certifications completed for 4-year inspection of conservation compliance (tillage, setback, tolerable soil loss, high residue farming for erosion, NMP etc.) Promote new FPP participants Harvestable Buffers Meeting/Field Event Install Harvestable Buffers Interseeding Meeting/Field Event Interseeding practices Ground Water & NMFE visits NMFE certified plans Manure Hauler/CCA meeting	<i>5 acres/2 Ac & 1 stream crossing</i> <i>937.5 acres/934 Ac</i> <i>10/ Not tracked, many</i> <i>1500 acre/629 Ac – Increased C/S rates reduced coverage</i> <i>260 contacts (120 site visits/140 self-certifications; 34,000 acres)</i> <i>202 Contacts, 154,952 Ac in FPP, 233 FPP inspections</i> <i>10 sign-up/23</i> <i>1 meeting/Innovation grant ended, used up all funds</i> <i>4.5 acre/6.8 Ac</i> <i>1 meeting/1 mtg (Libertyland & SRSC Field Day</i> <i>200 acres/0</i> <i>15 visits/18</i> <i>10 certified plans/11</i> <i>1 meeting/ 1 mtg</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Livestock</i> 		
Livestock <i>LWP 2016-2025 Priority A</i> <i>AWO/Livestock Facility Licensing</i>	Investigations/Complaints AWO Permits Facility Siting Licenses Facility Siting Modifications Manure storage abandonment AWO/Siting construction as-built reviews Livestock Facility Siting License site reviews & compliance checks FPP Farmstead Site Inspections	<i>10/10</i> <i>5/9</i> <i>3/1</i> <i>3/15 applications, 12 approved</i> <i>1/3</i> <i>8/2</i> <i>15/11</i> <i>30-40 visits/82</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Water quality</i> 		
Water quality/quantity Ground Water <i>LWP 2016-2025 Priority D</i>	Revise Hazard Maps & Silurian Bedrock Changes Sinkhole Watershed Targeting Community Well Testing Day Residential well water nitrate screenings Well Monitoring Program Well Contamination Outreach Well abandonments as found/requested	Live Hazard Mapping Project w/5 farms/ Completed 3 practices/ 2 contacts 2 Sites/days/ Kiel & Reedsville 160 tests annually/ 259 tests 25 participants @3 tests/yr/ 28 participants 15 groundwater and nmp talks w/site visits/ 18 3/1

Manitowoc County SWCD 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Surface Water <i>LWP 2016-2025 Priority E</i>	Lake Association meetings Lake Watershed bmp's installed Administer CREP Program NR 151 WDNR Coordination & WDNR Easements	2 meetings/ <i>3</i> 5 bmp's/ <i>10</i> 730 acres annual monitoring/compliance, site staking/surveying, coordination w/FSA & DATCP, reporting/ <i>Completed & 44.93 Ac added to program</i> WDNR Non-point Coordinator – Erin Hansen/ <i>NOD Grant (492K), coordination meeting & 3 site visits</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Forestry</i> 		
Forestry	Forestry & Habitat Field Day Tree Planter Rentals Arbor Day Promotion	<i>1 field day/Planned mtg 2024, spring 2025 mtg -Woodland Dunes maintain 2 units and rent as requested/Completed</i> <i>media – newsletter/Completed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Invasive</i> 		
Invasive species	Lakeshore Invasive Species Management Area (Grants, LCC & Project Collaboration with Glacierland RC&D)	<i>coordination & grant allocation/Completed, 2 mtgs</i> <i>1 field day/EAB & Habitat Filed Day (LNRP, WDNR, USFWS, Woodland Dunes & Glacierland)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Wildlife</i> 		
Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat (other than forestry or invasive species)	Assist Landowners w/Wetland & Habitat Projects Pollinator Habitat Education Activities Pollinator Seed Sale & Resource Guide Update Wildlife Habitat Resource webpage Wetland Week Promotion Pollinator Week Promotion Wildlife Damage Program	<i>3 bmp's/sites/4 sites, 7.75 ac</i> <i>1 field day/tour/LMALWCA Tour & 10 Ac installed, 48 urban backyard seed kits</i> <i>Completed</i> <i>Completed</i> <i>press releases, field days, tours, media posts/Completed</i> <i>press releases, field days, tours, media posts/Completed</i> <i>coordinate and administer w/APHIS/Completed, 32K</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Urban</i> 		
Urban issues	Urban Pollinator / Rain Garden Outreach & Activities WI Salt Wise	<i>press releases, field days, tours, media posts/Completed</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Watershed</i> 		
Watershed strategies	MDV Program Administration / Cost-Share TMDL Coordination & Implementation Pine Creek 9KE Cal-Man 9KE (coordination & implementation) Water Quality & Soil Health Team Producer Led Group & Grant MDV Participation/Implementation	<i>5/5</i> streambank monitoring sites, inventory <i>2/2</i> barnyard runoff sites, <i>5/6.8</i> acres buffers, <i>112/118.5</i> acres cover crops) <i>Completed & Implementing</i> <i>Coordinate with Calumet County as needed</i> 1 meeting & field day/ <i>Group dissolved by Forage Council</i> administer group & 10k funds, 3 farmer-to farmer mtgs, 1 field day, develop website/ <i>Completed</i> administer program, design/install bmp's w/cost-share/ <i>Completed</i>

Manitowoc County SWCD 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Watershed strategies (cont)	TMDL Participation/Implementation Between-the-Lakes Farm Demo Group (collaboration & outreach) Long Lake Watershed Outlet Management Technical Advisory Committee Lake Michigan Area Land & Water Conservation Association Land & Water Resource Management Plan Development for 2026-2035	target high p-loading areas & design/install bmp's w/cost-share/participated with WDNR on TMDL Implementation Grant Agreement for 2 sub-basin and 135K three-year project <i>Completed</i> <i>Completed</i> <i>Completed</i> <i>Completed & Summer Tour</i> <i>start March 2024/6/6/2024 - Draft Completed July 2025 (4 LAC meetings and LCC approval 7/17/25)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Other</i> 		
Education Activities: <i>LWP 2016-2025 Priority H</i>	SWCD newsletters Pine Creek newsletters, Press releases Media Posts Youth / school education opportunities Community education opportunities Professional Ag Trainings Conservation-in-Action videos National/World awareness promotions on social media/press releases/newsletters L&W Education Committee	4 newsletters/4 2 newsletter/1 10 press releases/10+ 104 posts/242 3/5 3/5 3/5 3-5/17 6/6 <i>No staff on committee currently</i>
Administrative & Professional Development <i>LWP 2016-2025 Priority I</i>	Office administration & support Professional development (CEU, PDH, engineering approval) Technical Meetings CCA certifications & maintenance hours GIT Hours LCC	200-250 hours/ <i>Completed</i>

Manitowoc County SWCD 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits		
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	5	9
Manure storage closure	1	3
Livestock facility siting	3	15
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining		
Stormwater and construction site erosion control		
Shoreland zoning		
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	2	2
Other		

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	260/233
For FPP	120/82 on-site; 140 compliance
For NR 151	2/3
Animal waste ordinance	10/6
Livestock facility siting	10-15/11
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	
Nonmetallic mining	

Manitowoc County SWCD 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	3/2
Field days	3-5/3
Trainings/workshops	3/3
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	3/5
Newsletters	6/11
Social media posts	104/242
News release/story	10/10+

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
<i>Combined Staff 5.5 FT Equiv.</i>	10725	\$547,174
Cost Sharing estimates		
<i>Bonding/Structural</i>		<i>\$55,000 + \$30,000 SEG Transfer/ok</i>
<i>SEG/NMFE/Innovation</i>		<i>\$75,000/\$14,100/\$20,150/ok</i>
<i>MDV</i>		<i>\$24,400/\$61,331</i>
<i>WDNR SWQG</i>		<i>\$24,700/ok + \$492K TRM Grant</i>
<i>PLG Grant</i>		<i>\$7000/ok</i>

Manitowoc County 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category: Last year for 2016-2025 LWRMP

CATEGORY	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS
• <i>Cropland</i>		
Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management: <i>LWP 2015-2025 Priority B, C, D, E, F, G</i>	Gully Erosion Control Practices Cost-shared NMP acres/practices Referrals to NRCS EQIP/GLRI Cover Crops FPP Reviews: Site visits & certifications completed for 4-year inspection of conservation compliance (tillage, setback, tolerable soil loss, high residue farming for erosion, NMP etc.) Promote new FPP participants Install Harvestable Buffers Interseeding Meeting/Field Event Interseeding practices NMFE certified plans Manure Hauler/CCA meeting	3.5 acres 200 acres 10 1250 acres 200 contacts (85 site visits/115 self-certifications; 34,000 acres) 10 sign-ups 2.9 acres w/SWG funds 1 meeting 200 acres 10 certified plans 1 meeting/training
• <i>Livestock</i>		
Livestock: <i>LWP 2015-2025 Priority A</i> <i>AWO/Livestock Facility Licensing</i>	Investigations/Complaints AWO Violations AWO Permits Livestock Facility Licenses Livestock Facility License Modifications Manure storage abandonment AWO/Siting construction as-built reviews Livestock Facility License site reviews & compliance checks	10 2 7 3 3 1 10 15
• <i>Water quality</i>		
Water Quality Groundwater: <i>LWP 2015-2025 Priority D</i> Water Quality Surface Water: <i>LWP 2015-2025 Priority E</i>	Revise Hazard Maps & Silurian Bedrock Changes Sinkhole Watershed Targeting Community Well Testing Day Residential well water nitrate screenings Well Monitoring Program Well Contamination Outreach Well abandonments as found/requested Lake Association meetings Lake Watershed bmp's installed Administer CREP Program	Live Hazard Mapping Project w/5 farms 2 practices 2 Sites/days 160 tests annually 25 participants @3 tests/yr ARPA Well Comp, NWQI Assessment Plan & FPP Visits (10) 1-3 2 meetings 5 bmp's 730 acres annual monitoring/compliance, site staking/surveying, coordination w/FSA & DATCP, reporting

Manitowoc County 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

	NR 151 WDNR Coordination & WDNR Easements	<i>WDNR Non-point Coordinator – Erin Hansen</i>

• *Forestry*

Forestry:	Forestry & Habitat Field Day Tree Planter Rentals Arbor Day Promotion	<i>Media outreach & planning w/area forester Maintain 2 units and rent as requested Media & newsletter</i>
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• *Invasive*

Invasive species: Administer LNMP Grant & LISMA Cooperation	Lakeshore Invasive Species Management Area (Grants, LCC & Project Collaboration with Glacierland RC&D)	<i>Coordination & grant allocation Media & SNAPShot Day & LISMA Meetings, MCLA</i>
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• *Wildlife*

Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat:	Assist Landowners w/Wetland & Habitat Projects Pollinator Habitat Education Activities Pollinator Seed Sale & Resource Guide Update Wildlife Habitat Resource webpage Wetland Week Promotion Pollinator Week Promotion Wildlife Damage Program-WDACP	<i>3 bmp's/sites, coordination with WDNR and USFWS 1 field day/tour Press releases, field days, tours, media posts Press releases, field days, tours, media posts Coordinate and administer w/APHIS</i>
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• *Urban*

Urban issues:	Urban Pollinator / Rain Garden Outreach & Activities WI Salt Wise Coordinate erosion issues with MC Planning & Zoning and City/Villages as requested	<i>Press releases & media posts, MC Library Display tours, Arboretum planting & wetland project Press releases & media posts As requested</i>
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• *Watershed*

Watershed strategies: <i>Pursue initiatives, grants and administer watershed & project-based activities</i>	MDV Program Administration / Cost-Share TMDL Coordination & Implementation	<i>Administer program, design/install bmp's w/cost-share/BITS Target high p-loading areas & design/install bmp's w/cost-share, start NE-Lakeshore TMDL Pilot Project</i>
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Manitowoc County 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

	Pine Creek 9KE Cal-Man 9KE (coordination & implementation) PLG Grant – Seven Rivers Soil Cooperative NWQI Coordination & Assessment Plan Between-the-Lakes Farm Demo Group (collaboration & outreach) Long Lake Watershed Outlet Management Lake Michigan Area Land & Water Conservation Association Land & Water Resource Management Plan Development for 2026-2035	<i>4 streambank monitoring sites, inventory 1 barnyard runoff site, 2.9 acres buffers, 100 acres cover crops, annual meeting</i> <i>1 meeting and/or field day</i> <i>Administer group & 40k funds, 2 farmer-to farmer mtgs, 2 field days, launch website & outreach</i> <i>Target 5 community well-heads & recharge areas, groundwater modeling and outreach strategies w/WDNR/NRCS/WGNHS</i> <i>2 field days & 6 meetings</i> <i>Bi-annually</i> <i>5 Meetings</i> <i>In-Progress-LWCB 10-7-25</i>
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• *Education & Administration*

Education Activities: <i>LWP 2015-2025 Priority H</i>	SWCD newsletters Pine Creek newsletters Press releases Media Posts Youth / school education opportunities Community education opportunities Professional Ag Trainings Conservation-in-Action videos National/World awareness promotions on social media/press releases/newsletters L&W Education Committee Mobile Conservation Classroom	<i>4 newsletters</i> <i>2 newsletters</i> <i>10 press releases</i> <i>104 posts</i> <i>3</i> <i>3</i> <i>3</i> <i>3-5</i> <i>6</i> <i>Purchase items, trailer, assemble & develop lesson plans</i>
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Administration & Professional Development: <i>LWP 2015-2025 Priority I</i>	Office administration & support Professional development (CEU, PDH, engineering approval) Technical Meetings CCA certifications & maintenance hours LCC Meetings & Coordination	
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Manitowoc County 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits	See LFL	
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	7	
Manure storage closure	1	
Livestock facility licensing & modifications	6	
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	n/a	
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	n/a	
Shoreland zoning	n/a	
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	2	
Other		

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	200
For FPP	85 on-site; 115 landowner compliances
For NR 151	2
Animal waste ordinance	8
Livestock facility siting	10-15
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	n/a
Nonmetallic mining	n/a

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	1
Field days	3-5
Trainings/workshops	3
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	2
Newsletters	6
Social media posts	100+
News release/story	10

Manitowoc County 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
County SWCD Staff (5.5 FTE's)	10,725	\$582,641
Cost Sharing (Est)		
Bonding/Structural		\$55,000
SEG/NMFE/Innovation		\$75,000/\$16,850/Remaining Carry-Over
MDV		\$62,000
WDNR SWQG		\$32,000
PLG & TNC Grant		\$42,000
NE-TMDL		\$45,000
NOD Grant		\$492,000

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ **State of Wisconsin**

DATE: **October 7, 2025**

TO: **Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors**

FROM: **Jenn Chakravorty, DATCP**
 Resource Management Section,
 Bureau of Land and Water Resources

SUBJECT: **Five Year Review of the *Walworth County Land and Water Resource Management Plan***

Recommended Action: This is an action item. The LWCB should determine whether the county has met the LWCB's criteria for a five-year review of a LWRM plan approved for ten years. If the LWCB makes a formal determination that the county has failed to meet these criteria, DATCP will automatically modify its order to terminate approval of the county's plan effective December of this year.

Summary: The Walworth County Land and Water Resource Management plan has been approved through December 31, 2030, contingent on a five-year review conducted prior to December 31, 2025. In advance of the five-year review, Walworth County has completed a DATCP approved form designed to implement the LWCB's reference document dated October 27, 2021, and the criteria for conducting a five-year review. The county has provided written answers to four questions regarding past and future implementation, has provided the required work planning documents, and has appropriately involved the Land Conservation Committee.

Materials Provided:

- Completed Five Year Review Form
- 2024 Annual Workplan with Accomplishments
- 2025 Annual Workplan

Presenter(s): Mandy Bonneville, Deputy Director/County Conservationist
 Heather Marquardt, Senior Urban Conservation Specialist
 Katie Porubcan, Conservation Technician
 Brian Holt, Land Conservation Committee Chair



Land and Water Conservation Board County Land and Water Resource Management Plan Five Year Review of LWRM Plans

County: Walworth

Implementation Covering Past Five Years and Future Directions

Answer these four questions in writing (not to exceed 4 pages)

- 1. Provide a representative number of accomplishments that can be directly traced to activities identified in multiple work plans. For each accomplishment, explain how the planning process helped the county achieve its outcome, including planning adjustments that helped better target county activities.**

The County's Land and Water Resource Management (LWRM) Plan and annual planning process has helped us identify and prioritize steps towards reaching our goals of protecting agricultural lands, lakes, streams, wetlands, and other natural resources in Walworth County.

LWRM Plan Goal No. 1: Protect Walworth County Lakes, Streams, and Wetlands from Agricultural Runoff.

Since 2020, no-till and cover crop adoption through county programs has grown. Through a DNR Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) grant, the County has secured approximately 2,713 acres of no-till contracts. The County further supports interest in soil health practices through an annual soil health meeting. The County also collaborates with the Delavan Lake Improvement Association (DLIA) to provide supplemental funding for riparian buffers within the Delavan Lake watershed. Additionally, as a result of compliance checks, complaints, and individual landowner interest, 71 cost-shared Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been installed countywide since 2020 with a quantified sediment loss reduction of 7,361 tons, as compared to 4,914 tons from 2015-2019. See Figure 1 for BMP locations and categorizations and Figure 2 for BMP funding sources.

LWRM Plan Goal No. 2: Protect Walworth County streams, lakes, wetlands, and groundwater from the adverse impact of urban development.

In collaboration with partners at the WDNR, UW-Extension, and local non-profits, the County hosts a bi-annual Lakeshore Landscaper Workshop to provide guidance and education to local contractors and/or landowners working on or near environmentally sensitive areas. This workshop provides resources on how to mitigate erosion and runoff from construction or other land-disturbing activities, updates on local and state regulation, and reminders of repetitive issues observed during on-site inspections. This event has provided opportunities for those working in the field to come together with regulators to discuss topics essential for conservation conscious urban development.

LWRM Plan Goal No.3: Balance natural resources protection with the need for aggregate resources and the high abundance of these resources throughout Walworth County.

Efforts to maintain compliance with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) have continued, including a Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Ordinance update and the closure and reclamation of a site hosting multiple environmental concerns. The ordinance updates highlighted

areas of inconsistencies between Walworth County's regulations and the WDNR, modifying the language to align with the state's expectations and requirements. Discrepancies, though few, were discovered during a routine program audit by the WDNR on the County's Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Ordinance and program. The audit report provided valuable input and direction on not only the County's ordinance, but also permitting and on-site inspection procedures. Since 2020, a high-profile nonmetallic mine site has been successfully reclaimed to County standards. This project came after the site was a topic of environmental concern due to the un-reclaimed, mined areas and immense area of shingle storage near environmentally sensitive areas. Several County divisions worked with the pit operator to have the shingles, in excess of 35,000 tons, hauled off-site to an approved disposal location. This massive task was continuous over a period of several years. The site, no longer being mined, has been reclaimed back to a rolling landscape with several wet ponds and infiltration basins, placement of sufficient topsoil, and densely vegetated to satisfy both the County and state's reclamation standards. The full reclamation of the site allowed the post-mining land use to be returned to agricultural use and zoning.

LWRM Plan Goal No. 4, Prevent the Introduction and Dispersal of Invasive Species in Walworth County.

Beginning in 2021, the County secured funds to employ a seasonal Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Coordinator. Staff performs AIS and other invasive species management, outreach, and education. As part of this program, annual lake meander surveys are conducted identifying composition and abundance of aquatic plants in underserved county lakes for mapping and reporting. Trainings and workshops are now held routinely for local lake groups and other area stakeholders regarding invasive species identification and management.

LWRM Plan Goal No. 5: Protect Walworth County's Productive Agricultural Land.

Over the last five years, we have seen steady interest in Nutrient Management Planning and the Farmland Preservation program across the County. See Figure 3 for more specific statistics on program enrollment. Additionally, the County completed its Farmland Preservation plan update in 2022. Every year, the county also provides farmer training for nutrient management planning with an average of 9 participants in attendance. Additionally, there has been growing operator interest in SWRM funding for Nutrient Management Planning over the last couple of years.

LWRM Plan Goal No. 7: Protecting Walworth County's Watersheds by Seeking Collaboration and Supporting Partnerships.

A significant amount of the County's conservation accomplishments over the last five years are tied to the Delavan Lake watershed priority planning area. The County has successfully collaborated across community partners to pool funding from multiple sources to target soil and water quality concerns within the watershed – a goal identified in the Rock River Basin TMDL and the Jackson Creek Watershed Nine Key Element Plan (NKE92). Through combined SWRM, TRM, and MDV funding, Walworth County has installed 32 engineered best management practices within the watershed since 2020. Among these is a nearly 500-acre collaboration between NRCS, Ducks Unlimited, the Town of Delavan, the Delavan Lakes Improvement Association, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The project is comprised of eight WASCObS, five waterways, one two-stage ditch, one wetland reconstruction, and two CREP enrollments. This site was also a tour stop for the 2025 annual summer NACD conference. The Delavan Lake Watershed has also seen the development and January 2025 designation of the Delavan Lake Watershed Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA). By the end of 2025, approximately 1,880 acres will be enrolled in agreements within the AEA.

2. Identify any areas where the county was unable to make desired progress in implementing activities identified in multiple work plans. For each area identified, explain the work plan adjustments that were made to refocus planned activities. If no areas are identified, explain how the county was able to make progress in all the areas planned.

The County has primarily faced difficulties working within the Geneva Lake watershed and allocating Multi-Discharger Variance (MDV) funding designated for the Upper Fox River Basin. Our county has requested MDV funding for the Middle Rock Basin (Delavan Lake) since 2021 and the Upper Fox River Basin (Geneva Lake) since 2019. However, due to a lack in landowner cooperation, we have not been able to allocate the majority of funds for the Upper Fox River Basin. In 2025, we discontinued requesting MDV funding for this watershed and are building a strategy to use the funds moving forward.

Land use competition with large-scale solar development and housing developments has reduced participation in, and eligibility for, the Farmland Preservation program as well as reduced landowner interest in the AEA. We have made efforts to educate landowners of changes to their eligibility for programs like Farmland Preservation under solar development.

Lastly, we have been unable to fully pursue our work plan goal of addressing contaminants, specifically nitrate, in groundwater. This is primarily due to funding and staffing limitations. This year staff met with Walworth County Public Health to explore ways to pursue this goal as a partnership going forward.

3. Describe how the county's work plans implement its priority farm strategy and the effectiveness of county actions implementing agricultural performance standards and conservation practices on farms. In particular, the county should describe outreach, farm inventories, and additional funds that were pursued to implement its strategy.

Our priority farm strategy focuses on implementing the Agriculture Performance Standards and Prohibitions of Wis. Admin. Code NR 151, primarily for Farmland Preservation compliance. These standards are also found in Chapter 26 of Walworth County's Ordinances. Implementation of performance standards and conservation practices on farms is prioritized through Nutrient Management Plan review, yearly on-farm spot checks, and complaint driven responses. As detailed in Question 1, the County also takes a watershed-based planning approach for BMP engineering and installation. Nutrient Management compliance is also monitored through county-written and Land Conservation Committee-regulated Conservation Plans written for the operator/landowner. There have been approximately 65 conservation plan updates since 2020.

Our Farmland Preservation and watershed management priorities consistently consume the majority of county funds and additional requests for conservation practice installations are addressed on a "next-in-line" basis. We rely on a variety of additional funding sources to meet countywide needs for conservation compliance. Lastly, the county assists in providing nutrient management plans, GIS services, and event outreach for the newly formed producer-led watershed group.

4. Provide representative examples that show changes in direction for work planning in the upcoming five years, with specific examples provided showing adjustments in planned activities in the county's most recent work plan.

Moving forward, Walworth County will see adjustments in its work plan primarily related to the following initiatives:

1. The establishment of our first Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA), the Delavan Lake Watershed AEA, will require continued outreach on agreement applications.
2. Providing our producer-led group, WATERS (Walworth Alliance Teaching Environmental Regenerative Systems), with continued liaison support and outreach engagement.
3. Continued efforts to build a comprehensive GIS database to track BMP installations, animal waste facilities, nutrient/sediment reduction values, farmland preservation zoning and agreement enrollments, cover crop and no-till contracts, and conservation plans all in one location.
4. Increased collaboration with the local public health department to better address water quality concerns in our communities. Concerns include nitrate and *e. coli* well contaminations.
5. Continued efforts to bring higher standards of conservation practices to our county-owned farm. This includes BMP construction in the coming year and potential opportunities for collaboration with UW Extension services.
6. Better enforcement of, and assistance to, farms that have struggled to maintain compliance in the past. This will be addressed through improved compliance tracking methods but is highly limited by staffing availability.

Annual Work Plans

Attach both of the following:

- a. The most current annual work prepared by the county.
- b. The work plan for the previous year that includes a column that identifies the progress in implementing the planned activities for that year.

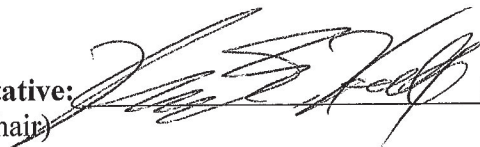
Board Review Process

The goal of the review is not to fail counties. The board recognizes the dynamic nature of the planning process. Board members are interested in how counties tackle priorities over time and how they respond to changing conditions in pursuing their priorities. The board will evaluate a county's planning and implementation based on how well the county balances and prioritizes the following: agricultural performance standards, other state priorities (impaired waters, FPP checks), and local priorities. When needed, the Board will provide constructive support to counties to improve the quality of their planning. Counties have the option to prepare a brief presentation to illustrate their successes and future priorities.

Land Conservation Committee Notification

The LCC was provided a completed copy of these questions (including attachments) on:
July 14, 2025.

Signature of Authorized Representative:
(e.g. County Conservationist, LCC chair)

 **Date:** 7/14/25

Send completed questionnaire and attachments to:
Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov

Best Management Practices Installed Since 2020

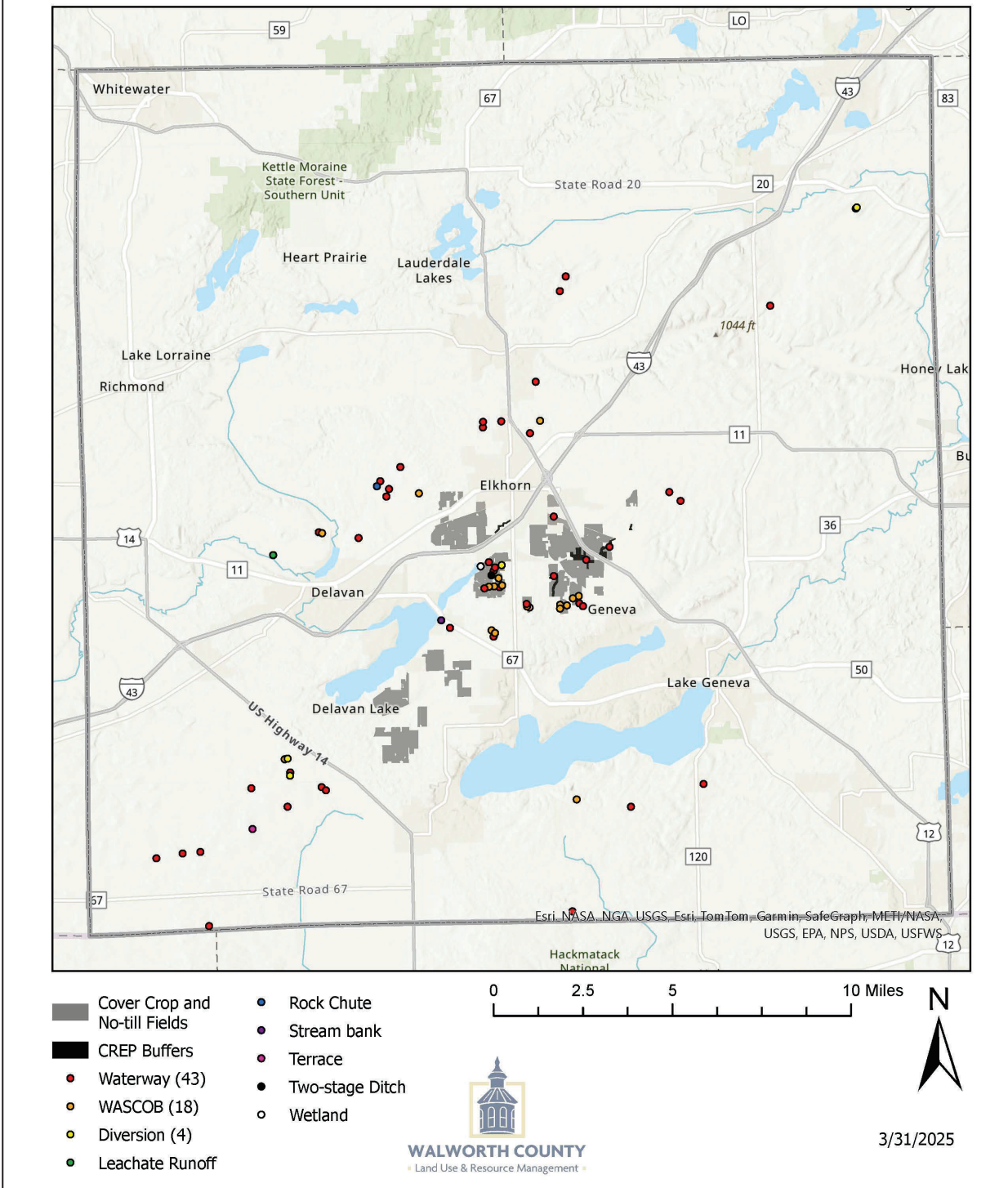


Figure 1. County-wide Best Management Practice installations categorized by practice since 2020. Also shown is the total acreage of cover crop or no-till fields funded by the TRM grant and buffer installation supported by the Delavan Lake Improvement Association (DLIA) within the Delavan Lake watershed.

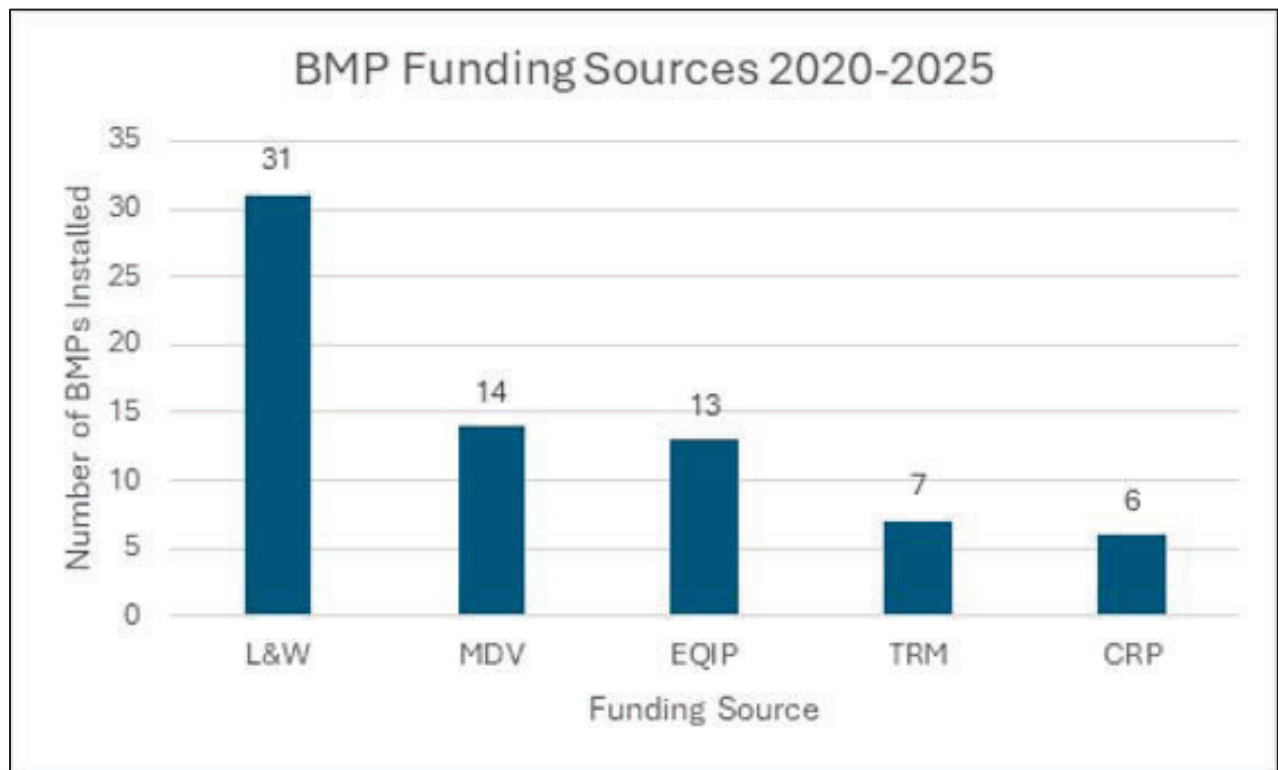
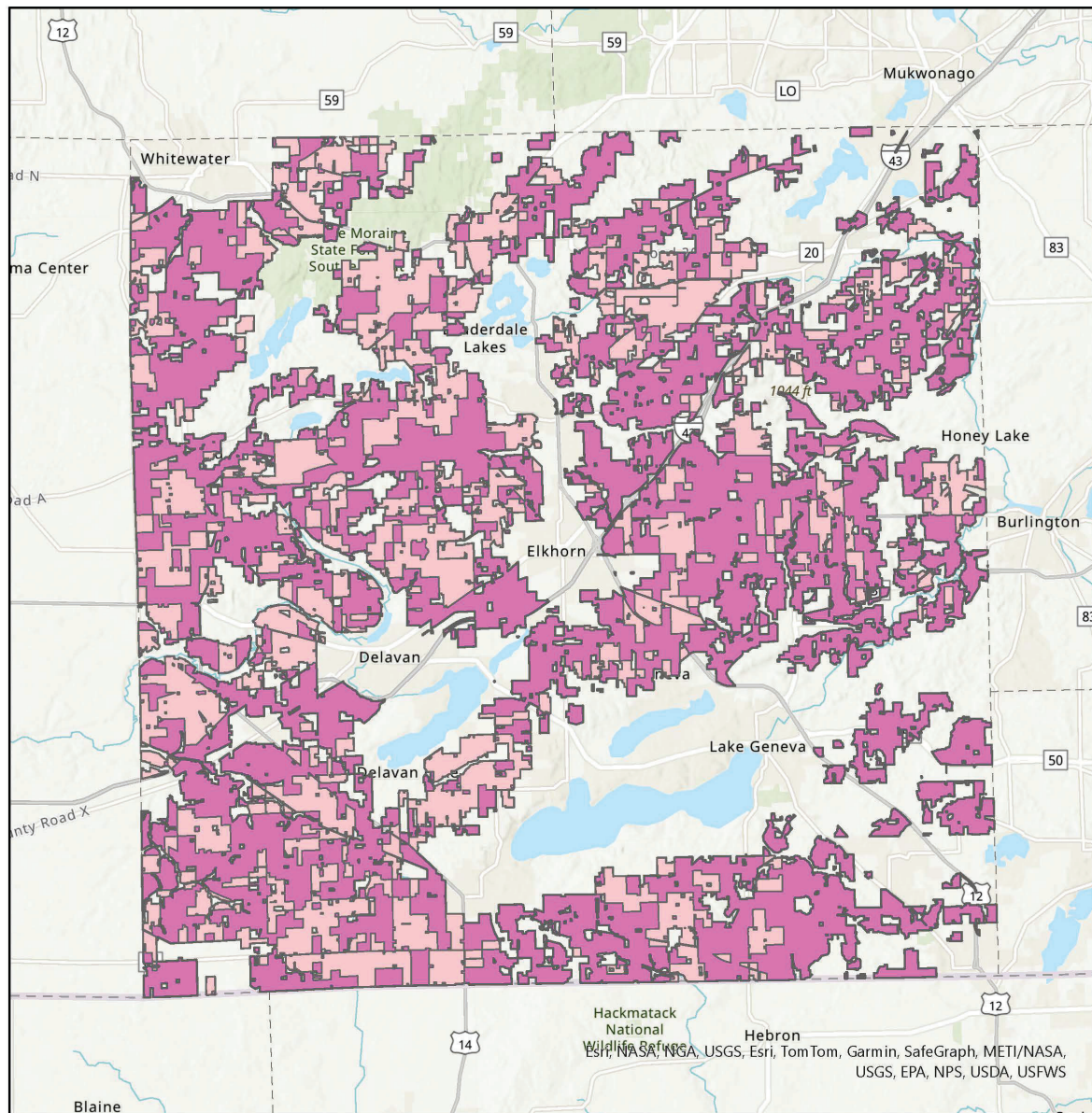


Figure 2. Breakdown of funding source for all county BMP installations since 2020.

LWRM 5-Year Review Farmland Preservation Enrollment Status



- Farmland Preservation Zoning
- Acres Enrolled in Farmland Preservation



Figure 3. With 314 total landowner participants, 60,661 out of the total 193,156 zoned acres are currently enrolled in the Farmland Preservation program.

WALWORTH COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN

LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS AND COMPLETION STATUS (☒)	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cropland (cropland, soil health, and/or nutrient management) 		
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #1, Obj 1: Implement state Agricultural Runoff Performance Standards and Prohibitions, pursuant to Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 151.</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #1, Obj 6: Conservation practices are designed and installed using technical standards developed by NRCS (Field Office Technical Guide).</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #5, Obj 2: Use best management practices to minimize the impacts of farming activities on the natural resources and protect the productivity of the soil.</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #5, Obj 3: Increase support and use of soil management systems to improve the health of County soils.</i></p>	<p>Assist landowners with the preparation of conservation plans and implementation of conservation practices.</p> <p>Provide training to landowners and farm operators to prepare and implement nutrient management plans. Review nutrient management plans developed.</p> <p>Offer technical assistance in the design, installation, and construction oversight of conservation practices. Cost share conversation practices.</p> <p>Assist landowners enrolled in the state Farmland Preservation Program comply with the conservation requirements, annual certification, and address non-compliance.</p> <p>Pursue soil health practice implementation on county owned lands rented for farming.</p> <p>Distribute information on soil organic matter, use of soil testing, no-till farming, and cover crops through workshops, one-on-one contacts, newsletters, and web postings.</p> <p>Promote the use of cover crops and assist in the establishment of cover crops.</p>	<p>☒ Assist 20 landowners in preparing conservation plans and implementing conservation practices.</p> <p>☒ Update 20 28 nutrient management plans through farmer training.</p> <p>☒ Conduct 1 nutrient management (NM) training workshop for farmers developing their own NM plans.</p> <p>☒ Add 500 3,588 new acres in compliance with nutrient management plans.</p> <p>☒ Dedicate 150 >150 staff hours to provide technical assistance to landowners and farm operators.</p> <p>Targeted Conservation Practice Installation utilizing 2024 TRM grant funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☒ 200 567 acres of cover crops ☒ 3,000 3,156 acres of no-till farming ☒ 3 5 water & sediment control basins ☒ 5 2 acres of grassed waterways ☒ 1 wetland restoration ☒ 1 grade stabilization structure <p>☒ Additional Conservation Practice Installation (other funding sources):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☒ 5 7 acres of grassed waterways ☒ 1 2 water & sediment control basins ☒ 1 grade stabilization structure ☒ 1 0 stream bank stabilization <p>Host 1 0 cover crop field day.</p>

WALWORTH COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

• **Livestock**

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #1, Obj 2: Manage animal waste and nutrient use on agricultural lands by increasing the use of nutrient management plans.</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #1, Obj 3: Animal waste storage structures are built, expanded, and abandoned consistent with Walworth County Animal Waste Storage Ordinance.</i></p>	Perform farm inspections and document compliance status.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	One 0 storage facility closure cost-shared. One planned for 2025.
	Assist Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) responding to manure management issues.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Issue 1 animal waste storage permit.
	Review manure storage permits for compliance with Animal Waste Storage Ordinances.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	± 0 manure storage structure cost-shared.
	Provide technical assistance, including design preparation and construction oversight for animal waste management practices.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dedicate 200 staff hours for technical assistance.
			Inspected 5 facilities for compliance.

• **Water quality** (water quality/quantity; other than activities listed in other categories)

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #1, Obj 4: Establish permanent vegetation or buffers along streams, lakes, and wetlands.</i></p>	Assist in the design, installation, and cost share of conservation practices.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Enroll 60 46.2 new acres of buffers or wetlands into the CREP program. Further financial assistance from Lakes Associations to promote buffers used.
	Enroll buffers or wetlands into the CREP program.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Re-enroll 44 18.41 acres of expiring CREP contracts.
			Provide > 100 staff hours of technical assistance.
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #2: Protect Walworth County Streams, Lakes, Wetlands, Groundwater and other Environmental Resources from the Adverse Impact of Urban Development.</i></p>	Participate in Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's (SEWRPC) Chloride Impact Study currently underway.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Provide 20 5 hours of technical assistance to SEWRPC's Chloride Impact Study.
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal # 2, Obj 8: Private Waste Treatment Systems (POWTS) are properly installed and maintained.</i></p>	Monitor POWTS for compliance with state plumbing regulations and county sanitation ordinances.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Issue 275 257 permits for new or replacement systems.
	Work with Linn Sanitation District (Town of Linn) to identify systems in need of replacement or at risk for failure.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Notify 4,700 5,304 landowners with privately owned waste treatment system of maintenance requirements.
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #7, Obj 8: Provide assistance to WWTPs to achieve phosphorus reduction goals.</i></p>	Assist WWTPs to reduce phosphorus discharge to waterways and achieve phosphorus reduction goals.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Assist 1 WWTP to identify ways to implement the reduction of phosphorus through watershed management, pollutant trading, adaptive management, or use of Multi-Discharge Variance funds. No requests for assistance.

WALWORTH COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

• **Forestry**

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #6, Obj 6: Reduce the loss and impairment of Walworth County woodlands and specimen trees.</i></p>	<p>Participate in Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's (SEWRPC) update to Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan currently underway.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Provide 20 hours of technical assistance.</p>
	<p>Distribute information on tree pests and diseases and control of invasive species through news releases, online, and social media outlets.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Provide 40 <10 hours of technical assistance. No requests for assistance.</p>

• **Invasive**

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #4, Obj 1: Assess and monitor Walworth County waterbodies for the presence of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #4, Obj 3: Assist Walworth County boaters and anglers to prevent the introduction and spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).</i></p>	<p>Pursue WDNR Lake Monitoring and Protection Network Grant.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Perform work tasks outlined in County's Lake Monitoring and Protection Network Grant agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 lake meander surveys • Inventory 12 34 public launches for AIS signage and coordinate signage installation as needed • Organize and host 2 1 CBCW trainings to train volunteers and/or paid staff. No additional trainings requested. • Document location of 2 populations of invasive species and report to WDNR. • Host 1 Snapshot Day event to train volunteers on AIS detection.
	<p>Conduct lake meander surveys to identify the composition and abundance of aquatic plants present and perform baseline water quality monitoring.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<p>Respond to citizen reports of invasive species populations and report findings to WDNR.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<p>Coordinate Clean Boats, Clean Waters programs and local inspections of boats and watercraft.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<p>Host CBCW training event(s).</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #4, Obj 4: Broaden public awareness of invasive species.</i></p>	<p>Prepare and distribute invasive species information to the public and business outlets.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Issue 3 4 newsletters on invasive species.</p> <p>Present on 4 2 AIS topics at County Land Conservation Committee or other local area organization.</p>

WALWORTH COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- **Wildlife** (wildlife/wetlands/habitat; other than forestry or invasive species)

<i>LWRM Plan Goal #5, Obj 5: Support Wildlife Abatement Program for County landowners to protect crops from damage or loss caused by wildlife.</i>	Administer a grant program to prevent wildlife damage to County agricultural crops and compensate farmers for crop loss caused by wildlife.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Process wildlife damage claims as needed. (Damage claims in Walworth County have historically been low.) None Needed.
<i>LWRM Plan Goal #6, Obj 3: Preserve and restore the ecological services and functional values provided by Walworth County Wetlands.</i>	Assist landowner enrollment in state and federal programs to preserve and restore wetlands on their property.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	50 46.2 acres of wetlands and stream buffers enrolled in programs.
	Provide public access to county wetland inventory maps and DNR's Surface Water Data Viewer using the county's online GIS system.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

- **Urban**

<i>LWRM Plan Goal #2; Obj 1: Construction and other land disturbing activities will comply with State and County Construction Site Erosion (CSE) Control and Stormwater Management (SWM) Control Performance Standards.</i>	Keep county stormwater and erosion control ordinances consistent with current NR 151, non-agricultural performance standards, and recommendations in adopted watershed plans.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	375 200 site visits for stormwater and erosion control compliance.
	Review CSE/SWM plans and permit applications. Conduct timely inspections and effective enforcement actions.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Review stormwater and erosion control plans and issue permits for 500 410 projects. Achieve 100% compliance with erosion concerns. Issue less than 10 citations for non-compliance.
	Develop an inventory of storm water BMPs to assist in the inspection and maintenance of constructed stormwater management practices.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Map BMPs installed within inventory database. Include practice type, ownership, O&M, plans, and as-builts. Make available on the County's GIS. Inspect 40 7 built stormwater practices.
<i>LWRM Plan Goal #2, Obj 6: Protect shorelands and waterways from adverse impact caused by development and vegetation removal.</i>	Assist the Walworth County Zoning Division with implementation of the state shoreland zoning standards contained in NR 115.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Provide technical assistance, where needed, on 300 shoreland zoning permits. Host 1 workshop for real estate agents.
<i>LWRM Plan Goal #6, Obj 4: Protect Walworth County Floodplains.</i>	Provide Walworth County Floodplain Map inventory data and maps to Towns, developers, citizens, and other agencies.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Provide public access to county floodplain maps on county's online GIS system.

WALWORTH COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- **Watershed (strategies)**

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #7, Obj 1B: Support the implementation of the Delavan Lake and Jackson Creek Watershed Plans.</i></p>	<p>Work with Delavan Lake & Jackson Creek Watershed (HUC-12 #070900021402 & #070900021401) to continue to identify needs and to work on the installation of BMPs and access to available funding.</p> <p>Advise and counsel the Delavan Lake Improvement Association, the Delavan Lake Sanitary District, and the Town of Delavan with their efforts to protect the Delavan Lake Watershed.</p>	<div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> </div> <p>Provide 500 hours of technical assistance to the implementation of the Delavan Lake & Jackson Creek Watershed Plans. Priority project area.</p> <p>Utilize \$436,950 in 2024 TRM grant funds for implementation of cost-sharing conservation practices within the watershed.</p> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 567 acres of cover crops • 3,000 3,156 acres of no-till farming • 3 5 water & sediment control basins • 5 2 acres of grassed waterways • 1 wetland restoration • 1 grade stabilization structure <p>Utilize funds from MDV program to install BMPs within area watersheds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 acres of cover crops • 31 water & sediment control basins • 3 2 acres of grassed waterways <p>“US Ag Project” at the headwaters of Delavan Lake</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ~ \$400,000 project • 500 acres total • 10 acres of grassed waterways • 8 WASCOBs • 800 ft of diversions • One 2,200 ft 2-stage ditch • 40-acre wetland restoration • Cover crop and no-till planned <p>Participate in >2 collaboration events with the Delavan Lake Improvement Association and the Town of Delavan Lake Committee. Attend monthly association meetings.</p>
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WALWORTH COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #7, Obj 1C: Support the development and implementation of the Geneva Lake Watershed Plan.</i></p>	<p>Work with Geneva Lake Watershed (HUC-8 #07120006) to identify needs and work on the installation of BMPs and access to available funding.</p> <p>Collaboration difficulties have delayed technical and funding assistance for this project.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Assist the “Water Alliance for Geneva Lake” as a technical and policy advisor. Staff to serve on 2 subcommittees and help advance initiatives.</p> <p>Provide 60 hours <60 of technical assistance to the development of the Geneva Lake Watershed Plan & update to the Geneva Lake Management Plan.</p> <p>Utilize funds from MDV program to install BMPs within area watersheds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruit ± 0 landowner Install ± 0 BMP
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #7, Obj 3: Support the mission of the Walworth County Lakes Association and individual lake districts and lake associations.</i></p>	<p>Continue to advise the Walworth County Lakes Association and individual lake protection groups. Work cooperatively on solution-based initiatives and activities.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Present at 1 meeting or participate in 1 outreach event/publication by the Walworth County Lake Association or another lake protection group (Delavan Lake Improvement Association).</p>

• **Other**

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #5, Obj 1: Preserve Agricultural Land as recommended in the Multi-jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Walworth County: 2035.</i></p>	<p>Maintain protections for agricultural lands through the update and recertification of the County’s Farmland Preservation Zoning Ordinance.</p> <p>Work with landowners to explore Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) designation. Assist interested parties with public outreach and the application process.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Update and certify the Walworth County Farmland Preservation zoning ordinance. County Board approval and DATCP re-certification anticipated in 2025.</p> <p>Pursue potential establishment of AEA within the county. Delavan Lake Watershed AEA established within Walworth County.</p>
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #3, Obj 1: All nonmetallic mining sites are successfully reclaimed to productive uses.</i></p>	<p>Monitor mining sites for compliance with reclamation permit conditions, approved reclamation plan, and financial assurance.</p> <p>Use the Department’s drone technology to monitor nonmetallic mining activity.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>8 nonmetallic mining sites inspected.</p> <p>Evaluate 23 nonmetallic mining financial assurance documents for accuracy.</p>

WALWORTH COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

<i>LWRM Plan Goal #8, Obj 2: Increase the engagement of youth in community environmental stewardship and awareness.</i>	Continue to sponsor annual conservation poster contest to engage schools in conservation education. Identify additional projects to engage youth in environmental stewardship.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Participation of <u>100+</u> (135 in 2025) students in conservation poster contest. Present at <u>1</u> school on the topic of soil health or erosion/stormwater control.
<i>LWRM Plan Goal #8, Obj 6: Sponsor opportunities to learn about sustainable land and water conservation practices.</i>	Sponsor tours of conservation practices in Walworth County. Engage UW Extension resources to communicate and train the public, officials, and contractors on the importance of conservation.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Host southeast area WI Land & Water tour showcasing county conservation practices. Create and issue guides on the purpose and protection of shoreyard buffer zones, as well as “Lakeshore Resource Guide for Walworth County”.

Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Number of Plans/application reviews anticipated	Number of Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits	-	-
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Manure storage closure	<u>± 0</u>	<u>± 0</u>
Livestock facility siting	-	-
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	<u>5-3</u>	<u>5-3</u>
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>
Shoreland zoning	<u>250+</u>	<u>250+</u>
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	-	-
POWTS	<u>275-257</u>	<u>275-257</u>

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	<u>80</u> 82
For FPP	<u>80</u>
For NR 151	<u>2</u>
Animal waste ordinance	<u>0</u>
Livestock facility siting	-
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	<u>375-300</u>
Nonmetallic mining	<u>8</u>

WALWORTH COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN **LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	1
Field days	1
Trainings/workshops	3 1
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	2 1
Newsletters	3 4
Social media posts	5 11
News release/story	4 3

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
County Conservationist	1248	\$669,360
Senior Conservation Technician	2080	
Senior Urban Conservation Specialist	2080	
Conservation Technician	2080	
Conservation Technician/Code Enforcement Officers	2080	
LURM Assistant	1040	
Lakes Monitoring and Protection Network Intern	700	\$10,975
Funding Sources (can be combined)		
Joint Allocation Staffing Grant	N/A	\$187,746
Bonding (includes carryover from 2023)	N/A	\$55,639
SEG (Nutrient Management)	N/A	\$20,000
MDV (carryover from 2023)	N/A	\$72,845
Lake Monitoring and Protection Network	N/A	\$16,134
TRM Grant	N/A	\$436,950

WALWORTH COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN

LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Cropland (cropland, soil health, and/or nutrient management)</i> 		
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #1, Obj 1: Implement state Agricultural Runoff Performance Standards and Prohibitions, pursuant to Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 151.</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #1, Obj 6: Conservation practices are designed and installed using technical standards developed by NRCS (Field Office Technical Guide).</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #5, Obj 2: Use best management practices to minimize the impacts of farming activities on the natural resources and protect the productivity of the soil.</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #5, Obj 3: Increase support and use of soil management systems to improve the health of County soils.</i></p>	<p>Assist landowners with the preparation of conservation plans and implementation of conservation practices.</p> <p>Provide training to landowners and farm operators to prepare and implement nutrient management plans. Review nutrient management plans developed.</p> <p>Offer technical assistance in the design, installation, and construction oversight of conservation practices. Cost share conversation practices.</p> <p>Assist landowners enrolled in the state Farmland Preservation Program comply with the conservation requirements, annual certification, and address non-compliance.</p> <p>Pursue soil health practice implementation on county owned lands rented for farming.</p> <p>Distribute information on soil organic matter, use of soil testing, no-till farming, and cover crops through workshops, one-on-one contacts, outreach, and web-postings.</p> <p>Promote the use of cover crops and assist in the establishment of cover crops.</p> <p>Promote and coordinate producer-led watershed group initiatives that improve soil health.</p>	<p>Assist 20 landowners in preparing conservation plans and implementing conservation practices.</p> <p>Update 20 nutrient management plans through farmer training.</p> <p>Conduct 1 nutrient management (NM) training workshop for farmers developing their own NM plans.</p> <p>Add 500 new acres in compliance with nutrient management plans.</p> <p>Dedicate 150 staff hours to provide technical assistance to landowners and farm operators relative to Goal #1, Obj 1 and Goal #1, Obj 6.</p> <p>Targeted Conservation Practice Installation utilizing 2024-2026 TRM grant funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 acres of cover crops 3,000 acres of no-till farming 4 water & sediment control basins 4 acres of grassed waterways 1 grade stabilization structure 1 stream bank stabilization <p>Additional Conservation Practice Installation (other funding sources):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 acres of grassed waterways 4 water & sediment control basins <p>Host 1 soil health meeting</p> <p>Assist WATERS Producer-led watershed group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend monthly meetings Attend 3 pasture walks

WALWORTH COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

• **Livestock**

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #1, Obj 2: Manage animal waste and nutrient use on agricultural lands by increasing the use of nutrient management plans.</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #1, Obj 3: Animal waste storage structures are built, expanded, and abandoned consistent with Walworth County Animal Waste Storage Ordinance.</i></p>	<p>Perform farm inspections and document compliance status.</p> <p>Assist Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) responding to manure management issues.</p> <p>Review manure storage permits for compliance with Animal Waste Storage Ordinances.</p>	<p>One storage facility closure.</p> <p>Issue 1 animal waste storage permit.</p> <p>Dedicate 200 staff hours for technical assistance with Goal #1, Obj 2 and Goal #1 Obj 3.</p>
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• **Water quality** (water quality/quantity; other than activities listed in other categories)

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #1, Obj 4: Establish permanent vegetation or buffers along streams, lakes, and wetlands.</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #2: Protect Walworth County Streams, Lakes, Wetlands, Groundwater and other Environmental Resources from the Adverse Impact of Urban Development.</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal # 2, Obj 8: Private Waste Treatment Systems (POWTS) are properly installed and maintained.</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #7, Obj 8: Provide assistance to WWTPs to achieve phosphorus reduction goals.</i></p>	<p>Assist in the design, installation, and help cost share conservation practices.</p> <p>Enroll buffers or wetlands into the CREP program.</p> <p>Participate in Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's (SEWRPC) Chloride Impact Study currently underway.</p> <p>Monitor POWTS for compliance with state plumbing regulations and county sanitation ordinances.</p> <p>Work with Linn Sanitation District (Town of Linn) to identify systems in need of replacement or at risk for failure.</p> <p>Assist WWTPs to reduce phosphorus discharge to waterways and achieve phosphorus reduction goals.</p>	<p>Enroll 60 new acres of buffers or wetlands into the CREP program.</p> <p>Re-enroll 10 acres of expiring CREP contracts.</p> <p>Provide 100 staff hours of technical assistance with Goal #1, Obj 4.</p> <p>Provide 10 hours of technical assistance to SEWRPC's Chloride Impact Study.</p> <p>Issue 265 permits for new or replacement systems.</p> <p>Notify 6,800 landowners with privately owned waste treatment system of maintenance requirements.</p> <p>Assist 1 WWTP to identify ways to implement the reduction of phosphorus through watershed management, pollutant trading, adaptive management, or use of Multi-Discharger Variance funds.</p>
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WALWORTH COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

• **Forestry**

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #6, Obj 6: Reduce the loss and impairment of Walworth County woodlands and specimen trees.</i></p>	<p>Participate in Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's (SEWRPC) update to Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan currently underway.</p> <p>Sponsor workshops for landscapers and provide timely information on tree selection, planting, disease management, and protection during construction activities</p>	<p>Provide 10 hours of technical assistance Goal 6, Obj 6.</p> <p>Host 1 workshop of landscape contractors.</p>
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• **Invasive**

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #4, Obj 1: Assess and monitor Walworth County waterbodies for the presence of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #4, Obj 3: Assist Walworth County boaters and anglers to prevent the introduction and spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).</i></p> <p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #4, Obj 4: Broaden public awareness of invasive species.</i></p>	<p>Pursue WDNR Lake Monitoring and Protection Network Grant.</p> <p>Conduct lake meander surveys to identify the composition and abundance of aquatic plants present and perform baseline water quality monitoring.</p> <p>Respond to citizen reports of invasive species populations and report findings to WDNR.</p> <p>Coordinate Clean Boats, Clean Waters programs and local inspections of boats and watercraft.</p> <p>Prepare and distribute invasive species information to the public and business outlets.</p>	<p>Perform work tasks outlined in County's Lake Monitoring and Protection Network Grant agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct 2 AIS lake meander surveys and baseline water quality on Pell Lake and Lake Como • Conduct 1 point intercept (PI) survey on Swift Lake • Inventory 10 public launches for AIS signage and coordinate signage installation as needed • Organize and host 2 CBCW trainings to train volunteers and/or paid staff • Document location of 3 populations of invasive species and report to WDNR. • Host 1 Snapshot Day event to train volunteers on AIS detection. • Perform waterfowl hunter outreach. <p>Issue 3 newsletters on invasive species.</p> <p>Present on 1 AIS topic at County Land Conservation Committee or other local area organization.</p> <p>Provide AIS outreach, education, and materials to service providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Dock service providers • 1 Bait shop
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WALWORTH COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- **Wildlife** (wildlife/wetlands/habitat; other than forestry or invasive species)

<i>LWRM Plan Goal #5, Obj 5: Support Wildlife Abatement Program for County landowners to protect crops from damage or loss caused by wildlife.</i>	Administer a grant program to prevent wildlife damage to County agricultural crops and compensate farmers for crop loss caused by wildlife.	Process wildlife damage claims as needed. (Damage claims in Walworth County have historically been low.)
<i>LWRM Plan Goal #6, Obj 3: Preserve and restore the ecological services and functional values provided by Walworth County Wetlands.</i>	<p>Assist landowner enrollment in state and federal programs to preserve and restore wetlands on their property.</p> <p>Provide public access to county wetland inventory maps and DNR's Surface Water Data Viewer using the county's online GIS system.</p>	50 acres of wetlands enrolled in programs.

- **Urban**

<i>LWRM Plan Goal #2; Obj 1: Construction and other land disturbing activities will comply with State and County Construction Site Erosion (CSE) Control and Stormwater Management (SWM) Control Performance Standards.</i>	<p>Keep county stormwater and erosion control ordinances consistent with current NR 151, non-agricultural performance standards, and recommendations in adopted watershed plans.</p> <p>Review CSE/SWM plans and permit applications. Conduct timely inspections and effective enforcement actions.</p>	<p>375 site visits for stormwater and erosion control compliance.</p> <p>Review stormwater and erosion control plans and issue permits for 500 projects.</p> <p>Achieve 100% compliance with erosion concerns. Issue less than 10 citations for non-compliance.</p>
<i>LWRM Plan Goal #2, Obj 4: Constructed Stormwater Management practices are maintained and provide required "level of service" and protection.</i>	Develop an inventory of storm water BMPs to assist in the inspection and maintenance of constructed stormwater management practices.	<p>Map BMPs installed within inventory database. Include practice type, ownership, O&M, plans, and as-builts. Make available on the County's GIS.</p> <p>Inspect 10 built stormwater practices.</p>
<i>LWRM Plan Goal #2, Obj 6: Protect shorelands and waterways from adverse impact caused by development and vegetation removal.</i>	Assist the Walworth County Zoning Division with implementation of the state shoreland zoning standards contained in NR 115.	<p>Provide technical assistance, where needed, on 300 shoreland zoning permits.</p> <p>Host 1 workshop for shoreland landscape contractors.</p>
<i>LWRM Plan Goal #6, Obj 4: Protect Walworth County Floodplains.</i>	Provide Walworth County Floodplain Map inventory data and maps to Towns, developers, citizens, and other agencies.	Provide public access to county floodplain maps on county's online GIS system.

WALWORTH COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- ***Watershed (strategies)***

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #7, Obj 1B: Support the implementation of the Delavan Lake and Jackson Creek Watershed Plans.</i></p>	<p>Work with Delavan Lake & Jackson Creek Watershed (HUC-12 #070900021402 & #070900021401) to continue to identify needs and to work on the installation of BMPs and access to available funding.</p> <p>Advise and counsel the Delavan Lake Improvement Association, the Delavan Lake Sanitary District, and the Town of Delavan with their efforts to protect the Delavan Lake Watershed.</p>	<p>Provide 500 hours of technical assistance to the implementation of the Delavan Lake & Jackson Creek Watershed Plans.</p> <p>Utilize \$562,950 in 2024-2026 TRM grant funds for implementation of cost-sharing conservation practices within the watershed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500 acres of cover crops • 3,000 acres of no-till farming • 4 water & sediment control basins • 4 acres of grassed waterways • 1 grade stabilization structure <p>Participate in 2 collaboration events with the Delavan Lake Improvement Association and the Town of Delavan Lake Committee.</p> <p>Utilize funds from MDV program to install BMPs within area watersheds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500 acres of cover crops • 2 water & sediment control basins • 2 acres of grassed waterways
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #7, Obj 1C: Support the development and implementation of the Geneva Lake Watershed Plan.</i></p>	<p>Work with Geneva Lake Watershed (HUC-8 #07120006) to identify needs and work on the installation of BMPs and access to available funding.</p>	<p>Assist the “Water Alliance for Geneva Lake” as a technical and policy advisor. Staff to serve on 2 subcommittees and help advance initiatives.</p> <p>Provide 60 hours of technical assistance to the development of the Geneva Lake Watershed Plan & update to the Geneva Lake Management Plan.</p>
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #7, Obj 3: Support the mission of the Walworth County Lakes Association and individual lake districts and lake associations.</i></p>	<p>Continue to advise the Walworth County Lakes Association and individual lake protection groups. Work cooperatively on solution-based initiatives and activities.</p>	<p>Utilize funds from MDV program to install BMPs within area watersheds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit 1 landowner • Install 1 BMP <p>Present at 1 meeting or participate in 1 outreach event/publication by the Walworth County Lake Association or another lake protection group.</p> <p>Invite Lake Associations to producer-led watershed group events.</p>

WALWORTH COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- *Other*

<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #5, Obj 1: Preserve Agricultural Land as recommended in the Multi-jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Walworth County: 2035.</i></p>	<p>Maintain protections for agricultural lands through the update and recertification of the County’s Farmland Preservation Zoning Ordinance.</p>	<p>Update and certify the Walworth County Farmland Preservation zoning ordinance.</p>
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #3, Obj 1: All nonmetallic mining sites are successfully reclaimed to productive uses.</i></p>	<p>Support the Delavan Lake Watershed Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) and assist landowners with farmland preservation agreement applications.</p>	<p>Assist DATCP and interested landowners in developing farmland preservation agreements within the AEA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop 10 agreements
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #3, Obj 5: Re-evaluate nonmetallic mining policies to align with need for materials and preservation of productive agricultural land and natural resources.</i></p>	<p>Monitor mining sites for compliance with reclamation permit conditions, approved reclamation plan, and financial assurance.</p> <p>Use the Department’s drone technology to monitor nonmetallic mining activity.</p>	<p>6 nonmetallic mining sites inspected.</p> <p>Evaluate 22 nonmetallic mining financial assurance documents for accuracy.</p>
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #8, Obj 2: Increase the engagement of youth in community environmental stewardship and awareness.</i></p>	<p>Work with department staff and stakeholders to develop and adopt updated policies for nonmetallic mines.</p>	<p>Proposed ordinance revisions to address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific land evaluation and assessment standards to support criteria for allowing nonmetallic mining in a farmland preservation area • Setbacks for mineral extraction to limit conflicts and coordinate with other long term planning measures. • Consistency with WI Administrative Code NR 135
<p><i>LWRM Plan Goal #8, Obj 2: Increase the engagement of youth in community environmental stewardship and awareness.</i></p>	<p>Continue to sponsor annual conservation poster contest to engage schools in conservation education. Identify additional projects to engage youth in environmental stewardship.</p>	<p>Participation of 100+ students in conservation poster contest.</p> <p>Present at 1 school on the topic of soil health or erosion/stormwater control.</p>

WALWORTH COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Number of Plans/application reviews anticipated	Number of Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits	-	-
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	1	1
Manure storage closure	1	1
Livestock facility siting	-	-
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	4	4
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	200	200
Shoreland zoning	300	300
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	-	-
POWTS	265	265

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	92
For FPP	88
For NR 151	4
Animal waste ordinance	0
Livestock facility siting	-
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	325
Nonmetallic mining	6

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	-
Field days	4
Trainings/workshops	1
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	2
Newsletters	3
Social media posts	5
News release/story	1

**WALWORTH COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
County Conservationist	1248	\$710,946
Senior Conservation Technician	2080	
Senior Urban Conservation Specialist	2080	
Conservation Technician	2080	
Conservation Technician/Code Enforcement Officers (4)	2080	
LURM Assistant	1040	
Conservation Technician	2080	\$89,000 (ARPA Funding)
Lakes Monitoring and Protection Network Intern	700	\$10,765 (LMPN Funding)
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
Joint Allocation Staffing Grant	N/A	\$203,251
Bonding (includes carryover from 2024)	N/A	\$66,958
SEG (Nutrient Management)	N/A	\$40,000
MDV (carryover from 2024)	N/A	\$131,760
Lake Monitoring and Protection Network	N/A	\$16,134
TRM Grant	N/A	\$562,950

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ State of Wisconsin

DATE: October 7, 2025

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

FROM: Jenn Chakravorty, DATCP
Resource Management Section,
Bureau of Land and Water Resources

SUBJECT: Five Year Review of the *Pepin County Land and Water Resource Management Plan*

Recommended Action: This is an action item. The LWCB should determine whether the county has met the LWCB's criteria for a five-year review of a LWRM plan approved for ten years. If the LWCB makes a formal determination that the county has failed to meet these criteria, DATCP will automatically modify its order to terminate approval of the county's plan effective December of this year.

Summary: The Pepin County Land and Water Resource Management plan has been approved through December 31, 2030, contingent on a five-year review conducted prior to December 31, 2025. In advance of the five-year review, Pepin County has completed a DATCP approved form designed to implement the LWCB's reference document dated October 27, 2021, and the criteria for conducting a five-year review. The county has provided written answers to four questions regarding past and future implementation, has provided the required work planning documents, and has appropriately involved the Land Conservation Committee.

Materials Provided:

- Completed Five Year Review Form
- 2024 Annual Workplan with Accomplishments
- 2025 Annual Workplan

Presenter(s): Jessica McMahon, Land Conservation & Planning Director
Angie Bocksell, Land Conservation Committee Chair



**Land and Water Conservation Board
County Land and Water Resource Management Plan
Five Year Review of LWRM Plans**

County: Pepin

Implementation Covering Past Five Years and Future Directions

Answer these four questions in writing (not to exceed 4 pages)

1. Provide a representative number of accomplishments that can be directly traced to activities identified in multiple work plans. For each accomplishment, explain how the planning process helped the county achieve its outcome, including planning adjustments that helped better target county activities.

The number #1 goal stated in Pepin County's LWRM plan is to "Protect and Enhance the Quality and Quantity of Our Water Resources." For this reason, this has always been our top priority when juggling the programming we offer and issues we face. With this goal in mind, Pepin County has partnered with surrounding counties to participated in our first TMDL establishment, Watershed Assesment Plan, and 9-Key Element Plan.

* Lake Pepin TMDL: partnership with Pierce and St.Croix counties, as well as NRCS to share data with the DNR to draft a total maximum daily load for the Lake Pepin watershed. This project is nearing completion.

* Eau Galle Watershed Assesment Plan: partnership with Pierce, Dunn, and St. Croix counties, NRCS, and DNR to begin more extensive data collection and draft a plan for future conservation work within the watershed.

* Bear Creek 9-Key Element Plan: partnership with Buffalo County and the DNR to draft our first 9-key element plan. We are in the process of drafting the plan that will set the direction of conservation practices within this watershed.

On the groundwater side of water quality, we have continued and enhanced our testing efforts. Our current goal of our well monitoring program is to test the same wells, once every 5 years to help us establish trends in groundwater within the county. 2025 will mark the 9th year of consistant data collection. With one final year in the second cycle, we will then begin the third cycle through, hoping to test the same wells a third time. We are working with the UW-Steven's point WEAL to analyze this data.

Our County Board has also shown it's support by giving us access to ARPA funding to purchase equipment to host pop-up well sampling events for the public to help educate, as well as source testing to supplement our annual well testing program in target areas.

2. Identify any areas where the county was unable to make desired progress in implementing activities identified in multiple work plans. For each area identified, explain the work plan adjustments that were made to refocus planned activities. If no areas are identified, explain how the county was able to make progress in all the areas planned.

Our biggest short coming within our Land Conservation Department here in Pepin County is a broad scale issue concerning implementation. Over the last 5 years, we have had 5 different technicians. With only one designated technician in our small county, the revolving door of this position has made it very difficult to maintain farmer relationships and reach the finish line in implementing additional nutrient management coverage, hard practice installations, and compliance checks.

It could be said that we have been in survival mode as a department, maintaining contracts and programming already set in motion, but adding additional coverage has been a struggle. I'm confident with current staff and training opportunities, we will begin to see more progress on that front.

Admittedly, our goal of "To mitigate, reverse and respond to changes in our Climate," has not received the attention that it warrants with the staffing issues mentioned previously. We observe the fact that the increase in temperatures and unpredictable nature of precipitation is an issue, however, extra steps to track and address these issues have not been at the forefront of our attention.

3. Describe how the county's work plans implement its priority farm strategy and the effectiveness of county actions implementing agricultural performance standards and conservation practices on farms. In particular, the county should describe outreach, farm inventories, and additional funds that were pursued to implement its strategy.

Annual work plans are a way of helping our County reflect on all facets of the conservation field, giving measureable goals that allow staff to track progress. This is a useful tool when deciding the priority ranking in hard practice installation, nutrient management coverage, and other incentive programming.

One Example in Pepin County includes the establishment and continued support of the Farmers4Health producer-led group. The Bear Creek Watershed is ranked as #1 in priority within Pepin County due to impaired waters, soil loss, number of manure storage structures, and elevated nitrate-nitrogen concentrations in wells. Pepin County, in partnership with the Farmers4Health group, have made a substantial effort to implementing practices to mitigate risk. Some of these practices include cover crop installation, manure management application, critical area plantings, as well as educational sessions, source testing, and increased enforcement strategy.

The establishment of our first 9-key element plan also plays a role in priority farm approach. This watershed ranked very high for both Pepin and Buffalo counties due to resource concerns, which is why it was an easy decision to start 9-key planning there. The county also partnered with the Farmers4Health and UW-Extension to place the second lysimeter site in the state within this watershed. We continue to help monitor and collect data for this research.

4. Provide representative examples that show changes in direction for work planning in the upcoming five years, with specific examples provided showing adjustments in planned activities in the county's most recent work plan.

The direction of our work continues in the same direction as it did in 2020. I can say with the COVID-19 epidemic, it has pushed us to pursue other opportunities and increase the usage of digital technology. In 2021 and 2022, public meetings and educational activities were starting to come back together but in some ways, it had a damaging impact in the connectedness of farmers and the government agencies. Participation in public events dropped drastically. We are just starting to see some of that increase again.

Another goal listed in our LWRM is "To Promote a Positive Conservation Ethic." With the movement to digital media, we have increased our online presence but over 200%. We currently have social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram, and a County website where we can utilize the platform to share deadlines, outreach events, and even fun facts to boost participation.

We have also placed a prominent emphasis on our youth education program. We began hosting an annual Earth Day program in our county park that introduces middle school age kids to a plethora of conservation related topics every year. It's encouraging to see youth interested in conservation along with their teachers. We are also invited to a back to school kick off event for the middle school, youth fishing contest for all ages, poster and speaking contest, and we also put together the Rick Wayne Conservation Kids award, where kids are nominated for their conservation efforts.

Annual Work Plans

Attach both of the following:

- a. The most current annual work prepared by the county.
- b. The work plan for the previous year that includes a column that identifies the progress in implementing the planned activities for that year.


Board Review Process

The goal of the review is not to fail counties. The board recognizes the dynamic nature of the planning process. Board members are interested in how counties tackle priorities over time and how they respond to changing conditions in pursuing their priorities. The board will evaluate a county's planning and implementation based on how well the county balances and prioritizes the following: agricultural performance standards, other state priorities (impaired waters, FPP checks), and local priorities. When needed, the Board will provide constructive support to counties to improve the quality of their planning. Counties have the option to prepare a brief presentation to illustrate their successes and future priorities.

Land Conservation Committee Notification

The LCC was provided a completed copy of these questions (including attachments) on:

Signature of Authorized Representative:
(e.g. County Conservationist, LCC chair)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Trumble', written over a horizontal line.

Date: 08-11-25

Send completed questionnaire and attachments to:

Lisa.Trumble@wi.gov

PEPIN COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code (examples of types of "planned activities" in italics)	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (examples in italics)
• <i>Cropland</i>		
Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farm inspections to implement state performance standards and prohibitions. - Cropland conservation practices installed to implement state perf. standards and prohibitions. - Conduct Transect Survey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 farm inspections in top 3 watersheds HUC12s: (10) 070500051202; 070500051201; 070500051203; - 5 Farmland Preservation Program Compliance checks (10) - Plan/design/install cropland practices in top 10 HUC12s: - 300 acres of NMPs cost-shared (800) - 3 grade stabilization structures (5) - 2000 hours providing technical assistance including training, plan review, design, install - 2 Transect surveys completed (spring & fall) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # inspections performed. - # compliance certificates issued. - # staff hours expended for training, design and installation - # of practices installed - # acres NMP cost-shared/new installed - # waterways - # grade stabilization structures - # critical area stabilizations - # Transect surveys
• <i>Livestock</i>		
Livestock <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Livestock facility conservation practices installed to implement state performance standards and prohibitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 0 manure storage facility closure (40hrs) (1) - 0 manure storage facility permit for new or substantial alteration (ordinance) (30hrs) (1) <i>livestock facility inspections part of planned activities and benchmarks found in cropland category.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # manure storage facility closure - # manure storage facility permits
• <i>Water quality</i>		
Water quality/quantity (other than activities already listed in other categories) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation practices installed to implement LWRM priorities - Monitor & document conservation efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain existing county buffer contracts - 2 buffers installed along streams in top 3 HUC12 (5) - 1 streambank restoration (5) - 0 well decommissions (5) - 6 streams monitored for condition (nutrients) - 14 streams monitored for condition (WAV) - 2 wells monitored for water depth - 50 private wells monitored for condition - 0 CREP contracts reviewed/promoted (10) - 0 new CREP contract (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # buffers installed along streams in top 3 HUC12 - # streambank restoration - # well decommissions - # streams monitored for condition (nutrients) - # streams monitored for condition (WAV) - # wells monitored for water depth - # private wells monitored for condition - # CREP contracts reviewed/promoted - # new CREP contract / # reenroll CREP contracts
• <i>Forestry</i>		
Forestry	<i>Practice installation</i>	<i>Type and units of practice(s) installed</i>

PEPIN COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

		<i>Amount of cost-share dollars spent</i> <i># lbs of sediment reduced (using any approved method)</i> <i># lbs of P reduced (using any approved method)</i>
• <i>Invasive</i>		
Invasive species - Invasive species awareness and management	- 5 landowners assisted ✓ - Assist township and county highway department in invasive species control ✓ - Participate/assist with Lower Chippewa Invasive Partnership (LCIP) events and projects ✓	# of landowners assisted # staff hours (80)
• <i>Wildlife</i>		
Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat (other than forestry or invasive species) - Habitat protection and restoration	- 10,000 trees sold for wildlife habitat and other conservation practices ✓ - Maintain Silver Birch Lake aeration system ✓	# trees sold Maintain aeration system
• <i>Urban</i>		
Urban issues	<i>Stormwater control</i> ✓ <i>Construction site erosion control</i> ✓ <i>Floodplain protection</i> ✓	<i>Number of site visits</i> <i>Number of plans reviews</i> <i>Number of permits issued</i> <i>Number of compliance issues resolved</i>
• <i>Watershed</i>		
Watershed strategies	- Implement County priority/farm watershed approach: ranked HUC12s. ✓ - Community engagement through County Water Resource Team (LCD, Zoning, Public Health, UWEX) and provide groundwater outreach events. ✓ - Bear Creek-Chippewa Groundwater Quality Farmer Led Group ✓	# of parcels evaluated for compliance (see cropland and livestock categories) # of meetings held (see table below) # of partnerships made/developed (see table below) Advise and assist in facilitation of Farmer Led Group Grant.
• <i>Other</i>		
Other - Watershed protection in PL-566 watersheds - Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Program (ordinance) - Management of County Parks	- 6 PL-566 structures Inspected and maintained ✓ - 15 Nonmetallic mine reclamation sites evaluated (110hrs) ✓ - Maintain & administer County Park system for recreational opportunities (140hrs) ✓ - 5 projects coordinated through local organizations ✓ - 55 Media releases ✓	# structures evaluated # mines sites reviewed/evaluated # staff hours at County Park system # projects coordinated # media releases # students reached # hours for Multi Agency Groundwater Quality Improvement Plan

PEPIN COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

(ordinance) - Work with local non-profit organizations for conservation programs - Conservation education programs for public/youth - Initiate/Develop Multi-agency Groundwater Quality Improvement Plan	- 300 students in education programming ✓ - 150 hours for Multi-Agency GW Improvement Plan ✓	
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Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits	-	-
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	1 ✓	1
Manure storage closure	1 ✓	1
Livestock facility siting	-	-
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	15 ✓	15 renewals
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	-	-
Shoreland zoning	-	-
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	-	-
Other	-	-

PEPIN COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	5 (20)
For FPP	5 5 old 5 new
For NR 151	5 (10)
Animal waste ordinance	*part of above inspections (35)
Livestock facility siting	-
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	-
Nonmetallic mining	15 ✓

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	1 ✓
Field days	2 ✓
Trainings/workshops/ presentations	2 ✓
4	
Newsletters	-
Social media posts	100 ✓
News release/story	25 ✓

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
County Conservationist		
Technician		
Support Costs		
Total	5840	215,000
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
County	N/A	\$29,150
Bonding/SEG	N/A	\$80,000

PEPIN COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 1: Planned activities and performance measures by category

CATEGORY (goal and objective from LWRM plan can be added in each category)	PLANNED ACTIVITIES WITH BENCHMARKS If applicable identify focus areas, e.g. HUC 12 watershed code (examples of types of “planned activities” in italics)	PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS (examples in italics)
• <i>Cropland</i>		
Cropland, soil health and/or nutrient management	<i>5 NR151 compliance checks</i> <i>5 Farmland preservation compliance checks</i> <i>5 New practices installed</i> <i>500 New NMP acres</i> <i>2 transect surveys</i>	<i># inspections performed.</i> <i># compliance certificates issued.</i> <i># of practices installed</i> <i># acres NMP cost-shared/new installed</i> <i># Transect surveys</i>
• <i>Livestock</i>		
Livestock	<i>2 potential new manure storage permits/installs</i> <i>2 potential old manure storage closures</i>	<i># of completed plans/permits</i> <i># of completed closures</i>
• <i>Water quality</i>		
Water quality/quantity (other than activities already listed in other categories)	<i>3 new practice installation</i> <i>50 well water tests</i> <i>1 new well water testing clinic</i>	<i># of projects completed</i> <i># of wells tested</i> <i>Report of clinic testing results</i>
• <i>Forestry</i>		
Forestry	<i>Referral to NRCS/DNR</i>	
• <i>Invasive</i>		
Invasive species	<i>3 new invasive removal plans implemented</i> <i>PL-566 structure invasive species removal</i>	<i>3 surveys completed and plans executed</i> <i>6 PL-566 structures complete</i>
• <i>Wildlife</i>		
Wildlife-Wetlands-Habitat (other than forestry or invasive species)	<i>Annual tree sale</i> <i>Maintain Silver Birch aerator systems</i>	<i># of total trees sold</i> <i>Successful execution of winter aeration in Silver Birch</i>
• <i>Urban</i>		
Urban issues	<i>Technical assistance only</i>	
• <i>Watershed</i>		
Watershed strategies	<i>5-year review of land and water plan</i> <i>First TMDL establishment</i> <i>First 9-key element plan</i>	<i>5-year review to State in October</i> <i>Eau Galle TMDL complete</i> <i>Bear Creek Watershed Plan Complete</i>

PEPIN COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

- *Other*

Other	<i>15 current nonmetallic mines 1 new mine/permit reclamation plan</i>	<i>Number of plans reviewed Number of inspections complete</i>
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Table 2: Planned activity related to permits and ordinances

Permits and Ordinances	Plans/application reviews anticipated	Permits anticipated to be issued
Feedlot permits	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Manure storage construction and transfer systems	<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>
Manure storage closure	<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>
Livestock facility siting	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Nonmetallic/frac sand mining	<i>15</i>	<i>15 renewals, 1 new</i>
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Shoreland zoning	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Wetlands and waterways (Ch. 30)	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Other	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

Table 3: Planned inspections

Inspections	Number of inspections planned
Total Farm Inspections	<i>10</i>
For FPP	<i>5</i>
For NR 151	<i>10</i>
Animal waste ordinance	<i>5</i>
Livestock facility siting	<i>0</i>
Stormwater and construction site erosion control	<i>5</i>
Nonmetallic mining	<i>15</i>

PEPIN COUNTY 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN
LOCALLY IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

Table 4: Planned outreach and education activities

Activity	Number
Tours	2
Field days	2
Trainings/workshops	
School-age programs (camps, field days, classroom)	8
Newsletters	0
Social media posts	100
News release/story	25

Table 5: Staff Hours and Expected Costs (staff can be combined or listed individually)

Staff/Support	Hours	Costs
County Conservationist		
Technician		
Support Costs		
Total	5840	215,000
Cost Sharing (can be combined)		
County Funded Programing		\$ 30,000
LWRM/SEG		\$ 80,000



State of Wisconsin
Governor Tony Evers

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
Secretary Randy Romanski

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM _____ **State of Wisconsin**

DATE: September 25, 2025

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board Members and Advisors

FROM: Susan Mockert, DATCP
Bureau of Land and Water Resources Management

SUBJECT: *2026 Final Joint Allocation Plan for the Soil and Water Resource Management Program and the Nonpoint Source Program*

Recommend Action: This is an action item. Staff request that the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) recommend approval of the 2026 Final Joint Allocation Plan.

Procedural Summary: On July 25, 2025, DATCP provided a link to the 2026 Preliminary Joint Allocation Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA) to interested parties, including county land conservation departments and current and former DATCP grant cooperators. Upon identifying an error in the structural allocation, DATCP forwarded an updated version of the allocation to all counties on August 13, 2025. Interested parties were advised of their opportunities to comment on the preliminary allocation including the option of submitting written comments by September 5, 2025. No written comments were submitted.

Allocation Summary: The *2026 Final Joint Allocation Plan* provides details on how both the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will allocate \$26,906,690 of available nonpoint grant funds to county land conservation committees and other project cooperators. This plan does not include DNR award of grants to cities, towns, and villages for projects under ss. 281.65 or 285.66, Wis. Stats.

The Final Allocation Plan makes the following change from the preliminary allocation:

- The structural cost-share allocation awards have been updated to reflect a correction to the background data used in the allocation. This correction necessitated updates to Table A, Table C, and Table A-2. The total award amount has not changed.
- The formatting of Chart 3 (Nutrient Management Farmer Education) has been updated to more correctly identify awards. The total award amount has not changed.
- The format of the plan was moved from a web based design tool to Microsoft Word to eliminate design layers and allow for streamlined editing during the final review process.

As part of the allocation process, DATCP prepared an environmental assessment (EA). The EA found that DATCP's proposed allocation is not a major action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and concluded that an environmental impact statement is not required.

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Materials Provided:

- 2026 Final Joint Allocation Plan, 2026 Environmental Assessment
- Presenter: Susan Mockert (DATCP)

2026 Joint Allocation Plan

Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Program and Nonpoint Source Program

OCTOBER 2025



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Summary of Changes for Final 2026 Joint Allocation Plan

The format of the plan was changed from a web based design tool into Microsoft Word to eliminate design layers and allow for streamlined editing during the final review process.

The DATCP portion of the final allocation plan includes an update to the structural cost-share allocations due to an error in the background data used to calculate the allocations. The counties were informed of this change via email on August 13, 2025. While there were a couple of inquiries regarding the update, no formal comments were received.

In the Nutrient Management Farmer Education Award Table, Chart 3, four Tier 2 awards were broken out from Tier 1. The total NMFE award amount remained the same.

No substantive updates were made to DNR's section of the Allocation Plan.



Approval Signatures

DATCP has determined that the action described in this allocation plan for the 2026 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 _____, 2025

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 2026 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 _____, 2025

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 in 2026 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 2026, a total of \$26,906,690 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.



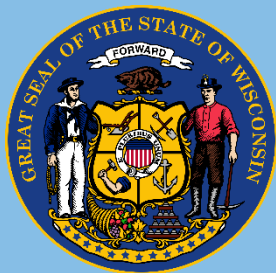
DATCP

\$22.1 M



DNR

\$4.8 M



Total

\$26.9 M

Funding Sources and Allocation Requests

CHART 1: GRANT REQUESTS AND ALLOCATIONS			
Funding Category	Total Requests	Unmet Requests	Allocation Amounts
DATCP			
County Staff/Support	\$21,491,841	\$6,902,341	\$14,589,500
LWRM Cost-Share	\$6,518,200	\$2,981,207	\$3,536,993
Bond Reserve (B)	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000
LWRM Cost-Share (SEG)	\$2,822,000	\$522,050	\$2,299,950
Cooperator Contracts (SEG)	\$1,078,729	\$108,884	\$969,845
Innovation Grants (SEG)	\$136,750	\$136,750	\$0
NMFE Grants (SEG)	\$405,205	\$0	\$405,205
SUBTOTAL	\$32,752,725	\$10,651,232	\$22,101,493
DNR			
UNPS Planning	\$35,075	\$0	\$35,075
UNPS Construction	NA	NA	NA
TRM	\$3,770,122	\$0	\$3,770,122
NOD Reserve (B)	NA	NA	\$1,000,000
SUBTOTAL	\$3,805,197	\$0	\$4,805,197
TOTAL			\$26,906,690

Chart 1

CHART 2: FUNDING SOURCES	
Staff and Support Grants	
\$9,068,000	DATCP SEG from s. 20.115(7)(qe)
\$5,521,500	DATCP GPR from s. 20.115(7)(c)
\$14,589,500	DATCP Subtotal
\$387,404	DNR SEG from s. 20.370(6)(aq)
\$90,950	DNR GPR from s. 20.370(6)(ag)
\$35,075	DNR SEG from s. 20.370(6)(dq)
\$198,495	DNR Sec. 319 Account (Federal)
\$711,924	DNR Subtotal
\$15,301,424	TOTAL Staff and Support Grants
Cost-Share Grants	
\$3,536,993	DATCP GPR from s. 20.115(7)(c)
\$300,000	DATCP Bond (Reserve) from s. 20.866(2)(we)
\$2,299,950	DATCP SEG from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$6,136,943	DATCP Subtotal
\$1,117,111	DNR Bond Revenue from s. 20.866(2)(tf)
\$2,178,308	DNR GPR from s. 20.370(6)(ag)
\$209,050	DNR GPR from s. 20.370(6)(aq)
\$588,804	DNR Sec. 319 Account (Federal)
\$4,093,273	DNR Subtotal
\$10,230,216	TOTAL Cost-Share Grants
Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) & Other Project Cooperator (OPC) Grants	
\$405,205	DATCP SEG (NMFE) from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$969,845	DATCP SEG (OPC) from s. 20.115(7)(qf)
\$0	DATCP SEG (Innovation) from s.20.115(7)(qf)
\$1,375,050	TOTAL NMFE & Other Grants
\$26,906,690	Grand Total

Chart 2



County Staff and Support

The allocation made under this category provides county staff and support funding. Grant awards are consistent with the terms of the 2026 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. There has been no underspending of the staffing grant awards in previous years to increase the allocation for the 2025-2027 biennium.

The allocations listed in [Table A-1](#) consists of the 2026 annual appropriations of \$5,521,500 in General Purpose Revenue (GPR) funds and \$9,068,000 in segregated (SEG) funds, a 30% increase to the 2025 allocated amounts.

County staff and support grants are awarded according to a:

- Tier 1 base award of \$5,400,000 composed of \$75,000 to each county
- Tier 2 award of the remaining \$9,189,500
 - Allotted in three rounds to reach statutory percentage funding at 100, 70, and 50 percent of the prorated costs of three staff positions in each county

For 2026, SEG and GPR allocations allowed for funding 100% of the first position, 70% of the second position, and 71% of the 50% third position funding goal.

General Purpose Revenue (GPR) and Bond Funds

The 2025-2027 Wisconsin Biennial Budget allocates \$7 million funds for cost share, similar to the previous biennium.

The 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 GPR funds increased this allocation by \$36,993. Extended bond funds remain available for approved extended projects.

Cost Sharing Structural Practices

After providing each county \$10,000 in base funding, DATCP awarded the remaining \$2,816,993 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). Manual adjustments are then made to the allocation if needed to exhaust funds.

[Table A-2](#) shows each county's total award amount and the factors that contributed to the county's award.

Engineering Reserve Projects

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

Segregated (SEG) Fund

The allocations under this category provide funding for:

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

\$6,475,000 was allocated under s. 92.14, with the following adjustments:

- \$1,000,000 redirected to producer-led watershed protection grants
- \$1,000,000 redirected to the Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program
- \$800,000 for a redirection of funds to the Crop Insurance Rebates for Cover Crops program

\$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 2026 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 awards for 2026.

SEG Allocations Made:

Landowner Cost Share	\$2,299,950
Nutrient Management Farmer Education	\$405,205
Other Project Cooperators	\$969,845
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-one counties applied for \$2,234,000 and awards were made in the amount of \$2,299,950 based on scores in:

- Farmland Preservation Zoning and Agricultural Enterprise Areas
- Impaired water miles
- Nutrient management planning and implementation

Table A-3 enumerates each county's score, grouping, and grant award. NA identifies the 11 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 their eligibility.

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 2026, DATCP funded 25 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 to set up stations for producers to utilize for working on or updating their NM plan with local assistance.

Tier 1 funding supports NM training to producers and plan writers to develop a 590 compliant plan, complete soil tests, training, and administrative costs. Tier 2 awards offer the same training, but 590 compliance is not required.

Chart 3: 2026 NMFE Awards				
	Tier 1	Tier 2	Laptop	Total Award
Adams	\$17,400.00			\$17,400.00
Buffalo	\$17,500.00			\$17,500.00
Columbia	\$14,950.00	\$3,000.00		\$17,950.00
CVTC	\$24,800.00			\$24,800.00
Dane	\$15,400.00			\$15,400.00
Eau Claire	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00
Glacierland	\$25,000.00	\$3,000.00		\$28,000.00
Green Lake	\$10,350.00			\$10,350.00
Juneau	\$22,900.00		\$2,000.00	\$24,900.00
Kewaunee	\$35,000.00			\$35,000.00
Lafayette	\$8,050.00			\$8,050.00
Marathon et al	\$46,859.00			\$46,859.00
Mariani Packing Co.		\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
Marinette & Oconto	\$5,850.00			\$5,850.00
Marquette	\$20,000.00		\$2,000.00	\$22,000.00
Ozaukee		\$2,000.00		\$2,000.00
Rock		\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
Sauk	\$15,110.00			\$15,110.00
Shawano	\$12,136.00			\$12,136.00
SWTC	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00
Trempealeau	\$20,000.00			\$20,000.00
Vernon	\$20,900.00		\$2,000.00	\$22,900.00
Washington		\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
Totals	\$382,205.00	\$17,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$405,205.00

Chart 3

Statewide Project Cooperator Grants

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 coordinated activities in AEAs and impaired waters.



\$301,826

SnapPlus (UW-Madison)
Version 3 Software
development and support



Department of Soil Science
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

\$12,318

UW-SFAL
NM Soil Lab Testing
Certification Program



\$277,625

UW-Extension
NM Planning support, training,
materials and outreach



\$272,076

Wisconsin Land +Water
Supports statewide coordinated
professional conservation training
and delivery of state and local
plan priorities



\$60,000

UW-NOPP
Staffing and outreach of
DATCP NOPP program



\$46,000

Standards Oversight Council

Potential Future Funding Directions

Staff and Support Grants

DATCP awards grants for a county's first position only if the staff 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. With the additional staffing funding available, DATCP may consider further adjustments to the grant formula to advance the goals of capacity building and accountability without compromising the basic funding for county staff. Some options to consider in future allocations could include:

- Considering the amount of DATCP programming a county supports, such as nutrient management farmer education, farmland preservation, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), or livestock siting.
- Requiring that a county's second or third position be engaged in providing high-level conservation support as a technician with conservation engineering practitioner certification or as a planner qualified to write nutrient management plans.
- DATCP could preclude a county from claiming a department head as its second or third position if the county has listed a department head in its first position.
- The staffing grant formula could be modified to provide additional funds for counties making reasonable progress in implementing their annual work plans.

Structural Grants

Funding to install structural conservation practices has stayed the same since 2009, but costs have increased, resulting in 68% of counties having no underspending. Therefore, that criterion is less meaningful when awarding funds than in previous years. Acres of farmland per county and positive spending over a three-year period are taking precedence in how funds are awarded.

SEG Funding

DATCP continues to consider how it can best apply its SEG funding to improve conservation and implement conservation practices. There is a growing interest to target SEG funds towards cropping practices to improve soil health and watershed management, specifically encouraging cover crops and reduced/no-till practices.

DATCP will continue to focus SEG funding to support NM planning and implementation. Feedback from counties and other stakeholders will be utilized to determine strategies.

DNR Allocations



DNR's portion of this final 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 final allocation to each county grantee for TRM and UNPS-Planning grants. Additionally, NOD grant reserves are established as specific county allocations are unknown at this time.

Funding Sources

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, 2026, these funds may be held to fund projects selected in the next grant cycle.

TRM Final Allocation

DNR allocates up to \$3,770,122 to counties for cost sharing of TRM projects during calendar year 2026. 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 six 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 2026 through 2027 for Small-Scale projects and through 2028 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 Final Allocation

DNR implements an alternating schedule for both 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 2026 and 2027. Project applications have been screened, scored, and ranked in accordance with s. 281.66, Wis. Stats.

CONSTRUCTION. UNPS-Construction grant applications were not solicited in 2025 for the 2026 award cycle. The UNPS-Construction grant application will be available in early 2026 for 2027 awards.

PLANNING. UNPS-Planning grant applications were solicited in 2025 for the 2026 award cycle. One eligible application was received from a county. The DNR allocates up to \$35,075 to fully fund the grant application.

Notice of Discharge Program

A. Background

DNR issues notices of discharge (NOD) and notices of intent (NOI) under ch. NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code; this code regulates animal feeding operations. DNR has authority under s. 281.65(4e), Wis. Stats., to provide grant assistance for NOD and NOI projects outside of the competitive TRM process. DNR is authorized to award grants to governmental units, which in turn enter into cost-share agreements with landowners that have received an NOD or NOI.

Cost-share assistance is provided to landowners to meet the regulatory requirements of an NOD issued under ch. NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code. In some cases, cost-share assistance must be offered before enforcement action can be taken. In other cases, DNR is not required to provide cost sharing but may do so at its discretion. DNR has several permitting and enforcement options available under ch. NR 243 if landowners should fail to meet the conditions of the NOD.

B. NOD Final Allocation

This final Allocation Plan establishes a reserve of \$1,000,000 for NOD projects during calendar year 2026. 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	191,415	43,000	45,000	279,415		Marinette	209,926	46,800	55,000	311,726
Ashland	188,884	50,000	30,000	268,884		Marquette	189,802	36,000	75,000	300,802
Barron	227,379	52,000	10,000	289,379		Menominee	132,257	20,000	0	152,257
Bayfield	228,655	52,000	30,000	310,655		Milwaukee	99,453	10,000	5,000	114,453
Brown	237,609	47,000	60,000	344,609		Monroe	198,642	47,000	50,000	295,642
Buffalo	215,587	51,000	20,000	286,587		Oconto	210,064	60,000	0	270,064
Burnett	166,682	25,000	8,000	199,682		Oneida	169,415	38,000	0	207,415
Calumet	276,128	46,800	40,000	362,928		Outagamie	281,008	72,500	60,000	413,508
Chippewa	235,469	78,000	75,000	388,469		Ozaukee	227,402	41,000	25,000	293,402
Clark	191,715	72,000	75,000	338,715		Pepin	161,889	39,000	30,000	230,889
Columbia	202,500	66,000	75,000	343,500		Pierce	219,139	57,000	20,000	296,139
Crawford	179,990	54,800	8,000	242,790		Polk	217,593	46,800	0	264,393
Dane	351,822	72,000	95,000	518,822		Portage	234,893	57,000	8,000	299,893
Dodge	219,024	55,000	20,000	294,024		Price	142,245	43,000	0	185,245
Door	251,767	37,000	10,000	298,767		Racine	232,686	67,500	70,000	370,186
Douglas	160,370	30,000	5,000	195,370		Richland	114,134	33,800	20,000	167,934
Dunn	275,805	75,000	20,000	370,805		Rock	183,580	67,000	95,000	345,580
Eau Claire	220,527	46,800	55,000	322,327		Rusk	148,158	52,000	25,000	225,158
Florence	99,901	32,000	0	131,901		Saint Croix	216,573	50,000	45,000	311,573
Fond du Lac	213,504	48,000	15,000	276,504		Sauk	260,473	66,000	60,000	386,473
Forest	123,439	15,000	0	138,439		Sawyer	143,161	26,000	8,000	177,161
Grant	172,305	72,000	0	244,305		Shawano	208,786	40,800	45,000	294,586
Green	217,739	72,000	20,000	309,739		Sheboygan	188,995	57,000	15,000	260,995
Green Lake	237,353	43,000	30,000	310,353		Taylor	200,953	47,000	55,000	302,953
Iowa	206,114	45,000	65,000	316,114		Trempealeau	167,587	58,000	60,000	285,587
Iron	158,937	46,000	2,000	206,937		Vernon	195,332	72,000	72,950	340,282
Jackson	179,998	66,800	0	246,798		Vilas	193,245	32,000	0	225,245
Jefferson	251,710	30,193	12,000	293,903		Walworth	275,313	57,000	20,000	352,313
Juneau	212,298	46,800	20,000	279,098		Washburn	151,646	42,000	6,000	199,646
Kenosha	171,183	30,000	10,000	211,183		Washington	215,733	57,000	30,000	302,733
Kewaunee	209,530	41,000	15,000	265,530		Waukesha	271,947	37,000	10,000	318,947
LaCrosse	246,066	57,000	20,000	323,066		Waupaca	226,844	57,000	75,000	358,844
Lafayette	153,501	60,000	0	213,501		Waushara	194,005	46,800	40,000	280,805
Langlade	154,568	35,000	55,000	244,568		Winnebago	252,049	47,000	50,000	349,049
Lincoln	167,523	37,000	1,000	205,523		Wood	202,851	54,800	54,000	311,651
Manitowoc	214,382	47,000	75,000	336,382		Reserve		300,000		300,000
Marathon	240,339	78,000	95,000	413,339		Sub-Totals	\$14,589,500	\$3,536,993	\$2,299,950	\$20,726,443
PROJECT COOPERATOR ALLOCATIONS										
UW Madison CALS SnapPlus				301,826		UW NOPP Support				60,000
UW Extension NPM				277,625		WLWCA				272,076
UW-SFAL				12,318		Nutrient Management Farmer Education				405,205
WLWCA SOC				46,000		Innovation Grants				-
						Sub-Total Cooperator Allocation				\$1,375,050
ALLOCATION TOTALS						TOTAL			\$2,299,950	\$22,101,493

1-Table A DATCP Allocations

Table A-1

County	Tier 1	Tier 2								
	Base Allocation	First Position at 100% (Round 1)	Round 1 Award	Adjusted Award (Tier 1 + 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	2026 DATCP Staffing and Support Allocation
Adams	\$75,000	\$106,151.00	\$31,151.00	\$106,151.00	\$56,656.00	\$56,656.00	\$56,656.00	\$40,469.00	\$28,608.48	\$191,415
Ashland	\$75,000	\$108,939.00	\$33,939.00	\$108,939.00	\$59,021.00	\$59,021.00	\$59,021.00	\$29,598.00	\$20,923.52	\$188,884
Barron	\$75,000	\$111,941.00	\$36,941.00	\$111,941.00	\$77,715.00	\$77,715.00	\$77,715.00	\$53,362.00	\$37,722.84	\$227,379
Bayfield	\$75,000	\$124,374.00	\$49,374.00	\$124,374.00	\$73,338.00	\$73,338.00	\$73,338.00	\$43,772.00	\$30,943.45	\$228,655
Brown	\$75,000	\$126,888.00	\$51,888.00	\$126,888.00	\$76,763.00	\$76,763.00	\$76,763.00	\$48,036.00	\$33,957.77	\$237,609
Buffalo	\$75,000	\$124,871.00	\$49,871.00	\$124,871.00	\$64,555.00	\$64,555.00	\$64,555.00	\$37,007.00	\$26,161.11	\$215,587
Burnett	\$75,000	\$88,472.00	\$13,472.00	\$88,472.00	\$59,048.00	\$59,048.00	\$59,048.00	\$27,106.00	\$19,161.86	\$166,682
Calumet	\$75,000	\$144,022.00	\$69,022.00	\$144,022.00	\$87,987.00	\$87,987.00	\$87,987.00	\$62,410.00	\$44,119.09	\$276,128
Chippewa	\$75,000	\$122,805.00	\$47,805.00	\$122,805.00	\$77,188.00	\$77,188.00	\$77,188.00	\$50,183.00	\$35,475.53	\$235,469
Clark	\$75,000	\$111,711.00	\$36,711.00	\$111,711.00	\$53,195.00	\$53,195.00	\$53,195.00	\$37,924.00	\$26,809.36	\$191,715
Columbia	\$75,000	\$101,903.00	\$26,903.00	\$101,903.00	\$67,102.00	\$67,102.00	\$67,102.00	\$47,382.00	\$33,495.44	\$202,500
Crawford	\$75,000	\$99,502.00	\$24,502.00	\$99,502.00	\$64,813.00	\$64,813.00	\$64,813.00	\$22,174.00	\$15,675.32	\$179,990
Dane	\$75,000	\$177,971.00	\$102,971.00	\$177,971.00	\$120,352.00	\$120,352.00	\$120,352.00	\$75,679.00	\$53,499.25	\$351,822
Dodge	\$75,000	\$109,700.00	\$34,700.00	\$109,700.00	\$75,557.00	\$75,557.00	\$75,557.00	\$47,766.00	\$33,766.90	\$219,024
Door	\$75,000	\$138,571.00	\$63,571.00	\$138,571.00	\$76,143.00	\$76,143.00	\$76,143.00	\$52,414.00	\$37,052.68	\$251,767
Douglas	\$75,000	\$79,709.00	\$4,709.00	\$79,709.00	\$55,218.00	\$55,218.00	\$55,218.00	\$35,991.00	\$25,442.88	\$160,370
Dunn	\$75,000	\$144,282.00	\$69,282.00	\$144,282.00	\$87,875.00	\$87,875.00	\$87,875.00	\$61,744.00	\$43,648.27	\$275,805
Eau Claire	\$75,000	\$127,425.00	\$52,425.00	\$127,425.00	\$65,357.00	\$65,357.00	\$65,357.00	\$39,247.00	\$27,744.62	\$220,527
Florence	\$75,000	\$73,065.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$26,836.00	\$24,901.00	\$24,901.00		\$0.00	\$99,901
Fond du Lac	\$75,000	\$109,725.00	\$34,725.00	\$109,725.00	\$73,655.00	\$73,655.00	\$73,655.00	\$42,613.00	\$30,124.12	\$213,504
Forest	\$75,000	\$69,026.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$44,104.00	\$38,130.00	\$38,130.00	\$14,583.00	\$10,309.06	\$123,439
Grant	\$75,000	\$91,299.00	\$16,299.00	\$91,299.00	\$57,268.00	\$57,268.00	\$57,268.00	\$33,580.00	\$23,738.49	\$172,305
Green	\$75,000	\$126,356.00	\$51,356.00	\$126,356.00	\$70,193.00	\$70,193.00	\$70,193.00	\$29,975.00	\$21,190.03	\$217,739
Green Lake	\$75,000	\$124,557.00	\$49,557.00	\$124,557.00	\$77,907.00	\$77,907.00	\$77,907.00	\$49,353.00	\$34,888.79	\$237,353
Iowa	\$75,000	\$128,027.00	\$53,027.00	\$128,027.00	\$52,348.00	\$52,348.00	\$52,348.00	\$36,410.00	\$25,739.08	\$206,114
Iron	\$75,000	\$87,349.00	\$12,349.00	\$87,349.00	\$59,449.00	\$59,449.00	\$59,449.00	\$17,172.00	\$12,139.29	\$158,937
Jackson	\$75,000	\$108,287.00	\$33,287.00	\$108,287.00	\$71,711.00	\$71,711.00	\$71,711.00		\$0.00	\$179,998
Jefferson	\$75,000	\$141,001.00	\$66,001.00	\$141,001.00	\$81,226.00	\$81,226.00	\$81,226.00	\$41,706.00	\$29,482.94	\$251,710
Juneau	\$75,000	\$119,980.00	\$44,980.00	\$119,980.00	\$63,324.00	\$63,324.00	\$63,324.00	\$41,015.00	\$28,994.46	\$212,298
Kenosha	\$75,000	\$123,845.00	\$48,845.00	\$123,845.00	\$37,064.00	\$37,064.00	\$37,064.00	\$14,533.00	\$10,273.72	\$171,183
Kewaunee	\$75,000	\$123,836.00	\$48,836.00	\$123,836.00	\$58,434.00	\$58,434.00	\$58,434.00	\$38,561.00	\$27,259.67	\$209,530
LaCrosse	\$75,000	\$128,815.00	\$53,815.00	\$128,815.00	\$79,190.00	\$79,190.00	\$79,190.00	\$53,841.00	\$38,061.46	\$246,066
Lafayette	\$75,000	\$80,876.00	\$5,876.00	\$80,876.00	\$48,812.00	\$48,812.00	\$48,812.00	\$33,685.00	\$23,812.71	\$153,501
Langlade	\$75,000	\$81,908.00	\$6,908.00	\$81,908.00	\$56,437.00	\$56,437.00	\$56,437.00	\$22,949.00	\$16,223.18	\$154,568
Lincoln	\$75,000	\$102,716.00	\$27,716.00	\$102,716.00	\$57,595.00	\$57,595.00	\$57,595.00	\$10,202.00	\$7,212.03	\$167,523
Manitowoc	\$75,000	\$126,747.00	\$51,747.00	\$126,747.00	\$58,673.00	\$58,673.00	\$58,673.00	\$40,969.00	\$28,961.94	\$214,382

2-Table A-1 County Staffing Awards

Table A-1

County	Tier 1	Tier 2								
	Base Allocation	First Position at 100% (Round 1)	Round 1 Award	Adjusted Award (Tier 1 + 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	2026 DATCP Staffing and Support Allocation
Marathon	\$75,000	\$119,339.00	\$44,339.00	\$119,339.00	\$80,938.00	\$80,938.00	\$80,938.00	\$56,671.00	\$40,062.05	\$240,339
Marinette	\$75,000	\$115,269.00	\$40,269.00	\$115,269.00	\$67,570.00	\$67,570.00	\$67,570.00	\$38,317.00	\$27,087.18	\$209,926
Marquette	\$75,000	\$122,833.00	\$47,833.00	\$122,833.00	\$46,663.00	\$46,663.00	\$46,663.00	\$28,724.00	\$20,305.67	\$189,802
Menominee	\$75,000	\$89,001.00	\$14,001.00	\$89,001.00	\$43,256.00	\$43,256.00	\$43,256.00		\$0.00	\$132,257
Milwaukee	\$75,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$75,809.00	\$809.00	\$809.00	\$33,447.00	\$23,644.46	\$99,453
Monroe	\$75,000	\$128,935.00	\$53,935.00	\$128,935.00	\$46,701.00	\$46,701.00	\$46,701.00	\$32,544.00	\$23,006.11	\$198,642
Oconto	\$75,000	\$108,348.00	\$33,348.00	\$108,348.00	\$71,537.00	\$71,537.00	\$71,537.00	\$42,690.00	\$30,178.56	\$210,064
Oneida	\$75,000	\$103,461.00	\$28,461.00	\$103,461.00	\$58,745.00	\$58,745.00	\$58,745.00	\$10,198.00	\$7,209.20	\$169,415
Outagamie	\$75,000	\$146,989.00	\$71,989.00	\$146,989.00	\$96,374.00	\$96,374.00	\$96,374.00	\$53,252.00	\$37,645.08	\$281,008
Ozaukee	\$75,000	\$113,651.00	\$38,651.00	\$113,651.00	\$64,412.00	\$64,412.00	\$64,412.00	\$69,794.00	\$49,339.01	\$227,402
Pepin	\$75,000	\$63,283.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$78,867.00	\$67,150.00	\$67,150.00	\$27,923.00	\$19,739.42	\$161,889
Pierce	\$75,000	\$109,608.00	\$34,608.00	\$109,608.00	\$73,994.00	\$73,994.00	\$73,994.00	\$50,270.00	\$35,537.04	\$219,139
Polk	\$75,000	\$123,569.00	\$48,569.00	\$123,569.00	\$63,517.00	\$63,517.00	\$63,517.00	\$43,154.00	\$30,506.57	\$217,593
Portage	\$75,000	\$123,197.00	\$48,197.00	\$123,197.00	\$75,901.00	\$75,901.00	\$75,901.00	\$50,635.00	\$35,795.06	\$234,893
Price	\$75,000	\$83,915.00	\$8,915.00	\$83,915.00	\$55,010.00	\$55,010.00	\$55,010.00	\$4,697.00	\$3,320.42	\$142,245
Racine	\$75,000	\$126,960.00	\$51,960.00	\$126,960.00	\$80,762.00	\$80,762.00	\$80,762.00	\$35,313.00	\$24,963.58	\$232,686
Richland	\$75,000	\$63,253.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00	\$33,971.00	\$22,224.00	\$22,224.00	\$23,921.00	\$16,910.31	\$114,134
Rock	\$75,000	\$90,281.00	\$15,281.00	\$90,281.00	\$62,158.00	\$62,158.00	\$62,158.00	\$44,052.00	\$31,141.39	\$183,580
Rusk	\$75,000	\$75,711.00	\$711.00	\$75,711.00	\$63,440.00	\$63,440.00	\$63,440.00	\$12,741.00	\$9,006.91	\$148,158
Saint Croix	\$75,000	\$112,632.00	\$37,632.00	\$112,632.00	\$71,577.00	\$71,577.00	\$71,577.00	\$45,781.00	\$32,363.66	\$216,573
Sauk	\$75,000	\$135,232.00	\$60,232.00	\$135,232.00	\$84,477.00	\$84,477.00	\$84,477.00	\$57,664.00	\$40,764.03	\$260,473
Sawyer	\$75,000	\$75,599.00	\$599.00	\$75,599.00	\$48,693.00	\$48,693.00	\$48,693.00	\$26,692.00	\$18,869.20	\$143,161
Shawano	\$75,000	\$121,754.00	\$46,754.00	\$121,754.00	\$64,760.00	\$64,760.00	\$64,760.00	\$31,505.00	\$22,271.62	\$208,786
Sheboygan	\$75,000	\$100,432.00	\$25,432.00	\$100,432.00	\$67,261.00	\$67,261.00	\$67,261.00	\$30,134.00	\$21,302.43	\$188,995
Taylor	\$75,000	\$114,311.00	\$39,311.00	\$114,311.00	\$65,454.00	\$65,454.00	\$65,454.00	\$29,972.00	\$21,187.91	\$200,953
Trempealeau	\$75,000	\$97,744.00	\$22,744.00	\$97,744.00	\$48,884.00	\$48,884.00	\$48,884.00	\$29,648.00	\$20,958.86	\$167,587
Vernon	\$75,000	\$112,400.00	\$37,400.00	\$112,400.00	\$60,392.00	\$60,392.00	\$60,392.00	\$31,885.00	\$22,540.25	\$195,332
Vilas	\$75,000	\$95,179.00	\$20,179.00	\$95,179.00	\$68,706.00	\$68,706.00	\$68,706.00	\$41,532.00	\$29,359.94	\$193,245
Walworth	\$75,000	\$130,955.00	\$55,955.00	\$130,955.00	\$100,766.00	\$100,766.00	\$100,766.00	\$61,665.00	\$43,592.43	\$275,313
Washburn	\$75,000	\$98,231.00	\$23,231.00	\$98,231.00	\$52,245.00	\$52,245.00	\$52,245.00	\$1,655.00	\$1,169.96	\$151,646
Washington	\$75,000	\$123,026.00	\$48,026.00	\$123,026.00	\$63,493.00	\$63,493.00	\$63,493.00	\$41,326.00	\$29,214.31	\$215,733
Waukesha	\$75,000	\$153,257.00	\$78,257.00	\$153,257.00	\$82,102.00	\$82,102.00	\$82,102.00	\$51,756.00	\$36,587.52	\$271,947
Waupaca	\$75,000	\$113,653.00	\$38,653.00	\$113,653.00	\$75,244.00	\$75,244.00	\$75,244.00	\$53,679.00	\$37,946.94	\$226,844
Wausara	\$75,000	\$106,239.00	\$31,239.00	\$106,239.00	\$62,497.00	\$62,497.00	\$62,497.00	\$35,745.00	\$25,268.97	\$194,005
Winnebago	\$75,000	\$141,995.00	\$66,995.00	\$141,995.00	\$74,636.00	\$74,636.00	\$74,636.00	\$50,102.00	\$35,418.27	\$252,049
Wood	\$75,000	\$137,966.00	\$62,966.00	\$137,966.00	\$47,454.00	\$47,454.00	\$47,454.00	\$24,658.00	\$17,431.32	\$202,851
Totals	5,400,000	7,974,860	2,681,233	8,081,233	4,750,375	4,644,002	12,725,235	2,637,153	1,864,265	14,589,500

Table B: Total DNR Final 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
Dane	\$499,138	\$100,862	\$0	\$0	\$600,000
Dunn	\$225,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$225,000
Juneau	\$476,000	\$124,000	\$0	\$0	\$600,000
Kenosha	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$35,075	\$35,075
Manitowoc	\$70,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$70,000
Marinette	\$165,121	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$165,121
Outagamie	\$485,603	\$138,150	\$0	\$0	\$623,753
Polk	\$357,092	\$142,837	\$0	\$0	\$499,929
Shawano	\$174,237	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$174,237
Washington	\$212,082	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$212,082
Waupaca	\$429,000	\$171,000	\$0	\$0	\$600,000
DNR NR243 NOD Reserve					\$1,000,000
Total	\$3,093,273	\$676,849	\$0	\$35,075	\$4,805,197

3-Table B Total DNR Allocations

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	191,415	88,000	279,415	Marinette	209,926	266,921	476,847
Ashland	188,884	80,000	268,884	Marquette	189,802	111,000	300,802
Barron	227,379	62,000	289,379	Menominee	132,257	20,000	152,257
Bayfield	228,655	82,000	310,655	Milwaukee	99,453	15,000	114,453
Brown	237,609	107,000	344,609	Monroe	198,642	97,000	295,642
Buffalo	215,587	71,000	286,587	Oconto	210,064	60,000	270,064
Burnett	166,682	33,000	199,682	Oneida	169,415	38,000	207,415
Calumet	276,128	86,800	362,928	Outagamie	419,158	618,103	1,037,261
Chippewa	235,469	153,000	388,469	Ozaukee	227,402	66,000	293,402
Clark	191,715	147,000	338,715	Pepin	161,889	69,000	230,889
Columbia	202,500	141,000	343,500	Pierce	219,139	77,000	296,139
Crawford	179,990	62,800	242,790	Polk	360,430	403,892	764,322
Dane	452,684	666,138	1,118,822	Portage	234,893	65,000	299,893
Dodge	219,024	75,000	294,024	Price	142,245	43,000	185,245
Door	251,767	47,000	298,767	Racine	232,686	137,500	370,186
Douglas	160,370	35,000	195,370	Richland	114,134	53,800	167,934
Dunn	275,805	320,000	595,805	Rock	183,580	162,000	345,580
Eau Claire	220,527	101,800	322,327	Rusk	148,158	77,000	225,158
Florence	99,901	32,000	131,901	Saint Croix	216,573	95,000	311,573
Fond du Lac	213,504	63,000	276,504	Sauk	260,473	126,000	386,473
Forest	123,439	15,000	138,439	Sawyer	143,161	34,000	177,161
Grant	172,305	72,000	244,305	Shawano	208,786	260,037	468,823
Green	217,739	92,000	309,739	Sheboygan	188,995	72,000	260,995
Green Lake	237,353	73,000	310,353	Taylor	200,953	102,000	302,953
Iowa	206,114	110,000	316,114	Trempealeau	167,587	118,000	285,587
Iron	158,937	48,000	206,937	Vernon	195,332	144,950	340,282
Jackson	179,998	66,800	246,798	Vilas	193,245	32,000	225,245
Jefferson	251,710	42,193	293,903	Walworth	275,313	77,000	352,313
Juneau	336,298	542,800	879,098	Washburn	151,646	48,000	199,646
Kenosha	206,258	40,000	246,258	Washington	215,733	299,082	514,815
Kewaunee	209,530	56,000	265,530	Waukesha	271,947	47,000	318,947
LaCrosse	246,066	77,000	323,066	Waupaca	397,844	561,000	958,844
Lafayette	153,501	60,000	213,501	Wausara	194,005	86,800	280,805
Langlade	154,568	90,000	244,568	Winnebago	252,049	97,000	349,049
Lincoln	167,523	38,000	205,523	Wood	202,851	108,800	311,651
Manitowoc	214,382	192,000	406,382	DATCP NR243 Res.		300,000	300,000
Marathon	240,339	173,000	413,339	DNR NR243 Res.		1,000,000	1,000,000
				Sub-Totals	15,301,424	10,230,216	25,531,640
PROJECT COOPERATOR ALLOCATIONS							
UW Madison CALS SnapPlus			301,826	WLWCA			272,076
UW Extension NPM			277,625	WLWCA SOC			46,000
UW-SFAL			12,318	Nutrient Management Farmer Education			405,205
UW NOPP Support			60,000	Innovation Grants			-
				Sub-Total Cooperator Allocation			1,375,050
PROGRAM ALLOCATION TOTALS					\$ 15,301,424	\$ 10,230,216	\$ 26,906,690

Table A-2: County Structural Practices Cost-Share Awards

County	Structural Practice Awards				County	Structural Practice Awards			
	22-24 Cumulative Average Under-Spending*	2022 Census Acres**	22-24 Cumulative Total Dollars Spent***	Award		22-24 Cumulative Average Under-Spending*	2022 Census Acres**	22-24 Cumulative Total Dollars Spent***	Award
Adams	0.04%	114,792	\$127,423	\$43,000	<i>Marathon</i>	0.54%	477,577	\$268,275	\$78,000
Ashland	0.00%	68,629	\$155,797	\$50,000	Marinette	0.00%	132,155	\$119,876	\$46,800
<i>Barron</i>	0.00%	282,265	\$66,163	\$52,000	<i>Marquette</i>	13.62%	104,952	\$116,375	\$36,000
Bayfield	0.00%	93,254	\$149,700	\$52,000	Menominee	0.00%	290	\$54,650	\$20,000
Brown	0.00%	181,018	\$117,975	\$47,000	<i>Milwaukee</i>	0.00%	98	\$0	\$10,000
<i>Buffalo</i>	21.61%	309,976	\$104,585	\$51,000	Monroe	0.00%	263,476	\$138,552	\$47,000
<i>Burnett</i>	0.10%	77,858	\$249,111	\$25,000	<i>Oconto</i>	0.00%	194,482	\$199,550	\$60,000
Calumet	0.03%	143,801	\$128,842	\$46,800	Oneida	0.00%	42,083	\$106,884	\$38,000
Chippewa	0.00%	338,969	\$463,334	\$78,000	Outagamie	0.00%	241,653	\$271,075	\$72,500
Clark	0.00%	409,582	\$192,920	\$72,000	Ozaukee	0.01%	49,769	\$125,447	\$41,000
Columbia	2.33%	290,003	\$200,592	\$66,000	Pepin	1.62%	111,859	\$103,425	\$39,000
Crawford	0.00%	194,544	\$157,886	\$54,800	Pierce	0.00%	229,659	\$169,885	\$57,000
Dane	0.24%	449,464	\$170,812	\$72,000	Polk	0.00%	239,493	\$133,165	\$46,800
<i>Dodge</i>	4.23%	374,456	\$118,703	\$55,000	Portage	0.00%	273,256	\$164,989	\$57,000
Door	0.00%	108,658	\$81,483	\$37,000	Price	0.00%	84,387	\$110,839	\$43,000
<i>Douglas</i>	0.00%	67,866	\$85,790	\$30,000	Racine	0.00%	99,108	\$238,777	\$67,500
Dunn	0.00%	372,774	\$209,076	\$75,000	Richland	45.41%	244,767	\$66,104	\$33,800
Eau Claire	0.00%	168,016	\$127,085	\$46,800	<i>Rock</i>	0.41%	296,636	\$169,736	\$67,000
Florence	0.00%	17,926	\$64,500	\$32,000	Rusk	0.00%	118,421	\$160,135	\$52,000
Fond du Lac	1.57%	308,888	\$59,610	\$48,000	Saint Croix	0.00%	254,630	\$144,092	\$50,000
Forest	10.70%	27,368	\$27,703	\$15,000	Sauk	0.04%	298,103	\$165,437	\$66,000
Grant	0.00%	586,453	\$153,085	\$72,000	Sawyer	9.69%	40,786	\$71,866	\$26,000
Green	0.00%	282,888	\$200,466	\$72,000	Shawano	0.00%	253,092	\$95,582	\$40,800
Green Lake	0.00%	122,086	\$135,466	\$43,000	Sheboygan	0.02%	198,776	\$161,840	\$57,000
<i>Iowa</i>	0.00%	374,179	\$255,527	\$45,000	Taylor	0.00%	216,009	\$141,958	\$47,000
Iron	0.00%	8,578	\$153,657	\$46,000	<i>Trempealeau</i>	0.00%	296,684	\$142,809	\$58,000
Jackson	0.00%	228,011	\$284,541	\$66,800	Vernon	0.00%	354,885	\$186,892	\$72,000
Jefferson	0.00%	191,783	\$836	\$30,193	Vilas	0.00%	5,847	\$73,241	\$32,000
Juneau	0.06%	167,871	\$121,792	\$46,800	Walworth	0.00%	179,902	\$169,819	\$57,000
<i>Kenosha</i>	19.81%	67,322	\$55,022	\$30,000	Washburn	0.00%	70,390	\$88,899	\$42,000
Kewaunee	5.35%	168,893	\$142,698	\$41,000	Washington	0.00%	118,210	\$199,718	\$57,000
LaCrosse	0.00%	138,200	\$138,000	\$57,000	Waukesha	0.00%	70,268	\$87,764	\$37,000
<i>Lafayette</i>	1.65%	316,462	\$235,154	\$60,000	Waupaca	0.39%	230,412	\$161,867	\$57,000
<i>Langlade</i>	0.00%	109,487	\$50,742	\$35,000	Waushara	0.00%	149,098	\$125,061	\$46,800
Lincoln	0.00%	79,496	\$95,036	\$37,000	Winnebago	0.00%	145,208	\$130,225	\$47,000
Manitowoc	0.00%	236,367	\$141,529	\$47,000	Wood	0.00%	216,635	\$168,234	\$54,800
					TOTAL				\$3,536,993

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% = \$7,000, 1-1.99% = \$3,000, 2-9.99% = \$1,000, >10% = \$0.

**Graduated awards based on 2022 Census acres: 350,000 or more=\$30,000; 275,000-349,999=\$25,000; 125,000-274,999=\$15,000; 50-124,999 = \$10,000; <50,000=\$4,000.

***Graduated awards based on 3-yr cumulative spending: \$210K+ = \$36,000; \$175K-209,999=\$30,000; \$150K-174,999=\$24,000; \$100K-\$149,999 = \$16,000; \$50K-\$99,999 = \$10,000; <\$50,000 = \$0

County Name in Italics = 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	40	4	\$45,000		<i>Marathon</i>	95	1	\$95,000
Ashland	50	3	\$30,000		Marinette	45	4	\$55,000
<i>Barron</i>	40	4	\$10,000		Marquette	80	2	\$75,000
Bayfield	35	4	\$30,000		Menominee			NA
Brown	70	2	\$60,000		<i>Milwaukee</i>	25	4	\$5,000
<i>Buffalo</i>	55	3	\$20,000		Monroe	55	3	\$50,000
Burnett	55	3	\$8,000		Oconto			NA
Calumet	60	3	\$40,000		Oneida			NA
Chippewa	85	2	\$75,000		<i>Outagamie</i>	60	3	\$60,000
Clark	85	2	\$75,000		<i>Ozaukee</i>	50	3	\$25,000
Columbia	80	2	\$75,000		Pepin	40	4	\$30,000
<i>Crawford</i>	25	4	\$8,000		Pierce	35	4	\$20,000
Dane	100	1	\$95,000		Polk			NA
<i>Dodge</i>	75	2	\$20,000		<i>Portage</i>	45	4	\$8,000
<i>Door</i>	60	3	\$10,000		Price			NA
<i>Douglas</i>	50	3	\$5,000		Racine	60	3	\$70,000
<i>Dunn</i>	75	2	\$20,000		<i>Richland</i>	45	4	\$20,000
<i>Eau Claire</i>	65	3	\$55,000		<i>Rock</i>	95	1	\$95,000
Florence			NA		<i>Rusk</i>	25	4	\$25,000
<i>Fond du Lac</i>	75	2	\$15,000		<i>Saint Croix</i>	60	3	\$45,000
Forest			NA		<i>Sauk</i>	60	3	\$60,000
Grant			NA		<i>Sawyer</i>	10	5	\$8,000
<i>Green</i>	40	4	\$20,000		<i>Shawano</i>	35	4	\$45,000
<i>Green Lake</i>	70	2	\$30,000		<i>Sheboygan</i>	45	4	\$15,000
<i>Iowa</i>	80	2	\$65,000		Taylor	65	3	\$55,000
<i>Iron</i>	25	4	\$2,000		<i>Trempealeau</i>	70	2	\$60,000
Jackson			NA		<i>Vernon</i>	75	2	\$72,950
<i>Jefferson</i>	50	3	\$12,000		Vilas			NA
<i>Juneau</i>	40	4	\$20,000		<i>Walworth</i>	40	4	\$20,000
<i>Kenosha</i>	20	5	\$10,000		<i>Washburn</i>	15	5	\$6,000
<i>Kewaunee</i>	40	4	\$15,000		<i>Washington</i>	50	3	\$30,000
<i>La Crosse</i>	65	3	\$20,000	<i>Waukesha</i>	25	4	\$10,000	
Lafayette			NA	Waupaca	85	2	\$75,000	
Langlade	50	3	\$55,000	<i>Waushara</i>	45	4	\$40,000	
<i>Lincoln</i>	20	5	\$1,000	Winnebago	55	3	\$50,000	
<i>Manitowoc</i>	95	1	\$75,000	<i>Wood</i>	65	3	\$54,000	
TOTAL							\$2,299,950	
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.

DATCP: Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. 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.

DNR: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. 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).

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 the department 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.

Other Project Cooperators (OPC): OPCs include non-county entities such as the University 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 (PL/PLWPG): The PL watershed grant program funds farmer-led projects intended to reduce nonpoint source pollution and improve water quality. By statute, the PL watershed grant program 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 the Allocation Plan:

- \$1,000,000 is directed to Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grants.
- \$1,000,000 is directed to Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program
- \$800,000 is directed to crop insurance rebates for 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 to the allocation.

SnapPlus/Soil Nutrient Application Planner: is 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.



DATCP's Environmental Assessment

for the 2026 Joint Allocation Plan

Final

October 2025

Soil and Water Resource Management Grant
Program and Nonpoint Source Program



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Signature Page and Final Determination

This assessment finds that the *2025 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
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 September 24, 2025 By Timothy Anderson
Timothy P. Anderson, Administrator
Agricultural Resource Management Division

I. The Nature and Purpose of the Proposed Action

Each year the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), together with the 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 2026 Joint Allocation Plan that accompanies this Environmental Assessment.

II. The Environment Affected by the Proposed Action

As further explained in Section III.A., the DATCP grant program operates in every county, potentially covering all of Wisconsin's 34.8 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 now account for less than 42% of Wisconsin's land base (14.3 million acres). Ultimately, each county's LWRM plan determines the nature and scope of conservation activities in the area and the natural resources impacted by DATCP funds.

III. 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: For the 2025-2027 biennium, the annual funding for conservation staff increases from \$11.2 million in 2025 to \$14.6 million in 2026. 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 the state agricultural performance standards
- Facilitating landowner participation in state and federal cost-share programs
- Ensuring cross-compliance 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 will 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 2023 and 2024, counties spent a cumulative total of ~\$5.2 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 2023 and 2024.

Table A: Cost-Share Expenditure Comparison				
Conservation Practice	2023 Cost-Share Dollars Spent (in millions)	2023 Units of Practice Installed	2024 Cost-Share Dollars Spent (in millions)	2024 Units of Practice Installed
Barnyard Runoff Control	0.3	7 systems	0.15	10 systems
Manure Storage System	0.13	8 systems	0.26	7 systems
Manure storage Closure	0.43	49 systems	0.42	50 systems
Cover and Green Manure	0.46	17,381 acres	0.80	18,496 acres
Grade Stabilization	0.32	33 structures	0.39	45 structures
Livestock Watering Facilities	0.12	22 systems	0.12	25 systems
Nutrient Management Planning	1.0	25,902 acres	1.25	31,9612 acres
Prescribed Grazing /Permanent Fencing	0.09	84,583 feet	0.12	83,707 feet
Streambank Crossing	0.19	5,233 feet	0.18	1,688 feet
Streambank and Shoreline Protection	0.37	10,735 feet	0.35	10,386 feet
Waterway Systems	0.47	167 acres	0.47	2,073 acres

Notably, from 2023 to 2024 there was

- an increase in barnyard runoff control systems 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.

Long-Term Effects

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

- Conservation outreach and education
- Development of conservation technologies (such as SNAP Plus 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 requires properly designed manure storage and nutrient management plans
- Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) administration that protects valuable resources and promotes conservation compliance
- Producer-Led Watershed administration and technical assistance

With the increase to the staffing allocation for fiscal biennium 2025-2027, the amount of funding DATCP is able to give to support county conservation increased by \$3,375,100 from the 2025 allocation for a total of \$14.6 million. This level of funding covers the first and second positions fully and 71% 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. See Section III.E. for a more detailed discussion.

B. 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.

C. 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.

D. Cumulative Effects

While it is difficult to accurately gauge the cumulative effects of delivery of this allocation plan, it is clear that 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 117 of the 387 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 2025, there are 39,868 acres of water quality conservation practices currently under active agreements. During the 2024 federal fiscal year, the state processed and paid incentives for 118 CREP contracts totaling 1,160 acres. New enrollments account for 64 of the contracts on 407 acres with an additional reenrollment

of 54 existing contracts on 753 acres that expired in 2024. Approximately 21.95 miles of stream or shoreline were buffered by CREP conservation practices (e.g. riparian buffers and filter strips) enrolled in federal fiscal year 2024. These practices have resulted in an estimated annual reduction of 2,355 pounds of phosphorus, 1,271 pounds of nitrogen, and 1,086 tons of sediment runoff.

- The DNR continued annual funding in 2024 for Targeted Runoff Management Projects (TRM), providing over \$2.3 million to counties to cost-share six small-scale and three large-scale projects. The DNR set aside \$1million for farms issued a notice of discharge. The DNR received two applications from counties for cost-sharing of Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Planning Projects. The Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Construction grants were not solicited for in 2024.

Table B: DNR Funding 2024		
Program	Number of Projects	Sum of Total Amount Awarded
Large-scale TRM	3	\$1,392,950
Small-scale TRM	6	\$1,068,357
Urban NPS & Storm Water Mgmt. Planning	2	\$29,015

- In 2023, through the Producer-Led Watershed Protection grant program, DATCP offered support to forty-three producer-led groups around the State, encompassing 2,016 producers managing 782,674 farmland acres. DATCP has awarded over \$5.2 million since the program’s inception in 2016.
- In 2024 there were 67 fields with nitrogen rate trials across the state actively contributing to the data used to create nitrogen recommendations in Wisconsin.

IV. 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 2025-2027 biennium will enable DATCP to completely support two employees per program and 71% of the requests for the third position (funded at 50%). 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, 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 as a result 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.

V. 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 IV.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, two things that are features essential to tourism.

VI. 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 \$7.0 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 5-10 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 needs 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 much needed.

VII. 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 as long as 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 E below, DATCP may increase the

allocation in a given 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.

VIII. Mitigation of Adverse Environmental Effects

The allocations are anticipated 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: Sept. 22, 2025

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

FROM: Joanna Griffin
DNR Watershed Management Bureau

SUBJECT: DNR Scoring And Ranking Of Targeted Runoff Management Applications For
Calendar Year 2026 Funding

Recommended Action: DNR staff request that the LWCB make recommendations on the DNR-proposed funding of TRM grant applications.

Summary: Through this memo, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is informing the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) of the ranked list for (CY) 2026 grant funding. Scoring results for projects being considered for calendar year (CY) 2026 funding are presented in the attached tables.

Chapter NR 153, Wis. Adm. Code, which governs the Targeted Runoff Management (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.

Scoring And Ranking Summary To Date:

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

- Eight (8) applications were submitted and are eligible for grant consideration.
- Funding requests for the applications total \$1,366,332.
- Based on available funding, the department proposes to allocate \$1,366,332 to fully fund grant requests from all projects.

B. Small-Scale Non-TMDL

- Two (2) applications were submitted and are eligible for grant consideration.
- Funding requests for the applications total \$390,121.
- Based on available funding, the department proposes to allocate \$390,121 to fully fund grant requests from both projects.

C. Large-Scale TMDL

- Six (6) applications were submitted and are eligible for consideration.
- Funding requests for these applications total \$2,897,957.
- Based on available funding, the department proposes to allocate \$2,897,957 to fully fund grant requests from all projects.

TRM Scoring By Project Category & Rank For 2026

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.

The department will include final allocations to counties for TRM projects in the *CY 2026 Joint Final Allocation Plan*. Once the *2026 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.

While the federal government develops the federal fiscal year (FFY) 2026 budget, there is uncertainty about the availability of future of Section 319 funds and potential associated impacts to TRM grant funding. As more information is shared about the FFY 2026 federal budget, the DNR will notify applicants of the status of Section 319 funding in the 2026 TRM grant cycle and beyond.

All Large-Scale And Small-Scale TRM Applications

	Proposed Allocation			
	Bond Revenue	GPR	319	Seg
Structural BMPs (including force account and engineering)	\$1,317,111	\$1,177,816	\$0	\$0
Non-Structural Practices (e.g., cropping)	\$0	\$684,780	\$588,804	\$209,050
Local Assistance	\$0	\$387,704	\$198,495	\$90,950
Total TRM	\$1,317,111	\$2,250,000	\$787,299	\$300,000

Large-Scale And Small-Scale TRM Applications From Counties

	Proposed Allocation - Counties			
	Bond Revenue	GPR	319	Seg
Structural BMPs (including force account and engineering)	\$1,117,111	\$943,528	\$0	\$0
Non-Structural Practices (e.g., cropping)	\$0	\$234,780	\$588,804	\$209,050
Local Assistance	\$0	\$387,780	\$198,495	\$90,950
Total TRM	\$1,117,111	\$1,565,712	\$787,299	\$300,000

TRM Scoring By Project Category & Rank For 2026

Table 1. Small-Scale TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Big Round Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District	Big Round Lake Water Quality Goal Plan Implementation / Lake St. Croix TMDL Implementation-Alum 4	NOR	135.0	\$225,000	\$225,000
2	Washington County Natural Resources Department	Friess Lake Shoreline Restoration - Glacier Hills County Park	SER	133.4	\$212,082	\$437,082
3	Village of DeForest	Yahara River Streambank Stabilization - Phase 3	SCR	126.5	\$214,288	\$651,370
4	Balsam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District	Balsam Lake Water Quality Plan Implementation - Alum application 4 of 4	NOR	118.0	\$225,000	\$876,370
5	Manitowoc County	Mike Herzog Gully	NER	109.0	\$70,000	\$946,370
6	Village of Cascade	North Branch Milwaukee River/Nichols Creek Stream Restoration	SER	108.5	\$220,000	\$1,166,370
7	Shawano County	C&J Dairy Waste Storage	NER	105.0	\$174,237	\$1,340,607
8	Outagamie County Land Conservation Department	Claude Court Streambank Stabilization	NER	80.0	\$25,725	\$1,366,332

TRM Scoring By Project Category & Rank For 2026

Table 2. Small-Scale Non-TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Marinette County Land Information Department - Land and Water Conservation Division	DeClark Farm Manure Management	NER	133.7	\$165,121	\$165,121
2	Dunn County Land & Water Conservation Division	Tom and Cindy Knutson Waste Storage Facility Project	WCR	115.6	\$225,000	\$390,121

TRM Scoring By Project Category & Rank For 2026

Table 3. Large-Scale TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Waupaca and Outagamie County Land and Water Conservation Departments	Bear Creek	NER	194.7	\$600,000	\$600,000
2	Juneau County Land and Water Resources	Lemonweir-Brewer	WCR	189.8	\$600,000	\$1,200,000
3	Polk County Land and Water	Polk LWRM Plan Implementation in the Horse Lake - Horse Creek Watershed	NOR	170.5	\$499,929	\$1,699,929
4	Outagamie County Land Conservation Department	Middle Duck Creek	NER	165	\$298,028	\$1,997,957
5	Dane County Land and Water Resources Department	Spring Creek Watershed - Dane County	SCR	154.1	\$600,000	\$2,597,957
6	Outagamie County Land Conservation Department	Plum and Kankapot Creeks #3	NER	149.6	\$300,000	\$2,897,957

DATE: Oct. 3, 2025

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

FROM: Joanna Griffin
DNR Watershed Management Bureau

SUBJECT: DNR Scoring And Ranking Of Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management Applications For Calendar Year 2026 Funding

Recommended Action: DNR staff request that the LWCB make recommendations on the DNR-proposed funding of UNPS grant applications.

Summary: Through this memo, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is informing the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) of the ranked list for calendar year (CY) 2026 grant funding. Scoring results for projects being considered in CY 2025 are presented in the attached tables.

The DNR funds Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management (UNPS) projects under the 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 Planning grant applications were solicited in 2025 for the CY 2026 award cycle. The UNPS Construction grant application will be available in 2026 for CY 2027 awards.

Scoring And Ranking Summary To Date For UNPS Planning Projects

The maximum state cost share per successful application is \$85,000.

- Eleven (11) applications were submitted; all are eligible for funding.
- Grant requests for the 11 eligible applications total \$639,556.
- Based on available funding, the DNR proposes to allocate \$639,556 to fully fund grant requests from all projects.

The attached table shows the current rank order of applications.

Once the *2026 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.

Proposed Allocation SEG		
City	Village	County
\$480,481	\$124,000	\$35,075

UNPS Planning Scoring By Rank For 2026

Rank	Applicant	Region	Project Name	Score	State Share Requested
1	Bristol Village	SER	Stormwater Quality Management Plan Update	113.3	\$65,000
2	Neenah City	NER	City of Neenah 2026 Stormwater Management Plan	106.7	\$75,900
3	Marshfield City	WCR	Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study and BMP Reviews	103.4	\$75,000
4	Lannon Village	SER	Stormwater Quality Management Plan Update	102.3	\$59,000
5	Kenosha City	SER	City of Kenosha MS4/TMDL WinSLAMM Modeling	101.0	\$85,000
6	Waukesha City	SER	Stormwater Quality Management Plan	100.1	\$85,000
7	De Pere City	NER	Storm Sewer System Remodel	99.0	\$31,385
8	Sturgeon Bay City	NER	City of Sturgeon Bay Stormwater Management Planning	97.0	\$79,946
9	Kenosha County	SER	Kenosha County MS4/TMDL WinSLAMM Modeling	89.3	\$35,075
10	Wisconsin Rapids City	WCR	Storm Water Quality Master Plan Updates	89.1	\$10,500
11	Hartford City	SER	City of Hartford Stormwater Quality Master Plan	78.1	\$37,750

NRCS Wisconsin

Programs Update – October 2025



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

EQIP is the primary program available to farmers for farm and woodland conservation work, offering payments for over 90 basic conservation practices. Applications are accepted on a continuous, year-round basis. Application batching dates are announced on [our website](#). All applications received by announced batching dates are being evaluated and considered for potential funding in FY26. Contact Melissa Bartz, melissa.bartz@usda.gov, for more information.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

CSP assists landowners who practice good stewardship on their land and are willing to take additional steps over the next five years to further enhance their stewardship efforts. Applications are accepted on a continuous year-round basis. Application batching dates are announced on [our website](#). All applications received by announced batching dates are being evaluated and considered for potential funding in FY26. Contact Melissa Bartz, melissa.bartz@usda.gov, for more information.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

RCPP promotes coordination between NRCS and partners to deliver conservation assistance to producers and landowners. NRCS provides assistance through producer contracts or easement agreements. Projects cover unique geographic areas and have specific practices available to meet the project's goals. Reach out to your local field office staff to find out whether your location and resource concerns are a good fit for current RCPP projects. Contact Melissa Bartz, melissa.bartz@usda.gov, for more information.

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)

ACEP focuses on restoring and protecting wetlands, conserving productive agricultural lands, and conserving grasslands. Landowners are compensated for enrolling their land in easements. Applications for the ACEP are taken on a continuous basis. In FY26, NRCS WI will only be enrolling new ACEP Agricultural Land Easements. Applications for Wetland Reserve Easements will be deferred to FY27 for funding consideration. The deadline to submit ALE applications for FY26 funding is October 31, 2025. Contact David Gundlach, david.gundlach@usda.gov, for more information.

NRCS Programs Quarterly Fiscal Update

Program Obligations		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	Financial Assistance	\$0	\$10.4M ^{ac}	\$26.2M ^{ac}	\$43.7M ^{ac}
	Contracts	0	364 ^{ac}	690 ^{ac}	960
Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	Financial Assistance	\$15.4M	\$0	\$16.1M	\$44.5M
	New Contracts	0	0 ^c	23	565
	Renewal Contracts	316	316	316	316
Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)	Financial Assistance	0	\$1.9M ^c	\$1.9M	\$2.6M
	Contracts	0	69 ^c	69	106
	Easement Parcels	0	0	0	8
	Easement Financial	0	\$0	\$0	\$1.8M
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program– Agricultural Land Easements (ACEP–ALE)	Financial Assistance	\$0	\$347,400	\$615,600	\$615,600
	Parcels	0	3	4	4
	Acres	0	193	342	342
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program– Wetland Reserve Easements (ACEP–WRE)	Financial Assistance	\$0	\$0 ^c	\$4.6M ^c	\$5.5M
	Easements	0	0 ^c	9 ^c	9
	Acres	0	0 ^c	694 ^c	881

^aIncludes initiatives and special funding.
^bInitiatives and special funding allocations have not been determined yet.
^cFunding decisions not yet complete for the fiscal year; not all apps have been fully obligated yet.



NRCS Wisconsin 2024 Conservation Highlights and Results

Last year brought many opportunities for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Wisconsin to work with farmers, private landowners, and Tribal Nations through the 2018 Farm Bill and additional funding provided by the Inflation Reduction Act. In this Annual Report, you'll learn about our fiscal year 2024 NRCS conservation program successes, along with highlights of the work we do 'Helping People Help the Land' for future generations.

[Click here to read.](#)

NRCS Wisconsin Announces FY26 Conservation Program Funding Opportunities

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Wisconsin has established the fiscal year (FY) 2026 application batching date for the first application evaluation period for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). Producers and landowners interested in receiving financial assistance need to submit applications to NRCS by Friday, October 31, 2025.

Both EQIP and RCPP are voluntary programs that offer financial and technical assistance for participants to install or manage conservation practices on eligible agricultural land.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Efforts for 2025 Conservation Effects Assessment Project Survey of Cultivated Cropland Operations Now Underway

The 2025 Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) Survey is a joint effort between USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). NASS will visit approximately 23,000 operators across the contiguous U.S. in August and September 2025 to determine survey eligibility. A more in-depth follow-up survey will be conducted starting in November 2025.

This is the second of three years of surveys conducted by NASS. Once surveying is complete, NRCS will combine the data with information from the National Resources Inventory, NRCS field staff, and multiple data sources to estimate environmental and management outcomes of conservation on cultivated cropland across U.S. farms. NRCS will publish the findings as a CEAP Cropland Assessment report. [CEAP Cropland Assessments](#) quantify the effects of voluntary conservation efforts across the nation's cropland at both regional and national scales.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

NRCS Wisconsin Newsroom

- [NRCS Wisconsin Word](#) – read our stories of conservation successes from around the state.

NRCS Wisconsin in the News

- [NACD holds Summer Conservation Forum in Wisconsin](#)
- [Pollinator Plots Benefit Farms & Cities *\(interview with Lisa Neunfeldt, Brownfield Ag News\)*](#)
- [Dane County Debuts First Edge of Field Monitoring Stations at Dane Demo Farms](#)

NRCS-WI Events

[NRCS Wisconsin Events](#) – find upcoming NRCS-WI, partner, and conservation district events.

Questions?

For all media, communications, and NRCS visual guidance and branding inquiries, **please contact Amanda Zelinski**, amanda.zelinski@usda.gov, State Public Affairs Specialist.



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CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: Sept. 22, 2025

TO: LWCB members and advisers

FROM: Jason Knutson, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

SUBJECT: DNR Update, August – September 2025, For October LWCB Meeting

Storm Water Program Update

During September, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Wisconsin Standards Oversight Council released the following draft technical standards for public comment through Oct. 6, 2025.

1. [Technical Standard 1013 Flow-Weighted Coagulant Dosing Of Storm Water Wet Detention Ponds](#) provides a means of enhancing TSS and TP reduction on an ongoing basis.
2. [Technical Standard 1014 Episodic Aluminum-Based Coagulant Dosing For Maintenance Of Storm Water Wet Detention Ponds](#) provides an approach for removing TSS and TP in the water column and reducing the potential from phosphorus export from pond sediments.

Healthy Watersheds, High-Quality Waters Program Update

The DNR is proud to share the [Wonderful Waters of Wisconsin \(WWOW\) Year 3 Progress Report](#), which documents noteworthy efforts to complete the strategies for success within the statewide [WWOW Action Plan \(2022\)](#) and profiles the excellent work of partners committed to protecting healthy watersheds and high-quality waters throughout the state.

The DNR Wonderful Waters of Wisconsin initiative seeks to strike an improved balance between water resources restoration, where funding and efforts have historically been focused, and protection. The action plan outlines steps to achieve a goal of keeping 100% of the priority healthy watersheds and the high-quality waters within them at or better than their current conditions through 2030. The success of this initiative depends on meaningful partnerships! This includes the work of County Land & Water Conservation Departments (LWCD), who are working with DNR staff to incorporate the Healthy Watersheds, High-Quality Waters assessment results into their plan revisions and implement local water resources protection projects.

Requests for further training, outreach and technical assistance on the Wonderful Waters of Wisconsin initiative can be directed to Lauren Haydon (Lauren.Haydon@wisconsin.gov or at 414.640.0161).

Water Quality Staffing Update

Helena Tiedmann recently transitioned to a new role as the DNR statewide water quality planning coordinator. Helena previously served as a water quality planning and climate

resilience specialist, where she provided technical support for ongoing internal and external water quality planning efforts, including County Land and Water Resource Management Plans. She will continue this work in her new role, in addition to leading efforts to coordinate and integrate water quality protection and restoration planning within DNR and with partners and helping implement the DNR's Areawide Water Quality Management Planning program under NR 121.

New Climate Resilience Toolkit For Conservation Planning

Staff from the DNR's Water Quality Program and Wisconsin Land+Water collaborated on a new [Climate Resilience Toolkit](#) designed to support conservation staff in integrating climate data and adaptation strategies into planning activities. With a specific focus on 10-year County Land and Water Resource Management Plans, the toolkit contains a number of valuable resource assessment tools, a climate planning framework adopted from the Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science, recommended adaptation strategies organized by focus area (i.e. forestry, agriculture, wetlands, etc.) and other useful resources. Jenny Pethan (Wisconsin Land+Water) and Helena Tiedmann (DNR) hosted a [Lunch & Learn](#) on Tuesday, Sept. 23, from noon to 1 p.m. for interested users and are scheduled to present at the Oct. 7 LWCB meeting to share more on their efforts around climate and Land and Water Resource Management Plans.

Surface Water Grant Update

Surface water grant preapplications were due on Sept. 15. Program staff are currently reviewing preapplications and providing feedback to applicants ahead of the final grant application due date of Nov. 15.

Electronic notifications were sent out to prompt and remind potential applicants to submit a preapplication by Sept. 15 to ensure they are eligible to compete for a grant in November. A GovDelivery bulletin was sent to over 6,000 subscribers along with a press release that provided additional details on eligible activities and organizations, how to apply and links to additional resources. The press release can be viewed on the [DNR website](#).

The department expects to award over \$6 million in the spring of 2026 to support projects that protect and restore waterbodies and prevent and control aquatic invasive species. Due to widespread interest, the grant program is still anticipated to be oversubscribed. More information, program guidance, application forms and the link to sign up for the GovDelivery mailing list are available on the [DNR website](#).

Runoff Grant Update (see also Final Ranked Lists and Memos in October meeting packet)

Grant Category	# Eligible Applications	Total Funding Requested \$	# Proposed Grants Funded	Proposed \$ Allocated
Small-Scale TRM TMDL	8	\$1,366,332	8	\$1,366,332
Small-Scale TRM Non-TMDL	2	\$390,121	2	\$390,121
Large-Scale TRM TMDL	6	\$2,897,957	6	\$2,897,957
Large-Scale TRM Non-TMDL	0	\$0	0	\$0
UNPS-Planning	11	\$639,556	11	\$639,556
All Grants	27	\$5,293,966	27	\$5,293,966