

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 26, 2025

TO: Certified Crop Advisers and Nutrient Management Planners

FROM: Andrea Topper, Nutrient Management Outreach Specialist

SUBJECT: Nutrient Management Plan Submission Deadline

Over the past year, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) has conducted a statewide survey of counties to better understand current practices for Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) submission deadlines. The results indicated that due dates vary widely from county to county, as shown on the map below. These varying due dates can create challenges for consistency and coordination for planners when working across county lines, and for DATCP when collecting statewide NMP data.





To address this, DATCP staff discussed the issue during area association meetings and convened a small group of county staff, agronomists, and nutrient management planners for focused input. Together, this group carefully considered the best timeline for submissions that would balance farmer workload, agronomist/planner capacity, and county needs.

Through these discussions, April 15 was unanimously selected as the annual statewide deadline for NMP submissions. Please note that DATCP cannot formally require counties to adopt a specific deadline; however, we strongly encourage all counties to utilize April 15 to promote consistency across county lines and provide clarity for planners and landowners.

We recognize that there may be circumstances that occasionally require leniency around the submission date, such as delays in receiving soil sample results or other extenuating factors. In these situations, it is important that you communicate directly with your county land conservation staff. Counties are encouraged to work with planners to make reasonable allowances for late submissions when justified.

Thank you for your efforts in supporting farmers and landowners with nutrient management planning. Your communication and partnership with counties are essential to ensuring consistency and success across Wisconsin.

If you have any questions on this or other nutrient management topics, please feel free to reach out to any member of the DATCP Nutrient Management team:

Cody Calkins
Nutrient Management Policy Specialist
Cody.Calkins@wisconsin.gov

Andrea Topper
Nutrient Management Outreach Specialist
Andrea.Topper@wisconsin.gov

Wrangler Jones
Conservation Agronomist
Wrangler.Jones@wisconsin.gov

Sincerely,

Andrea Topper

auch m L-