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#### **Contact Us**

#### **Extension Clark County**

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We are in the process of making major updates to our website.

https://clark.extension.wisc.edu/

Many items you are used to seeing will still be available but may be located in a new spot or on a new page. Some items will no longer be on our website (such as Clark County Fair information), but we will provide you with a redirect link to get you to the information's new home.

If you are having problems finding information, please contact us so we can accommodate your request for information.

THANK YOU for your patience and understanding. This is not a quick process, but great progress has been made already.

Val & Courtney

# Wisconsin Water and Soil Health CONFERENCE

## AGENDA

## December 17th

9:00am Registration

9:45am Dr. Lisa Schulte Moore (Natural Resource Professor, Iowa State

# Striving Toward a Regenerative Agriculture

11:00am Breakout Sessions (Choose 1)

University)

12:00pm Lunch

1:00pm Nick Guilette (Agronomist | Casco, Wisconsin)

 Hear from farmer, Certified Crop Advisor's Conservationist of the Year, and vision for soil health and water quality Door-Kewaunee Demonstration Farms Network's co-project manager on hi

2:30pm Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program-Farmer Panel

3:45pm Breakout Sessions (Choose 1)

6:30pm Dinner & Continued Conversation 5:00pm Roundtable Discussions & Happy Hour







valuable insights and practical knowledge to apply on your farm or the

farms you work with

NICK GUILETTE

understanding of agronomy, water quality, and soil health. Gain sessions, and insightful roundtables designed to deepen your practices. Experience engaging keynotes, interactive breakout research meets the implementation of water and soil health

Join us at the 2024 WWASH Conference, where on-farm

7:30am Breakfast

What is your "Why" for water protection? - Panel

9:00am Dr. Shalamar Armstrong (Soil Science Professor, Purdue University)

Contributions of Cover Crops to Sustainably Intensified Agricultural

Systems

OR. SHALAMAR ARMSTRONG

OR. LISA SCHULTE MOORE

11:15am Breakout Sessions (Choose 1) 1:15pm Breakout Sessions (Choose 1) 10:30am Communicating Practices to Other Farmers-DATCP Producer Led Panel

2:30pm Innovation Panel-Interaction of Conservation & Precision Ag

# Breakout Sessions Include

- Insect pests, pollinators, & predators: the multifaceted impacts of cover crops
- Edge of field practices: benefits, innovation, and practicality
- Building consistency in dairy forage programs using crop diversity
- Herbicide and weed fate in soil health systems

KALAHARI RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER WISCONSIN DELLS, WI

MBER 17-18, 2024

go.wisc.edu/WWASH

- Economic and water quality benefits of diversified cropping systems
- And more!!

DISCOVERY



General questions: Chelsea Zegler (zegler@wisc.edu) and Dan Smith (dhsmith@wisc.edu) Sponsorship opportunities are available: Josh Kamps (joshua.kamps@wisc.edu)

#### Potassium as it Relates to Dairy Cows

Matt Lippert, UW Extension Regional Diary and Livestock Educator

Successful Farming Magazine, October 2024 highlighted data from the Fertilizer Institute and found Wisconsin with 76% of submitted soil samples being below critical levels of Potassium (K), down over 10 units from 2000. Only tiny agriculture states Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Hampshire tested lower. This is likely because Wisconsin and the New England states are heavy in dairy production, and forage production, needed for dairy cows, removes a lot of potassium from the soil as compared to producing grains and oilseeds. Low soil K also effects the efficiency of nitrogen utilization.

Soil fertility recommendations are based on economic yield response, in addition perennial crops such as alfalfa persist longer and have better winter survivability if soil K is adequate. A ton of alfalfa dry matter will remove 60 pounds of K and a ton of 35% DM corn silage will remove 8.5 pounds of K, so 200-300 pounds of K are removed by forage crops, don't forget to convert K to the content of your fertilizer- for 0-0-60 this means 300 to 500 pounds of applied fertilizer to replace the crop removal of K at normal to slightly above normal yields.

Let's connect this to cows. Sometimes producing low potassium forage is discussed to protect fresh cows from having milk fever. It takes a long time to take a field with adequate to high potassium and convert it to a field that is low enough in K to produce low potassium forage. While doing this the yield on the field will also drop. As land becomes more valuable, can you afford to intentionally create poorly performing fields? Of course you could go to that effort if that was the only way to protect your cows from metabolic disease such as milk fever. There are other ways to protect against milk fever. You can balance for dietary Cation-Anion Difference (DCAD) by using anionic products in the diet. Typically these can achieve stronger DCAD effects than low K forages. Also when using DCAD products, a separate segregated inventory forage used just by the transition cows is no longer needed. There are other products as well, Zeolite A is a calcium binder that has been shown to be effective in preventing milk fever. These products do make for more expensive rations, but they are fed for only a few weeks in the cow's cycle, and are not expensive if you account for more effective control of transition time metabolic disorders and higher total lactation production they will make you money. Now add the higher yield from a field adequate in potassium and ease of managing fields by not producing low potassium forages.

In Wisconsin the evidence shows that too many fields are low in potassium, so if that is already the case maybe you can produce low potassium forages. In any of these programs, test feeds frequently to accurately know your DCAD balance. In



many cases you will still need a feed additive to get the diet on target.

Lactating cows generally benefit from higher levels of potassium in the ration, this is your main herd you are feeding, yet another reason that maybe we should focus on getting the potassium soil test at least to optimum.

\*Based on *Successful Farming* October 2024 article "DIAL IN P AND K Managing phosphorus and potassium is key to maximizing yield potential" page 36

In-Person Student Virtual (after Nov. 1)

In-Person (after Nov. 1) In-Person Early Bird (by Nov. 1)

Virtual Early Bird (by Nov. 1)

**EAU CLAIRE** December 3

**ARLINGTON** December 4

**APPLETON** December 5

**VIRTUAL** December 6

Early bird registration open until October 14. Registration, student pricing, agenda, and more information available online.

**Badger Crops and Soils** 

**Update Meetings** 

Access the latest agronomic, pest, and nutrient management research from the University of Wisconsin and learn how it can be applied to Wisconsin's farmland.

go.wisc.edu/BadgerCropUpdate



**Register Today!** 



Agenda

Time	Торіс	Speaker	
9:00 - 10:00	Soil & Water Talks	Steven Hall, Mallika Nocco	
10:00 - 10:30	Soil & Water Q&A	Steven Hall, Mallika Nocco, Chris Bandura, Francisco Arriaga	
10:30 - 10:45	Morning Break		
10:45 - 11:45	Forage & Grain Talks	Marta Kohmann, Scott Newell, Harkirat Kaur	(
11:45 – 12:15	Forage & Grain Q&A	Marta Kohmann, Scott Newell, Harkirat Kaur	
12:15 – 1:00	Lunch & Regional Educator Updates	UW-Madison Extension Regional Crops Educators	
1:00 - 1:30	Economic Update	Jeff Hadachek, Paul Mitchell	
1:30 - 2:30	Pest Management Talks	Emily Bick, Rodrigo Werle, Damon Smith	
2:30 - 3:00	Pest Management Q&A	Emily Bick, Rodrigo Werle, Damon Smith	

The in-person registration fee includes lunch. Register by November 1, 2024 for

> \$100 \$80

#### CCA Credits

Six continuing education credits for Certified Crop Advisors will be offered at all Meetings. 2.5 crop management, 1.0 nutrient management, 1.0 pest management, and 1.5 soil and water credits are available.

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Registration Cost



### PAT

#### PRIVATE APPLICATOR TRAINING

MUST pre-register and pre-order manual at: https://patstore.wisc.edu/secure/home

Training and testing sites: 9am - 3pm

Clark County:

Friday, February 21th Abbotsford City Hall

> Wednesday, March 19th Thorp Fire Hall

Friday, April 11th Clark County Courthouse, Neillsville

Marathon County:

Wednesday, January 22nd or Tuesday, February 25th UW Extension Marathon Cty 212 River Dr., Wausau

More Info

+715-743-5122

Mail in order form available by calling Clark County Extension



**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS** 

What is PAT?

PAT stands for Pesticide Applicator Training. There are 2 types (Private and Commercial). . Private training is for landowners to spray their own crops and a low number of hired acres. They are zoom based trainings facilitated by Extension Educators around the state.

When are the trainings?

The local training dates and locations are listed above. Other dates that are being offered are listed at: https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/pat/private-training-sessions/ (or will be listed soon)

What if I cannot attend a training day?

If you cannot attend one of the scheduled training dates and locations, you can opt to self-study and schedule an exam at your local Extension Office that offers this option. Clark County does offer this option.

If you do not know if you are due for renewal and would like help to figure that out, or you need to schedule a self-study, or need a paper enrollment and book order form... call Clark County Extension at 715-743-5122.



#### **Fall Fertilizer Applications**

Melissa Ohlrich, UW Extension Regional Crops Educator Clark & Marathon

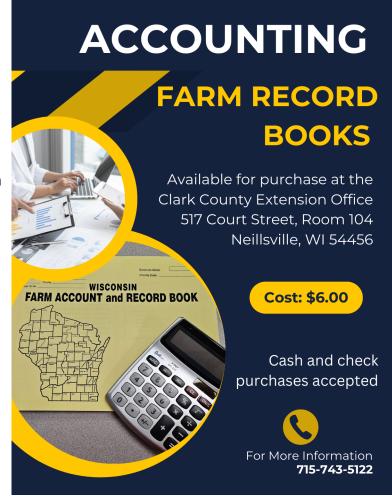
Although the general rule of thumb is to apply fertilizer as close as possible to when the plant will need it, there are times when farmers might prefer to apply fertilizer in the fall. When best practices are applied, fall fertilizer applications are still 10-15% less effective compared to spring applications. However, if it is worth it to the farmer to apply fertilizer in the fall for various reasons such as time, cost, storage, compaction issues, etc., then here are some practices to keep in mind to make fall applications as effective as possible and lessen the potential for runoff and leaching. It should be noted that the following recommendations are specifically focused on applications involving nitrogen due to the high mobility of nitrate in soil.

For starters, fall fertilizer application is not recommended on sandy and loamy sand soil types. Applications work best on well-drained medium -and fine-textured soils. Another important component is timing. Fertilizer applications should be made once the temperature of the soil is remaining below 50 degrees F. Applying fertilizer when the soil is too warm will increase the rate of nitrification which means less fertilizer will be available to the crop in the spring. The same rule about applying to soils cooler than 50 degrees holds true for manure applications as well.

It is also generally recommended that fall fertilizer applications be made in the form of anhydrous ammonia with the addition of nitrification inhibitors. However, it is very important to practice proper PPE when handling anhydrous ammonia, as it is a hazardous substance.

I hope harvest season has been going well for everyone! Please feel free to call or email me if you ever have any questions. (715)-743-5124 or melissa.ohlrich@wisc.edu

\*This information is sourced from A2809 Nutrient application guidelines for field, vegetable, and fruit crops in Wisconsin.



#### We want to hear from you about Precision Dairy Technologies

We are looking for people involved in farm decision-making (owners, partowners, managers, or consultants) to participate in a short survey about precision dairy technologies.

Participants who complete the survey will be entered to win one of twenty \$50.00 Visa gift cards.

Access the survey using the QR code or the link below!



go.wisc.edu/5k7515



#### 2025 VIRTUAL NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR FARMERS

Learn how to write your own nutrient management plan!

Jan. 10 or March 14 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Live via Zoom Free The Nutrient and Pest Management Program within the University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) are offering a virtual training for farmers interested in writing their own nutrient management plans.

This training provides both the basics of nutrient management and an introduction to SnapPlus. The same training will be offered on two dates, January 10 and March 14, 2025, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. online via Zoom.









Scan QR code or visit go.wisc.edu/OnlineNMTraining to register.

Questions? Contact Dan Smith: dhsmith@wisc.edu or (608) 219-5170



6	10:00 - 10:15	Why Nutrient Management?
S	10:15 - 10:30	Soil Sampling
C	10:30 - 10:45	Soil Test Interpretation
	10:45 - 11:00	Soil pH and Liming
н	11:00 - 11:15	Break
	11:15 - 11:35	Manure and Legume Crediting
Ε	11:35 - 12:05	Nitrogen Management
_	12:05 - 12:40	Lunch Break
D	12:40 - 1:10	Phosphorus Management
	1:10 - 1:25	Soil Test P and Water Quality Implications
U	1:25 - 1:40	Potassium Management
	1:40 - 2:00	Manure Application Precautions
L	2:00 - 2:10	Break
E	2:10 - 2:25	Soil Conservation
	2:25 - 3:00	SnapPlus Introduction

An EEQ/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal apportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act regularements. Please make requests for reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to educational programs as early as possible preceding the scheduled program, service, or activity. For communicative accommodations in languages other than English, please contact oxio@extension.wisc.edu. For communicative accommodations based on a disability, please contact Heather Lipinski Stelljes at: heather.stelljes@wisc.edu for the public.

#### **NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT** PLANNING



This course is designed to develop a nutrient management plan that will meet the NRCS 590 Standard requirements. Participants will enter soil test information into the software program, SNAP-Plus, and will develop a plan using the data. Subjects include conservation plans, field mapping, soil test analysis, manure management and crop selection and requirements.

SOIL TESTING PAYMENTS Participants will receive reimbursement for up to \$750 of eligible soil testing costs. (Please contact your County's Conservation Department with any questions regarding this reimbursement.)

#### COURSE ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Please register for the Full Course if you are new to Nutrient Management Planning. If you have already taken the Full Course in the past, please register for the Refresher Course.

Additional family members and/or farm employees may attend with a registered attendee at no additional charge.



These courses are in partnership with the county conservation departments from Marathon, Clark, Lincoln, Taylor and Wood counties.

#### 3 WAYS TO REGISTER:

- 1. Complete form found on reverse side and follow mailing instructions
- Visit one of the websites below and search by class # found next to each class.

NTC Classes www.ntc.edu/academics-training/courses/search

Mid-State Classes https://courses.mstc.edu/

Call us at 715.803.1965

\*Participants will receive up to a \$260 reimbursement upon completion of a nutrient management plan. Reimbursements are provided by a DATCP Nutrient Management Farmer Education Grant and administered by the county conservation departments.



WORKFORCE TRAINING + PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### FULL COURSE - 12 HOURS TOTAL REFRESHER COURSE - 8 HOURS TOTAL

Each class consists of three 4-hour classes. Full course registrations are for all three classes Refresher course attendees only need to attend the first 2 classes.

Fridays - **January 10, 17, 24,** 2025 Time: 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

NTC Medford Campus

Wednesdays - January 15, 22, 29, 2025

Time: 10am - 3pm NTC Medford Campus

Thursdays - **January 16, 23, 30,** 2025

Time: 10am - 3pm

NTC Spencer Campus (session 1)

Thursdays, February 13, 20, 27, 2025

Time: 10am-3pm NTC Spencer Campus



WORKFORCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FULL COURSE - 12 HOURS TOTAL REFRESHER COURSE - 8 HOURS TOTAL

Each class consists of three 4-hour classes. Full course registrations are for all three classes Refresher course attendees only need to attend the first 2 classes.

Tuesdays - March 11, 18, 25, 2025 Time: 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM Mid-State Tech - Wisconsin Rapids River Block Building

Thursdays - March 13, 20, 27, 2025

Time: 10am – 3pm Mid-State Tech - Stevens Point Campus





Nutrient Management Farmer Education

## NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING "ON THE ROAD SHOW"

Thursday, February 27, 2025 - Hixon Town Hall Tuesday, March 4, 2025 - Green Grove Town Hall 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM each day

Refresher course is required every 4 years to submit your own plan.

- This training will be hand written, but you can attend to become requalified for SNAP program.
- Bring your soil samples and current plan (if you have one, either written or e-version).
- Please bring your own lunch and drinks—generally do a working lunch for time efficiency.

#### SIGN UP TO ATTEND





Extension Office

+715-7436-5122



Land Conservation Office +715-7436-5102



There is also a self-paced online option for learning. It will require internet good enough to watch videos and a printer.

Before doing this option, TALK TO YOUR LOCAL LAND CONSERVATION OFFICE to ensure they will accept this option as a sufficient training method. UW Extension offers the trainings, but Land Conservation is the authority when it deals with rules and compliance.

The self paced option can be found at: https://uwnmfe.tiiny.site/0001.html



#### CONSERVATION CORNER

Fred Subke, CCA—Conservationist & Agronomist

Hunter Lemler—Engineering Technician

Tiffanee Tesmer - Program Assistant



It's that time of year again where it's harvest, manure spreading, and soil sampling.

Manure spreading, be mindful of sensitive areas, and just because you can operate across them now (due to the dry conditions) think about what these areas are like under normal conditions. Also, accidents happen, and if a spill occurs, DON'T PANIC! Have a plan to act remember the 3 C's: Control, Contain, Clean up, and report the spill. We all want the same outcome, and the departments are willing to work with you if such an issue arises, accidents happen, but trying to hide it could come with consequences after the fact.

Soil sampling, with these extremely dry conditions, it might be best to wait until we get some moisture back into the ground. Nitrogen, which is not tested in soil samples can be tied up unavailable in the soils, so if the winter stays dry with little to no moisture, I would recommend next spring doing some Nitrate tests also. Back to soil sampling, the recommended practice is 1 sample per every 5 acres as a general rule. Take 10 samples cores within the 5 acres, mix them up in a bucket to create 1 composite sample. Label the fields EXACTLY the same name as in your Nutrient Management Plan! Number the samples concurrent Ex: Field name North1, samples 1-7, Field name North2 samples 8-13. This way if a field name is not exact you can still figure out by the sample number which field it came from.

It is also time to not only be thinking about next year's rotation, but possible projects such as grass water ways, buffer areas, cowyards, etc. that you would like to see completed. With the way the spring and first part of summer started out very wet leading into extremely dry, now is a good time while looking at harvest data to possibly think about areas that consistently have low yields to give them an opportunity for the farm to make some money rather than lose money by taking these areas out of production and put them into a program like CREP, Pollinators, or even grazing/forage only. You can contact us or the NRCS office more details about such programs.

Clark County Land Conservation Dept. has some general funds yet available for 2024 to be utilized, and we already building a list of projects with landowners for 2025 to be cost shared, so give our office a call about these opportunities at 715-743-5101.

Fred Subke Clark County Land Conservationist Fred.subke@co.clark.wi.us 715-743-5104



#### CLIMATE-SMART COMMODITIES PARTNERSHIP

The Farmers for Soil Health program provides technical and financial assistance to farmers planting cover crops in select states. It is a farmer-led cover crop program that advances the use of soil health practices, meets sustainability goals and can improve farmer profitability.

We aim to improve soil health by encouraging farmers to expand their adoption of cover crops, to reach 30 million U.S. acres by 2030.

#### PROGRAM DETAILS

- Enrollment is open now.
- The program is a three-year commitment.
- Crop fields in a corn and/or soybean rotation will be eligible for transition incentives totaling \$50 per new acre of cover crops across three years.
- Signing incentives of \$2 per acre are available for existing cover crops on corn and soybean fields.
- The program requires participation in measurement, reporting and verification to demonstrate progress toward the program's goal.

#### ENROLLMENT CONTACT

Teagan Duffy
WI Soil Health Specialist
Conservation Technology Information Center
262-325-6637
duffy@ctic.org





Conservation Technology Information Center

Farmers for Soil Health is lead by the Soy Checkoff, Pork Checkoff, and National Corn Growers Association with special support from the American Soybean Association, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, The Sustainability Consortium, National Association of Conservation Districts, University of Missouri's Center for Regenerative Agriculture, National Center for Appropriate Technology's Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural America (NCAT-ATTRA), Walton Family Foundation, DTN, Soil Health Institute and USDA-NRCS.

Visit us online at FarmersForSoilHealth.com.

#### **Upcoming Meetings/Events**

#### Make sure to listen to WCCN and WAXX for any cancellations

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
Dec 3-6, 2024	Badger Crops and Soils Update Meetings	Eau Claire (3rd), Arlington (4th) Appleton (5th) & Virtual (6th)	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Each day
Dec 17-18, 2024	WWASH—WI Water and Soil Health Conference	Kalahari Resort Wisconsin Dells	Starts 12/17 at 9:00 AM 2 day event
January 22, 2025 February 25, 2025	Marathon County PAT training & testing	UW Extension Marathon County 212 River Dr., Wausau	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
February 21, 2025 March 19, 2025 April 11, 2025	Clark County PAT training & test	Abbotsford City Hall (2/21) Thorp Fire Hall (3/19) Clark County Courthouse, Neillsville (4/11)	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
January 10, 2025 March 14, 2025	Virtual NMP Training for Farmers	Online	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
February 27, 2025 March 4, 2025	NMP "On the Road Show"	Hixon Town Hall (2/27) Green Grove Town Hall (3/4)	9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Upcoming events will be posted on our website

https://Clark.extension.wisc.edu/ and Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/ ExtensionClarkCounty

Watch for news releases in local papers and on the radio promoting events

Did your address change? No longer wish to receive your copy of Extension Views? Want to view the newsletter online instead or have it sent to your email?

Please contact the Extension office at 715-743-5122 or email valerie.wood@co.clark.wi.us to update your preference.

Thank you!



Phone: 715-743-5121 Fax: 715-743-5129

https://clark.extension.wisc.edu/

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