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**Clearinghouse Rule 13-016**

DATCP Docket No. 11-R-01  
Clearinghouse Rule No. \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Hearing Draft  
January 25, 2013

**PROPOSED ORDER  
OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION  
ADOPTING RULES**

2 The Wisconsin department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection proposes the following  
3 permanent rule **to repeal** ATCP 50.01 (11) and (18) (a) (Note), 50.28 (5) (b) 1. (Note), 50.32 (8)  
4 (c) 3., 50.40 (9) (c) 1. to 3., (L) 1. to 3., (14) (a), (b) and (c), 50.52 (2) (e), 50.62 (5) (e) 6. (Note),  
5 50.63 (5) (Note), 50.67 (3) (c) (Note), 50.68 (4) (a) (Note), 50.69 (4) (a) 7. (Note), 50.70 (4) (b)  
6 9. (Note), 50.71 (3) (b) 3. (Note), 50. 72 (3) (a) 7. (Note), 50.73 (3) (d) (Note), 50.74, 50.75 (4)  
7 (a) 2. (Note), 50.76 (5) (a) 5. (Note), 50.77 (4 ) (a) 5. (Note), 50.80 (3) (a) 9. (Note), 50.82 (4) (c)  
8 3. (Note), 50.83 (3) (a) 9. (Note), 50.84 (5) (a) (Note), 50.85 (4) (a) 2. (Note), 50.86 (4) (b) 8.  
9 (second Note), 50.87 (4) (a) 3. (Note), 50.88 (2) (a), 50.88 (2) (d) and (f) and (3) (a) 5. (Note),  
10 50.89 (3) (b) 3. and 4. and (Note), 50.90 (3) (b) 2., 50.91 (3) (b) 8. (Note), 50.92 (3) (b) 2.  
11 (Note), 50.93 (4) (a) 2. (Note), 50.94 (3) (a) 5. (Note), 50.95 (3) (a) 4. (Note), 50.96 (3) (b) 7.  
12 (Note), 50.97 (3) (b) (Note), 50.98 (3) (a) (Note), Appendices A to G; **to renumber** ATCP 50.28  
13 (5) (a) 1., 50.30 (3) (o), 50.32 (5) (B) (Note), 50.62 (5) (e) 6., 50.88 (2) (c) and (e); **to renumber**  
14 **and amend** ATCP 50.28 (5) (a) 1. (Note), 50.40 (14) (intro.), 50.46 (3) (intro.) and (11), 50.66  
15 (3) (a) 3. (Note), 50.88 (2) (b); **to amend** ATCP 50.01(17), (18) (a), (b) and (c), (20), (27) (Note),  
16 (31) (a) and (b) and (33), 50.04(1), 50.04 (2) and (Note), (3) (a), (b), (dm) 1. (Note), (e) (Note),  
17 (f) (intro.), (f) 4. (Note) and (h) (intro.), 50.08 (1) (intro.), (a) (Note) and (2) (Note), 50.10 (1) (b)  
18 and (Note), 50.12 (2) (j), 50.16 (6) (a) 1. and 2., (b)1., (c) (intro.) and 2., and (d), 50.18 (1) (b),  
19 50.26 (2) (a), 50.28 (5) (a) 2. and 3. and (b), 50.30 (1), (2) (intro.), (b), (c), (d), and (3) (b), (g),

1 (h), (m),(o) and (p), 50.32 (3) (a) (Note), (3) (b), (5) (a) (Note), (7) (b), (8) (b) and (c) 2., and (c)  
2 4., 50.34 (1) (b), (3) (a) and (Note), (6) (a) 3. and (6) (b), 50.40 (3) (a) (Note), (4), (7) (b), (9) (c)  
3 (intro.), (d) and (j) (Note), (L) (intro.) and (n), (10) (b), (11) (b) (intro.), 2. and 3. and (17), 50.42  
4 (4) (intro.), 50.46 (title), (3) (title), (4) (a), (5) (a) (intro.), (a) 1. and 2. (Note), (6) (b), (7) (a), (9)  
5 (c) 2., (10) and (12), 50.50 (2) (intro.) and (g) (Note), (4) (intro.) and (c) (Note), and (8) (b)  
6 (Note) and (c) (Note), 50.52 (1) (g) and (Note) and (2) (d), 50.54 (1) (Note) and (2) (b), 50.56 (2)  
7 (e) and (f), (4) (intro.), (a), (b), (c) and (Note) and (6), 50.60 (1) (a) (Note), 50.61 (title) and (1),  
8 50.62 (1) (e) 1. and 3., (3) (d) (Note) and (5) (e) 1. to 5., (f), 50.64 (1) (a), (b) and (e) and (5) (a)  
9 and (b), 50.65 (title), (1), (2), (3) (intro.), (a) and (Note) and (b), 50.66 (title), (1), (2) (3) (intro.),  
10 (a) and (b), 50.67 (3) (a), (b) and (c), 50.68 (4) (a), 50.69 (1), (4) (a) 1. to 7., and (b), 50.70 (4)  
11 (b) 1. to 4. and 6. to 9., 50.71 (1) and (3) (b) 1. to 3., 50.72 (3) (a) 1. to 3. and 5. to 7., 50.73 (3)  
12 (d) 1. to 7. and 9. to 12., 50.75 (4) (a) 1. and 2., 50.76 (5) (a) 2. to 4., 50.77 (4) (a) 1. and (Note)  
13 and 2. to 4., 50.78 (3) (a) (Note), 50.79 (2) (intro.), (3) (a) 1. and (b), 50.80 (3) (a) 1. to 6., 7.  
14 (Note) and 8., 50.80 (4) (c) 1. to 3., 50.83 (3) (a) 1. to 3., 5. to 7., and 9., 50.84 (5) (a), 50.85 (4)  
15 (a) 1. and 2., 50.86 (4) (b) 1. to 8. and (Notes), 50.87 (4) (a) 1. to 3., 50.88 (title), (1), (2) (intro.)  
16 and (3) (a) 1. to 5. and (c), 50.89 (3) (b) 1. and 2, 50.90 (3) (b)1. and 2., 50.91 (3) (b) 1., 2. and 4.  
17 to 8., 50.92 (3) (b) 1. and 2., 50.93 (4) (a) 1. and 2., 50.94 (3) (a) 1. to 5., 50.95 (3) (a) 1. to 4.,  
18 50.96 (3) (b) 1. to 7., 50.97 (3) (a); **to repeal and recreate** ATCP 50.16 (title), (1), (2), (3), (4)  
19 and (5), 50.26 (2) (a) (Note), 50.32 (5) (b) and (7) (c) 4. and (Note), 50.34 (1 ) (b) (Note), 50.40  
20 (10 ) (b) (Note), 50.46 (1), (2), (2m), (11) (b), 50.56 (3), 50.88 (3) (b); and **to create** ATCP  
21 50.01(2m), (15m) and (29m), 50.04 (1) (Note), (3) (gm), (3) (hm) and (4), 50.12 (2) (jm), 50.16  
22 (6) (a) 5. and (Note), (b) 3. (Note) and (6) (d) (Note), 50.28 (5) (a) 1. b. and 5. and (c), 50.30 (1)  
23 (Note), (2) (e) and (f), 50.32 (3m) and (7) (a) (Note), 50.34 (1) (d), (5m) and (Note) and (6) (a) 3.

1 (Note), 50.35, 50.40 (3) (b) 12. to 14., 50.40 (2) (d) and (Note), (14) (b), (c), (d) and (Note),  
2 50.42 (1) (a) (Note), (bm) and (dm), 50.46 (3) (b) and (Note), (c) and (d), 50.48 (2) (a) 4. (Note),  
3 50.50 (2) (d) 5. (Note) and (g) (second Note), 50.54 (2) (b) 1. and 2., 50.56 (4) (a) (Note), subch.  
4 VIII (Note), 50.61 (3) and (4) and (Note), 50.62 (1) (b) 6. and (e) 5., (5) (e) 6. to 8., (em) and (f)  
5 (Note), 50.64 (1) (v) (Note) and (5) (c) and (second Note), 50.65 (2) (Note) and (2m), 50.66 (3)  
6 (a) 4., 50.705, 50.71 (3) (b) 4., 50.76 (5) (a) 6. and 7., 50.77 (4) (a) 6. and 7., 50.82 (4) (c) 4.,  
7 50.88 (1) (a) to (h), (2) (c) (Note) and (2m), 50.885, 50.96 (3) (b) 8.; *relating to* soil and water  
8 resource management and affecting small business.

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**Analysis Prepared by the Department of  
Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection**

This rule modifies ch. ATCP 50, Wis. Admin. Code, related to Wisconsin’s soil and water resource management (SWRM) program. The department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection (“DATCP” or “department”) administers the SWRM program under ch. 92, Stats. The SWRM program is designed to conserve the state’s soil and water resources, reduce soil erosion, prevent pollution runoff and enhance water quality.

***Statutes Interpreted***

Statutes interpreted: ss. 71.57 to 71.61, 71.613 (3), 91.80 and 91.82, ch. 92, and s. 281.16, Stats.

***Statutory Authority***

Statutory authority: ss. 91.82(3), 92.05 (3) (c) and (k), 92.14 (8), 92.15 (3) (b), 92.16, 92.18 (1), 93.07 (1), and 281.16 (3) (b) and (c).

***Explanation of Agency Authority***

DATCP has responsibilities imposed by statute for implementing the state’s nonpoint source pollution control program. Sec. 281.16, Stats., requires that DATCP develop rules to implement department of natural resources (DNR) farm runoff standards, also known as the agricultural performance standards adopted in ch. NR 151, Wis. Adm. Code (NR 151). Chapter 92, Stats., establishes the framework for DATCP to operate a statewide program that includes

implementation of farm conservation practices, approval of county land and water resource management plans, administration of soil and water resource management grants, oversight of manure storage and other local regulations covering livestock operations, provision of training and engineering practitioner certification, and standards for cost-sharing practices. Through ch. ATCP 50, Wis. Adm. Code (ATCP 50), DATCP carries out these responsibilities. Among other things, ATCP 50 ensures that implementation of the farm runoff standards is contingent on cost-share requirements (see s. ATCP 50.08).

### ***Related Statutes and Rules***

As explained above, this rule is related to s. 281.16, Stats., and NR 151. Chapter 92, Stats., establishes the framework for DATCP to operate a statewide soil and water resource management program. This rule also implements the soil and water conservation requirements in subch. V of ch. 91, Stats.

### ***Plain Language Analysis***

#### **Background**

ATCP 50 is being revised primarily to implement the new and modified farm runoff control standards adopted by the DNR in 2011. These new and modified DNR standards (referred to as “2011 DNR standards”) require farmers to improve pasture management, maintain a tillage setback, control discharges of process wastewater, meet Phosphorus Index targets for nutrient management, and meet targeted performance standards for Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). Under state law, DATCP is responsible for developing conservation practices and other components to implement performance standards for farms. In most cases, farmers cannot be required to implement new and modified performance standards unless they receive an offer of 70 percent cost-sharing.

Other changes in the rule are designed to improve administration of the SWRM program, including grants management, cost-sharing and establishing qualifications of engineering practitioners certified under the program.

#### **Rule Content**

Among other things, this rule will:

- Update the farm conservation standards in subch. II of ch. ATCP 50, and related definitions, including updates to the RUSLE 2 definition.
- Define a method for determining the distance between 5 and 20 feet for a tillage setback.
- Revise the soil erosion control standard to include pastures.
- Modify nutrient management planning requirements for pastures, including a phase-in process to address high risk areas.

- Clarify the conservation compliance requirements for the farmland preservation program, including a phase-in of the farm runoff standards updated in NR 151.
- Simplify the manner by which engineering practitioners are certified.
- Update the technical and other standards for practices cost-shared with state funds.
- Better support implementation of performance standards on farms.

The following provides more detailed analysis by subchapter.

## **Soil and Water Conservation on Farms**

### **Farm Conservation Practices**

To implement the 2011 DNR standards, this rule modifies the farm conservation practices as follows:

- *Soil Erosion Control.* This rule requires farmers to manage pastures as well as cropland so that soil erosion rates do not exceed a tolerable rate (“T”). For most soils, the tolerable rate (“T”) is equivalent to 2 to 5 tons of soil loss per acre per year. The rule also clarifies how soil erosion is calculated in the case of wind erosion. The RUSLE 2 equation, as defined in the rule, must be used to measure sheet and rill erosion and NRCS Wind Erosion Prediction System (WEPS) model to measure wind erosion.
- *Nutrient Management and Phosphorus Index.* This rule clarifies the process for annual review of all nutrient management plans to ensure that updates are prepared when needed. It also defines how nutrient management planning will be implemented for pastures by expanding the nutrient management standard to include pastures, and establishes a phase-in period for implementation. Within three years of the effective date of the rule revision, nutrient management plans are required in high risks areas. By 2020, all pastures must have nutrient management plans subject to cost-share requirements. To facilitate implementation of the Phosphorus Index, this rule references the most current tool for calculating soil loss, RULSE 2.
- *Tillage Setback.* This rule defines the method for calculating a setback over 5 feet but less than or equal to 20 feet.
- *Process Wastewater.* This rule implements this new performance standard by adding a standard for cost-sharing in subch. VIII.

Subject to the cost-share requirements in this rule, which remain unchanged, landowners must implement these new farm conservation practices to achieve compliance with the 2011 DNR standards. As part of this rule revision, however, DATCP plans to phase-in compliance with the 2011 DNR standards for landowners who claim Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) tax credits. This phase-in will enable farmers to plan in advance for necessary changes in conservation practices on their farms, and allow an orderly transition for counties from a system focused on implementation of the original performance standards (adopted by DNR in 2002) to the new standards (adopted by DNR in 2011).

This rule continues to allow farmers to choose the best way to comply with this rule. A farmer may choose between conservation practices that are appropriate for his or her farm, as long as those practices achieve compliance. In creating a cost-share standard for feed storage runoff control systems, this rule includes a note that explains the options to address a feed storage discharge, pointing out that farmers' choices may be affected by whether they receive state and other cost-sharing funds intended to achieve long-term prevention and other conservation objectives. Farmers continue to have access to a range of resources such as DATCP, UW-Extension, NRCS and the county land and water conservation departments to secure technical assistance.

### **Cost-Sharing Required**

DATCP has not changed the requirement for cost-sharing availability when a landowner is required to install conservation practices that change "existing" agricultural facilities or practices. However, the DNR rule revision in 2011 changed the definition of "existing" and "new" agricultural facilities and practices for cost-share purposes. DNR's rule did make changes in cost-sharing requirements in certain cases where landowners must close unused manure storage structures. This rule changes the cost-sharing provisions for landowners installing conservation practices in non-farm settings.

### **County Soil and Water Conservation Programs**

#### **Farmland Preservation; Conservation Standards**

In addition to addressing 2011 DNR standards, this rule incorporates the changes to the conservation compliance requirements for FPP to reflect the passage of the Working Lands Initiative in 2009 Act 28, the state's 2009-2011 biennial budget (codified primarily in ch. 91, Stats.). The key changes are as follows:

- This rule ensures that a farmer's eligibility is based on meeting state conservation standards that mirror DNR performance standards and prohibitions, except that this rule phases in implementation of the 2011 DNR standards for FPP participants, making them effective as of 2016.
- Landowners with pre-2009 agreements are only required to meet the conservation requirements specified in their agreements, as under prior laws.
- The concept of compliance is defined. Landowners must comply with state standards on the farm, as defined in this rule, not just the land for which they are claiming a tax credit. However, landowners can remain in compliance with the nutrient management standard when they add or convert land as long they update their plans in a timely manner. A livestock or cropping activity may be treated as part of one farm operation if certain conditions exist. For example, if a farmer conducts activities on the same tax parcel or adjacent tax parcels of land, a county may evaluate all relevant parcels to determine compliance on a farming operation. To streamline county recordkeeping for DATCP monitoring purposes, the rule establishes minimum requirements for documenting county compliance determinations.

- Landowners may continue to claim tax credits if they enter into performance schedules (previously “compliance schedules”) with the county and make reasonable progress in implementing farm conservation practices identified in the schedule. Schedules may provide landowners with as many as five years to achieve compliance.
- Counties have expanded responsibilities related to compliance monitoring, including more detailed standards for entering into performance schedules with farmers. County authority is clarified to include farm inspections. Counties must review a farmer’s compliance at least once every 4 years, not 6 years as previously required.
- Counties must issue certificates of compliance to enable farmers to fulfill the documentation requirements in the tax law, and may issue certificates to create a record of compliance.
- As in the past, a county may issue a notice of noncompliance if it finds that a program participant is not complying. Now counties have the option to issue a notice if the landowner wishes to “refrain from collecting a tax credit,” in addition to notices issued based on a failure to meet program requirements. This rule explains the need for counties to exercise sound judgment in handling of critical aspects related to monitoring conservation compliance on farms, including treatment of non-compliance and the issuance of notices of non-compliance.

### **Grants to Counties**

Currently, DATCP must follow an annual allocation process to award grants to counties, including extensive procedures for revising the allocation plan. Allocation decisions are made according to priorities and other criteria, which are slightly changed by this rule to place greater emphasis on statewide priorities. This rule also simplifies the process for revising the allocation plan related to transfers and reallocations as noted below.

### **Annual Staffing Grants to Counties**

This rule codifies a past decision by DATCP to waive the minimum staffing grant of \$85,000 per county, ensuring that DATCP funding is used to support the county’s actual costs for staff. To ensure that counties spend most of their allocation on staffing costs, this rule caps reimbursements for support costs. This rule also modifies the criteria DATCP uses to set priorities for making grant awards. Reflecting the end of the priority watershed program, obsolete procedures and references to that program have been removed.

### **Grants for Conservation Practices**

This rule codifies a past decision by DATCP (through a rule waiver) to reinstate cost-sharing to resolve notices of discharge and notices of intent issued by DNR for discharges from livestock operations. It also formalizes procedures for the voluntary transfer of cost-share funds between two counties, or the award of grants from a reserve established in the original allocation plan. In regard to requests for extensions of projects, this rule simplifies the process for making requests and allows DATCP to accept requests for extensions received before February 15<sup>th</sup> of the subsequent grant year if good cause is demonstrated. Consistent with waivers issued by DATCP, this rule allows extended cost-share funds to be pooled and used for any extended

project in the county, and also allows non-county project cooperators to request a one year extension to spend their grant funds.

### **Cost-Share Grants to Landowners**

This rule makes changes to support improved compliance with farm conservation practices by focusing the use of cost-share funds. Specifically, it excludes use of cost-sharing on land owned by state and local governments, and limits cost-sharing for certain practices that are not required to implement performance standards and prohibitions on farms, and clarifies that economic hardship is not available to non-farm landowners.

It also adds details to the procedures for recording cost-share contracts, including the timing for recording, the use of department grant funds to cover recording costs, and elimination of the requirement to record contracts involving nutrient management and other soft practices.

### **Soil and Water Professionals**

#### **Conservation Engineering Practitioners**

Under s. 92.18, Stats., the department is directed to establish, to the extent possible, requirements for certification in conformance with the federal engineering approval system. This rule creates a more flexible and responsive framework for certifying engineering practitioners that better matches the federal system, and ultimately ensures maximum capacity for design and installation of farm and other conservation practices. In place of a list of practices prescribed by rule, this rule allows DATCP to grant certification for any practice authorized by NRCS and DNR as long as DATCP follows a public process specified in the rule to modify the list of practices for which certification may be provided. Less complicated than a rule revision, this new process allows for public review and comment before DATCP changes the certification standards and the related form.

To improve coordination of the evaluation and rating of applicants, this rule allows DATCP to designate a state conservation engineer, to function similarly to the NRCS state engineer. Under this revamped framework, certification will likely include non-agricultural practices, and accordingly the certification designation has been changed from “agricultural” to “conservation” engineering practitioner.

This rule also imposes restrictions on the use of this certification authority to sign engineering documents, thus preventing one person from certifying all facets of a project including design, review and approval.

#### **Nutrient Management Planners**

This rule recognizes that DATCP may develop minimum standards for department-approved training courses for farmers who develop their own nutrient management plans.

### **County and Local Ordinances**



This rule adds provisions to ensure compliance with the requirements of the livestock facility siting law (siting law). See s. 93.90, Stats., and ch. ATCP 51, Wis. Admin. Code. It makes clear that counties can enforce water quality standards in a siting permit even if cost-sharing is not provided. Consistent with the siting law, a county cannot require a permit under its manure storage ordinance if it also requires a facility to obtain a permit under a siting ordinance.

The standards for manure storage ordinances have been updated to reflect changes in the management of manure, including the use of storage for non-manure wastes such as feed leachate and milking center waste, and revisions of applicable technical standards to reflect those changes.

Regarding more stringent local regulation, this rule describes requirements imposed under the siting law to implement local ordinances with these additional provisions.

### **Standards for Cost-Shared Practices**

This rule adds these general provisions that apply to all cost-shared practices:

- Expansion of the concept of voluntary use of updated technical standards, an option first adopted in ATCP 50 in 2007 in connection with the nutrient management performance standard. Under this procedure, a landowner or grant recipient may agree to use updated NRCS or DNR standards as a part of cost-shared project if certain conditions are satisfied (e.g. the newer standard is at least as protective of the environment as the referenced standard).
- A process that allows DATCP to require advance approval of a practice design in special cases before any county can receive a cost-share reimbursement for installation of the practice.

In addition to updating NRCS and other technical standards incorporated into this subchapter, this rule:

- Creates a standard for cost-sharing systems to control discharges of feed storage leachate to complement the cost-share standard to address discharges of milkhouse wastewater (see s. ATCP 50.77).
- Clarifies the responsibility of a landowner to maintain the storage capacity of the original storage facility cost-shared by DATCP, if animal units are added during the maintenance period of the manure storage cost-share contract.
- Recognizes the use of a limited set of practices such as access roads and streambank and shoreline protection in non-farm contexts, but imposes restrictions to prevent misuse of limited state cost-share funds (e.g. access roads cannot be used to pay for road building for public use).
- Separates cattle crossings from access roads as a cost-shareable practice and creates a new standard for “stream crossing.”

- Eliminates heavy use area protection as a separate cost-shareable practice and allows this practice only as a component of other practices such as barnyard runoff control systems.
- Provides more flexibility to cost-share pesticide spill control structures without the requirement of a pesticide management plan in all cases.
- Better defines structural and bioengineering treatments that are cost-shareable under streambank or shoreline protection and makes other changes to the standard.

### **Standards Incorporated by Reference**

Pursuant to s. 227.21, Stats., DATCP has requested permission from the attorney general to incorporate the following standards by reference in this rule:

- NRCS technical guide standards and related documentation.
- ASCE and other private sector-developed engineering practice standards.
- State agency (DNR, DOT) erosion control standards for construction sites and stormwater management.
- UW-Extension publications including milking center waste water management, rotational grazing, and soil and manure testing.
- NRCS standards for determining soil erosion (RUSLE 2, WEPS).

Copies of these standards will be on file with DATCP and the legislative reference bureau. DATCP has discontinued the practice of including key documents as appendices and will utilize its website to indicate where documents may be obtained.

### **Waivers**

DATCP may grant a waiver from any standard or requirement under this rule if DATCP finds that the waiver is necessary to achieve the objectives of this rule. The DATCP secretary must sign the waiver. DATCP may not waive a statutory requirement.

### **Land and Water Conservation Board**

The land and water conservation board has reviewed this rule as required by s. 92.04(3)(a), Stats.

### ***Summary of, and Comparison with, Existing or Proposed Federal statutes and Regulations***

NRCS has adopted standards for conservation practices cost-shared by NRCS. Current DATCP rules incorporate many NRCS standards by reference. In most cases, the standards apply only to conservation practices cost-shared with DATCP funds. But in some cases (such as nutrient management), DATCP rules incorporate the NRCS standards as mandatory pollution control standards. Enforcement of these mandatory standards is generally contingent on cost-sharing (there are limited exceptions).

While NRCS sets national standards, standards vary, to some extent, between states. NRCS coordinates its Wisconsin standard-setting process with DATCP, DNR and others. For purposes of

Wisconsin's soil and water conservation program, DATCP may incorporate NRCS standards as written or may modify the standards as appropriate. This rule will modify current DATCP rules that incorporate NRCS standards by reference. This rule may incorporate updated NRCS standards, or may modify NRCS standards to make them more clear or workable in Wisconsin's soil and water conservation program. It will allow landowners receiving cost-sharing to voluntarily take advantage of new NRCS standards not yet incorporated into rule, thereby ensuring that they get the most value for their investment in practices.

NRCS certifies engineering practitioners who design, install or approve conservation engineering practices cost-shared by NRCS. DATCP certifies practitioners who perform similar functions under DATCP rules. As noted above, this rule makes changes to better match the state and federal programs, which ultimately will benefit the landowners who rely on technical services from engineering practitioners.

The United States Department of Agriculture administers a number of federal programs that offer voluntary conservation incentives to farmers. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a key program offering cost-sharing for conservation improvements, including nutrient management plans, manure storage improvements and other conservation practices. As a result of confidentiality requirements, federal cost-sharing provided to landowners through this and other NRCS cost-share programs cannot be publicly disclosed. Without accurate historical data about past use of NRCS cost-sharing to implement state conservation standards, it is difficult to account for the role these funds may play in the future.

Other programs, such as the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) also provide cost-sharing and other incentives for conservation practices. DATCP attempts to coordinate state programs for conservation funding with relevant federal programs.

### *Comparison with Rule in Adjacent States*

This comparison examines how surrounding states are addressing issues related to the 2011 DNR standards, with particular focus on the implementation of such standards through farmland preservation activities. In general, the adjacent states do not use statewide performance standards specifically designed to address polluted runoff from agricultural sources. However, these states have various regulations and procedures in place to address many of the polluted runoff sources that these rule revisions address. All four states use the phosphorus index in some form but none use it in the same manner as NR 151 provides. For example, phosphorus management strategies in Michigan are implemented as part of the state's Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPs). Wisconsin's approach differs from the programs in adjacent states in that it has more detail in its phosphorus index, is more quantitative and has more research to validate it. Also, in Wisconsin, pursuant to s. 281.16, Stats., cost-sharing must be made available to existing agricultural operations before the state may require compliance with the standards. Cost-sharing is often tied to compliance responsibilities in adjacent states, but there are instances where farmers must meet standards other than the phosphorus index as part of regulatory programs.

## **Illinois**

Using a different framework and programming, Illinois implements several standards similar to those adopted in Wisconsin. In addition to implementing a phosphorus index for large livestock operations, Illinois encourages the equivalent of a tillage setback for croplands through a property tax incentive related to the construction of livestock waste management facilities. This incentive applies to the installation of vegetative filter strips in cropland that is surrounding a surface-water or groundwater conduit. Illinois law does not allow raw materials, by-products and products of livestock management facilities, including milkhouse waste, silage leachate, and other similar products to be discharged to waters of the state.

While Illinois has a statewide farmland preservation program in which landowners may restrict the use of their land to agricultural or related uses in exchange for tax credits, the program does not include conservation compliance requirements.

## **Iowa**

Like Illinois, Iowa requires that nutrient management plans for livestock operations of 500 or more animal units be based on the phosphorus index. Iowa does not require a separation distance between tillage activities and waterbodies. Iowa prohibits discharges to waters of the state, polluting waters of the state and discharge to road ditches. Medium-sized livestock operations are required to install runoff controls to eliminate discharges of process wastewater into waters of the state. See Iowa's website at:

[http://www.iowadnr.gov/portals/idnr/uploads/afo/fs\\_desncriteria\\_medcafo.pdf](http://www.iowadnr.gov/portals/idnr/uploads/afo/fs_desncriteria_medcafo.pdf)

While Iowa operates a county-based statewide farmland preservation program in which landowners may restrict the use of their land to agricultural or related uses in exchange for tax credits, the program does not include conservation compliance requirements.

## **Michigan**

Michigan relies on GAAMPs [see *Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices for Manure Management and Utilization* (January 2012)] to support the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP), which includes a compliance verification process that ensures nuisance protection to farmers under Michigan's Right to Farm law. GAAMPs covers standards similar to those in Wisconsin including standards for process wastewater and pasture management. These standards are implemented as part of the state's right to farm law and its complaint investigation program. The state assesses problems identified through complaints, and farmers must take corrective action to earn nuisance protection under the right to farm law.

Michigan does not require a separation distance between tillage activities and waterbodies. The state's regulatory requirements regarding process wastewater only apply to permitted

concentrated animal feeding operations, but discharges from smaller farms are generally prohibited as a violation of water quality standards.

While Michigan has a statewide farmland preservation program in which landowners may restrict the use of their land to agricultural or related uses in exchange for tax credits, the program does not include conservation compliance requirements

### **Minnesota**

Minnesota implements a variation of a tillage setback in limited settings, requiring a 16.5 foot (one rod) grass strip along certain public drainage ditches as well as vegetated strips, restored wetlands, and other voluntary set-aside lands through federal, state and local programs. For process wastewater, Minnesota rules place a limit of less than 25 mg/l BOD5 (biological oxygen demand) that can be released to surface water and, if released to a leach field, the threshold is less than 200 mg/l BOD5. State and local officials work with pasture owners to prevent and abate water quality violations (Minn. R. ch. 7050 and 7060) that may be created by sediment or nutrient runoff from poorly managed pastures.

Under its feedlot program, Minnesota imposes mandatory requirements on about 25,000 registered feedlots. This program requires feedlot owners, ranging in size from small farms to large-scale commercial livestock operations, to “register with the MPCA, and meet the requirements for runoff discharge, manure application and storage, and processed wastewater.”

While Minnesota has a statewide farmland preservation program in which landowners may restrict the use of their land to agricultural or related uses in exchange for tax credits, the program does not include conservation compliance requirements.

### ***Summary of Factual Data and Analytical Methodologies***

To develop this rule, DATCP participated in the DNR advisory group convened as part of the revision of NR 151, worked with DNR to achieve a revision of NR 151 consistent with statutory framework and the interests of regulated groups and other stakeholders, informally worked with interest groups including organizations representing farm groups, environmental groups, and government entities such as county land and water conservation departments, conducted listening sessions with affected parties to secure input, and prepared an assessment of the business impacts using DNR’s assessment and a methodology similar to the one used for the 2002 nonpoint rule revision.

### ***Analysis and Supporting Documents Used to Determine Effect on Small Business or in Preparation of an Economic Impact Analysis***

In preparing its analysis and supporting documentation, the department consulted with stakeholder groups, reviewed rule documents developed by DNR related to the adoption of 2011

DNR standards, including revised fiscal estimate and final rule order, and estimated costs using a methodology similar to the one used for the 2002 nonpoint rule revision.

### ***Effects on Small Business***

Most impacts of this rule will be on farmers, a great majority of whom qualify as “small businesses.” The analysis of the impacts on farms takes into consideration the following factors:

- The proposed rule does not add standards for farms. Those were created by DNR in 2011, but focus on implementation of DNR’s standards. DNR’s analysis of the 2011 standards was consulted.
- In its implementation of the 2011 DNR standards, this rule includes measures intended to minimize the financial impacts on farmers, including a phase-in of the nutrient management requirements for pasture, and limitations on increasing the tillable setback over 5 feet.
- Most farmers will be insulated from some of the costs of implementation by the state’s cost-share requirement and the limited state funding available to provide cost-sharing.
- For farmers receiving farmland preservation tax credits, this rule provides farmers flexibility to minimize the financial impacts related to compliance (which range from \$8 to \$12 million state-wide), including a delay in the effective date for compliance with the 2011 DNR standards, the use of performance schedules, pursuit of cost-sharing for which they are eligible, use of a tax credit to offset some implementation costs, or if needed, withdrawal from the farmland preservation program to avoid unmanageable costs.

The proposed rule changes will have small, but positive impacts on businesses other than farmers. Those businesses include nutrient management planners, soil testing laboratories, farm supply organizations, agricultural engineering practitioners, and contractors installing farm conservation practices. The *Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis*, which will be filed with this rule, provides a more complete analysis of this issue.

### ***DATCP Contact***

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### ***Place Where Comments are to be Submitted and Deadline for Submission***

Questions and comments related to this rule may be directed to:

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Rule comments will be accepted up to two weeks after the last public hearing is held on this rule. Hearing dates will be scheduled after this rule is approved by the Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

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1           **SECTION 1.** ATCP 50.01 (2m) is created to read:

2           ATCP 50.01 (2m) “Contaminated runoff” means drainage that has come through or  
3 across a feed storage or manure storage area. “Contaminated runoff” includes the fluid and any  
4 sediment, manure, feed or other material carried in the fluid. “Contaminated runoff” contains  
5 lower concentrations of contaminants than leachate from feed or manure.

6           **SECTION 2.** ATCP 50.01 (11) is repealed.

7           **SECTION 3.** ATCP 50.01 (15m) is created to read:

8           ATCP 50.01 (15m) “Leachate” means the concentrated liquid which has percolated  
9 through or drained from animal feed or manure storage areas. “Leachate” contains much higher  
10 concentrations of contaminants than contaminated runoff.

11           **SECTION 4.** ATCP 50.01 (17) is amended to read:

12           ATCP 50.01 (17) “Local governmental unit,” ~~as used in s. ATCP 50.60,~~ has the meaning  
13 given in s. 92.15 (1) (b), Stats., and includes a county, town, city, village, lake district and county  
14 drainage board.

15           **SECTION 5.** ATCP 50.01 (18) (a) is amended to read:

16           ATCP 50.01 (18) (a) Soil and water conservation standards that a county land  
17 conservation committee adopts under s. ~~92.105~~92.07(2), Stats.

1           **SECTION 6.** ATCP 50.01 (18) (a) (Note) is repealed.

2           **SECTION 7.** ATCP 50.01 (18) (b) and (c), and (20) are amended to read:

3           ATCP 50.01 (18) (b) An ordinance or regulation that a county adopts under s. 59.69,  
4 59.692, 92.07 (2), 92.11, 92.15, 92.16 ~~or~~ 92.17 or 93.90, Stats., or under other county authority.

5           (c) An ordinance or regulation that a town, city or village adopts under s. 92.11, 92.15,  
6 92.16 ~~or~~ 92.17 or 93.90, Stats., or under other town, city or village authority.

7           (20) “Manure” means livestock excreta. “Manure” includes ~~livestock~~ the following  
8 when intermingled with excreta in normal farming operations: debris including bedding, water,  
9 soil, hair, and feathers; processing derivatives including separated sand, separated manure  
10 solids, precipitated manure sludges, supernatants, digested liquids, composted biosolids and  
11 process water; and other debris that becomes intermingled with livestock excreta in normal  
12 manure farming operations, runoff collected from barnyards, animal lots and feed storage areas.

13           **SECTION 8.** ATCP 50.01 (27) (Note) is amended to read:

14           **Note:** Copies of the NRCS technical guide are on file with the department and the  
15 legislative reference bureau. Copies of individual standards contained in the  
16 NRCS technical guide may be obtained from ~~the a county land conservation~~  
17 ~~committee or from department,~~ an NRCS field office. ~~This chapter incorporates,~~  
18 ~~by reference, various NRCS technical guide standards. See Appendix G, the~~  
19 national NRCS website at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>, or Wisconsin NRCS  
20 website at: <http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/>.  
21

22           **SECTION 9.** ATCP 50.01 (29m) is created to read:

23           ATCP 50.01 (29m) “Pasture” has the meaning given in s. NR 151.015 (15m).

24           **SECTION 10.** ATCP 50.01 (31) (a) and (b) are amended to read:

25           ATCP 50.01 (31) (a) Except as provided in par. (b), the release that was in effect on  
26 ~~November 14, 2006~~ [LRB inserts date].



1 (b) For purposes of a compliance determination under ch. NR 151 or this chapter made  
2 prior to ~~November 14, 2006~~ [LRB inserts date], the release that was in effect on the date of the  
3 compliance determination.

4 **SECTION 11.** ATCP 50.01 (33) is amended to read:

5 ATCP 50.01 (33) “State regulation” means chs. 88, 91, 92, 93, 281 ~~and~~ 283, Stats., and  
6 rules promulgated by the department or DNR under ch. 88, 91, 92, 93, 281 or 283, Stats.

7 **SECTION 12.** ATCP 50.04 (1) is amended to read:

8 ATCP 50.04 (1) NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION CONTROL. A landowner shall implement  
9 conservation practices that achieve compliance with DNR performance standards under ss. NR  
10 151.02 to 151.08, in effect on [LRB inserts date].

11 **SECTION 13.** ATCP 50.04 (1) (Note) is created to read:

12 **Note:** Landowners who claim farmland preservation tax credits must comply with  
13 conservation standards as required under s. 91.80, Stats.  
14

15 **SECTION 14.** ATCP 50.04 (2) and (Note), (3) (a), (b), (dm) 1. (Note), (e) (Note), (f)  
16 (intro.) and (f) 4. (Note) are amended to read:

17 ATCP 50.04 (2) ~~CROPLAND SOIL~~ SOIL EROSION CONTROL. A landowner shall manage  
18 croplands, pastures, and ~~cropping~~ related practices so that soil erosion rates on cropped and  
19 pastured soils, ~~determined according to RUSLE 2 equation~~, do not exceed T-value.

20 **Note:** See s. 92.025 (1), Stats., and s. NR 151.02. Soil erosion includes erosion caused  
21 by wind or water. For most soils, “T-value” is equivalent to 3 to 5 tons of soil  
22 loss per acre per year.  
23

24 The Sheet and rill soil erosion from water is calculated according to the RUSLE 2  
25 equation is, published by NRCS, and is available from NRCS. Wind erosion is  
26 calculated according to the NRCS Wind Erosion Prediction System (WEPS)  
27 model. Copies of RUSLE 2 and the NRCS WEPS model are on file with the  
28 department and the legislative reference bureau. Copies of both models may also  
29 be obtained from the NRCS website at: <http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/>.  
30

1 (3) (a) A landowner shall have and follow an annual nutrient management plan when  
2 applying nutrients to any field, including pastures, after the date specified in par. (h) or (hm). A  
3 nutrient management plan shall comply with this subsection.

4 (b) The plan shall include every field on which ~~the landowner mechanically applies~~  
5 nutrients are applied, including pastures.

6 (dm) 1. **Note:** The NRCS technical guide standard 590 (September, 2005) and  
7 Wisconsin conservation planning technical note WI-1 is are on file with the  
8 department and the legislative reference bureau. Copies are available from  
9 your a county land conservation office or the following web address:  
10 [http://datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land-water/conservation/nutrient-  
12 mgmnt/planning.jsp](http://datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land-water/conservation/nutrient-<br/>11 mgmnt/planning.jsp) ~~The NRCS technical guide standard 590 (September,~~  
13 ~~2005) is reproduced, without the companion technical note, in Appendix D~~  
14 department, a NRCS field office, the national NRCS website at:  
15 <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov>, the Wisconsin NRCS website at:  
16 <http://wi.nrcs.usda.gov/>, or the department website at:  
17 [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and  
Water Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and<br/>18 Water Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx).

19 (e) **Note:** ~~The A person may obtain a checklist in Appendix C may be used to gather~~  
20 ~~information for a nutrient management plan NRCS technical guide nutrient~~  
21 ~~management standard 590 (September, 2005) is reproduced in Appendix D.~~  
22 ~~The Wisconsin conservation planning technical note WI-1 (September, 2007)~~  
23 ~~is not reproduced in Appendix D but is on file with the department and the~~  
24 ~~legislative reference bureau. Copies are available from your county land~~  
25 ~~conservation office or the following web address:~~  
26 ~~[http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land-  
28 water/conservation/nutrient-mngmt/planning.jsp](http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land-<br/>27 water/conservation/nutrient-mngmt/planning.jsp) by visiting the department's~~  
29 ~~website at:~~  
30 ~~[http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and  
32 Water Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and<br/>31 Water Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx). To obtain a copy of~~  
33 ~~Wisconsin conservation planning technical note WI-1 (September, 2007), see~~  
34 ~~sub. (3) (dm) 1. (Note).~~

35 (f) (intro.) The plan may not recommend nutrient applications that exceed the amounts  
36 required to achieve applicable crop fertility levels recommended by the University of Wisconsin-  
37 Extension in the 1998 edition of Soil Test Recommendations for Field, Vegetable and Fruit  
Crops, UWEX publication A-2809A2809, or in the latest subsequent edition of that publication

1 if preferred by the landowner, unless the nutrient management planner can show that one or  
2 more of the following circumstances justifies the recommended application:

3 (f) 4. **Note:** ~~Appendix B contains a convenient summary of recommendations in the The~~  
4 1998 and subsequent editions of the UWEX publication A-2809/A2809, for  
5 selected crops. You may obtain the complete publication and the summary  
6 are available from your a county extension agent. The complete publication  
7 is 1998 and 2012 editions are also on file with the department and the  
8 legislative reference bureau. The latest edition of A2809 is available from the  
9 UWEX website at: <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/>. Copies are also available  
10 ~~from your county land conservation office or the following web address~~  
11 ~~department website at: <http://datep.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land->~~  
12 ~~[water/conservation/nutrient\\_mngmt/planning.jsp](http://datep.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land-water/conservation/nutrient_mngmt/planning.jsp).~~  
13 ~~[http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and W](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx)~~  
14 ~~[ater Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx).~~  
15

16 **SECTION 15.** ATCP 50.04 (3)(gm) is created to read:

17 ATCP 50.04 (3) (gm) The nutrient management plan shall be reviewed annually to  
18 determine whether the plan accurately reflects the planned cropping, tillage, nutrient application  
19 rates and application methods. The plan shall be updated, by a nutrient management planner  
20 qualified under s. ATCP 50.48, when necessary to reflect changes in those planned activities.

21 **SECTION 16.** ATCP 50.04 (3) (h) (intro.) is amended to read:

22 ATCP 50.04 (3) (h) (intro.) Paragraph (a) first applies on the following dates for the  
23 following nonpasture lands:

24 **SECTION 17.** ATCP 50.04 (3) (hm) is created to read:

25 ATCP 50.04 (3) (hm) Paragraph (a) first applies on the following dates for pasture lands:

26 1. [LRB inserts date three years from the effective date of the rule] for any portion of a  
27 pasture located:

28 a. Within 1,000 feet from the ordinary high water mark of navigable waters consisting of  
29 a lake, pond or flowage, except that, for a navigable water that is a glacial pothole lake, within  
30 1,000 feet from the high water mark of the lake.

1           b. Within 300 feet from the ordinary high water mark of navigable waters consisting of a  
2 river or stream.

3           2. January 1, 2020 for other pastures.

4           **SECTION 18.** ATCP 50.04 (4) is created to read:

5           ATCP 50.04 (4) TILLAGE SETBACK. (a) A landowner shall manage cropland to achieve  
6 compliance with the DNR performance standard for tillage setback under s. NR 151.03.

7           (b) Any tillage setback area greater than 5 feet shall be determined by using best  
8 professional judgment to increase the setback by the smallest increment necessary to achieve the  
9 purposes of s. NR 151.03. In exercising best professional judgment, county and other  
10 conservation professionals shall do all of the following:

11           1. Consult with NRCS or department engineering specialists as required.

12           2. Consider bank materials, height, slope and other factors that affect bank integrity.

13           **Note:** Conservation practices such as critical area stabilization, grade stabilization and  
14 shoreland protection should be installed if necessary to stabilize the bank and  
15 protect its integrity. Determinations regarding compliance with this standard may  
16 be appealed as authorized under s. 227.42, Stats., or other provisions of law.  
17 Landowners may achieve compliance with this standard by enrolling riparian land  
18 in the CREP program or other federal set-aside programs.

19  
20           **SECTION 19.** ATCP 50.08 (1) (intro.), (a) (Note) and (2) (Note) are amended to read:

21           ATCP 50.08 (1) (intro.) A landowner engaged in agricultural practices in this state is not  
22 required to do any of the following, under s. ATCP 50.04, unless the landowner receives a bona  
23 fide offer of cost-sharing:

24           (a) **Note:** Under DNR rules, a landowner is normally entitled to cost-sharing if the  
25 landowner is required to discontinue or modify cropping practices on “existing  
26 cropland” in order to comply with a DNR performance standard. Other cropland  
27 must comply with relevant DNR performance standards, regardless of the  
28 availability of cost-sharing. Under DNR rules:

29

- Land qualifies as “existing cropland” if it was being cropped on the effective date of the relevant DNR performance standard, and has never complied with that performance standard since that date.
- If cropland *complies* with a DNR performance standard after that standard takes effect, it no longer qualifies as “existing cropland” for cost-share purposes under that performance standard. If the cropland later falls out of compliance with the performance standard, the landowner must restore compliance regardless of the availability of cost-sharing.
- Land not cropped on the effective date of a DNR performance standard, but returned to cropping at a later date, may qualify as “existing cropland” if it is returned to cropping within 10 years after cropping was halted.
- Cropland enrolled in a federal conservation program on October 1, 2002 qualifies as “existing cropland” when it comes out of the federal program unless the cropland is re-enrolled.

A landowner may be *eligible* for cost-sharing, even if the landowner is not *entitled* to cost-sharing under par. (a). A county has considerable discretion in its use of DATCP cost-share funds, subject to this chapter. See subch. V of this chapter.

(2) **Note:** See ss. 92.07 (2), 92.15 (4) and 281.16 (3) (e), Stats. Subsection (1) requires a bona fide offer of cost-sharing, not necessarily an acceptance. A county may impose a reasonable deadline by which a landowner must accept or reject the county’s bona fide cost-sharing offer under sub. (1). See s. ATCP 50.54 (2) related to cost-sharing for conservation practices required under a county or local ordinance.

The minimum cost-share requirement under subs. (1) and (2) does *not* apply if a landowner *voluntarily* installs a cost-shared practice. In a voluntary transaction, the county is free to negotiate a grant amount with a landowner (up to the *maximum* amounts provided in s. ATCP 50.42). But if a county *requires* a landowner to install a conservation practice, the county must comply with applicable cost-share requirements under subs. (1) and (2). The cost-share grant may come from one or more sources, as provided under sub. (7).

If the practice is not being installed to achieve compliance with an agricultural performance standard, the minimum cost-share requirement also does *not* apply. See s. ATCP 50.42 (1).

**SECTION 20.** ATCP 50.10 (1) (b) and (Note) are amended to read:

ATCP 50.10 (1) (b) ~~County soil and water conservation standards, and a~~ A program to implement ~~those~~ soil and water conservation standards.

1       **Note:** A county's land and water resource management plan under s. ATCP 50.12  
2       should identify the county's strategy to implement the farm conservation practices  
3       required under s. ATCP 50.04. See Under s. ATCP 50.16 related to, a county is  
4       required to monitor and ensure compliance with conservation standards for lands  
5       covered by the farmland preservation program under ch. 91, Stats. See s. ATCP  
6       50.14 and subch. VII related to county ordinances.

7  
8       **SECTION 21.** ATCP 50.12 (2) (j) is amended to read:

9       ATCP 50.12 (2) (j) How the county will monitor and measure its progress under par. (i),  
10      including the establishment of annual benchmarks that will achieve the plan goals and  
11      objectives.

12       **SECTION 22.** ATCP 50.12 (2) (jm) is created to read:

13       ATCP 50.12 (2) (jm) How a county will meet its responsibilities for monitoring  
14      conservation compliance of landowners claiming farmland preservation tax credits.

15       **SECTION 23.** ATCP 50.16 (title), (1), (2), (3), (4) and (5) are repealed and recreated to  
16      read:

17       ATCP 50.16 **Farmland preservation program; conservation standards compliance.**

18      (1) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS REQUIRED. (a) Except as provided in par. (d) and sub. (2), a  
19      landowner claiming farmland preservation tax credits shall comply with the DNR performance  
20      standards and prohibitions in s. ATCP 50.04, as required in s. 91.80, Stats.

21       **Note:** The soil and water conservation standards are promulgated by the department  
22       under ss. 92.05 (3) (c) and (k), 92.14 (8), and 281.16 (3) (b) and (c), Stats.

23  
24      (b) In determining landowner compliance under this section, the land conservation  
25      committee shall base its determination on all of the following:

26       1. Whether the entire farm operation owned by the landowner is in compliance with all  
27      the applicable conservation standards. The county may treat livestock locations and areas of

1 cropping activity as part of the same farm operation if the agricultural practices are conducted on  
2 the same tax parcel or adjacent tax parcels of land.

3 2. Whether a review of available documentation at the county demonstrates the  
4 landowner has no significant discharge from an animal lot, feed storage, manure storage, or other  
5 livestock structure on the farm.

6 3. Whether a review of available documentation at the county demonstrates the  
7 landowner has implemented a nutrient management plan in compliance with the nutrient  
8 management standard in s. ATCP 50.04 (3) for all land where a plan is required on the farm.

9 (c) Once determined to be in compliance with the nutrient management standard in s.  
10 ATCP 50.04 (3), a landowner shall remain in compliance with the nutrient management standard  
11 on the farm acres, including on all of the following:

12 1. Acres on the farm converted to a new use as cropland or pasture if the new use is  
13 included in the landowner's nutrient management plan in the year after the acres are converted to  
14 the new use.

15 2. Acres added to the farm, if the new acres are included in the landowner's nutrient  
16 management plan in the year after the acres are added.

17 (d) A landowner claiming farmland preservation tax credits shall comply with the  
18 pasture requirement in s. NR 151.02, and ss. NR 151.03, 151.04 and 151.055, beginning on  
19 January 1, 2016.

20 (2) EXCEPTIONS; FARMLAND PRESERVATION AGREEMENT PRE-JULY 2009. (a) Except as  
21 required under par. (b), sub. (1) does not apply to landowners under a farmland preservation  
22 agreement entered into prior to July 1, 2009. Landowners with these agreements claiming  
23 farmland preservation tax credits under ss. 71.57 to 71.61, Stats., shall comply with the

1 standards, specified in the agreement, on the land specified in the agreement, as required in ss.  
2 92.104 and 92.105, 2007 Stats.

3 (b) Landowners who modify a farmland preservation agreement entered into before July  
4 1, 2009, pursuant to the provisions in s. 91.60 (3) (c), Stats., shall comply with the soil and water  
5 conservation standards in effect at the time the agreement is modified.

6 (c) Landowners who enter into a farmland preservation agreement after [LRB insert  
7 date] may be required, under the terms of that agreement, to comply with the pasture requirement  
8 in s. NR 151.02, and ss. NR 151.03, 151.04 and 151.055 beginning January 1, 2016.

9 (3) PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE. (a) A county land conservation committee may enter into  
10 a performance schedule with a landowner if all of the following apply:

11 1. The schedule, including amendments or extensions, does not allow the landowner  
12 more than five years to achieve compliance with applicable conservation standards.

13 2. The landowner agrees in writing to specific farm conservation practices needed to  
14 achieve compliance with the standards required under sub. (1).

15 3. The landowner agrees to a written plan to install farm conservation practices identified  
16 in subd. 2. according to a specific schedule for completing the work.

17 4. The land conservation committee approves the performance schedule, including the  
18 proposed practices and the time allowed to achieve compliance. The land conservation  
19 committee may establish shorter periods to achieve compliance than the 5 year maximum  
20 allowed under this subsection.

21 **Note:** A county should exercise sound judgment at critical junctures in its monitoring of  
22 a farmer's conservation compliance, including its decision on the length of a  
23 performance schedule, and its decision on how and when to respond to changes in  
24 farmer compliance with applicable standards. The county may consider the  
25 following in exercising its discretion: extenuating circumstances, such as adverse  
26 weather conditions, that may affect a landowner's ability to comply; the nature



1 and seriousness of the landowner's non-compliance; the degree to which the  
2 landowner has cooperated or taken actions to address concerns; the availability of  
3 technical or other assistance; and the consistency of treatment among farmers in  
4 the area. Before taking any compliance action, a county shall afford the  
5 landowner notice and a reasonable opportunity to demonstrate compliance.  
6

7 (b) A landowner meets the conservation standards under sub. (1) if the landowner is  
8 either of the following:

9 1. In compliance with all soil and water conservation standards as required under s.  
10 91.80, Stats.

11 2. Implementing a performance schedule that will achieve full compliance with those  
12 standards within the period authorized under par. (a).

13 **Note:** A landowner is implementing a performance schedule if the landowner is making  
14 reasonable progress in installing farm conservation practices, and taking other  
15 appropriate actions in the time frame identified in the schedule as necessary to  
16 achieve compliance.  
17

18 (4) CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE. (a) The county land conservation committee shall  
19 issue a certificate of compliance to a landowner claiming tax credits under s. 71.613, Stats., if the  
20 landowner meets the soil and water conservation standards as required by s. 91.80, Stats., and  
21 this section. The certificate shall be issued on a form approved by the department.

22 **Note:** The county may obtain approval of its form by contacting the department at:  
23 [DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov).

24  
25 The county may also issue certificates of compliance with soil and water  
26 conservation standards in other situations if authorized by law.  
27

28 (b) A certificate establishing a landowner's compliance with s. 91.80, Stats., and this  
29 section remains in effect and valid until the county land conservation committee issues a notice  
30 of noncompliance under sub. (6).

31 **Note:** A landowner who is issued a certificate of compliance may fall out of compliance  
32 with a standard or fail to meet a standard applicable after the certification was  
33 initially issued. A county, after reviewing the changes in the landowner's

1 compliance status, may consider issuing a notice of non-compliance. See Note  
2 under sub. (3) (a) 4.

3  
4 (c) A certificate of compliance may be amended or modified to reflect changes in a  
5 landowner's status.

6 (5) MONITORING COMPLIANCE. A county land conservation committee shall monitor a  
7 landowner's compliance with applicable conservation standards promulgated by the department  
8 under ss. 92.05 (3) (c) and (k), 92.14 (8) and 281.16 (3) (b) and (c), Stats. A county shall  
9 perform all of the following activities:

10 (a) Inspect at least once every 4 years each farm for which the owner claims farmland  
11 preservation tax credits. At a minimum, an inspection shall include all of the following:

12 1. A site visit or other reliable assessment method to determine whether the farm has  
13 significant discharges from an animal lot, feed storage, manure storage, or other livestock  
14 structure on the farm.

15 2. A review of the owner's records to determine whether the farmer is implementing a  
16 nutrient management plan in compliance with the nutrient management standard in s. ATCP  
17 50.04(3).

18 (b) Conduct other activities the committee deems appropriate for monitoring  
19 compliance, including any of the following:

20 1. A county land conservation committee may ask a landowner to certify, on an annual  
21 or other periodic basis, that the landowner is complying with the applicable conservation  
22 standards under sub. (1) or (2) and any performance schedule under sub. (3). A landowner shall  
23 certify compliance on a form provided by the committee.

24 2. A county land conservation committee may inspect farm sites and review documents  
25 and records to determine compliance with applicable land and water conservation standards.

1 (c) Maintain adequate documentation of county monitoring efforts and inspection  
2 activities to enable the department to perform the review required under s. 91.82 (1) (d), Stats.,  
3 of the county land conservation committee's monitoring required under this subsection.

4 **Note:** Sub. (1) (b) 2. and 3. describe the minimum documentation that a county must  
5 maintain regarding farms subject to monitoring requirements and is intended to  
6 facilitate department monitoring of the counties. Counties are encouraged to  
7 supplement documentation using their own systems including geographic  
8 information systems tracking.  
9

10 **SECTION 24.** ATCP 50.16 (6) (a) 1. and 2. are amended to read:

11 ATCP 50.16 (6) (a) 1. Failed to comply with applicable standards under sub. (1) or (2).

12 2. Failed to comply with a ~~farm conservation plan~~ performance schedule under sub.

13 ~~(4)~~(3).

14 **SECTION 25.** ATCP 50.16 (6) (a) 5. and (Note) are created to read:

15 ATCP 50.16 (6) (a) 5. Stated an intent to voluntarily refrain from collecting tax credits  
16 under subch. IX of ch. 71, Stats., and to waive the right to a hearing and farm inspection.

17 **Note:** Landowners with a farmland preservation agreement claiming the farmland  
18 preservation tax credits under ss. 71.57 to 71.61, Stats., are required, under the  
19 terms of that agreement, to comply with the applicable land and water  
20 conservation standards.  
21

22 **SECTION 26.** ATCP 50.16 (6) (b) 1. is amended to read:

23 ATCP 50.16 (6) (b) 1. The nature of the violation, ~~and a deadline date for curing the~~  
24 ~~violation.~~

25 **SECTION 27.** ATCP 50.16 (6) (b) 3. (Note) is created to read:

26 **Note:** A county should exercise sound judgment in deciding whether to take compliance  
27 action under par. (b). See sub. (3) (a) 4. (Note).  
28

29 **SECTION 28.** ATCP 50.16 (6) (c) (intro.) and 2., and (d) are amended to read:

1 ATCP 50.16 (6) (c) (intro.) ~~If a landowner receiving a notice under par. (a) fails to cure~~  
2 ~~the violation by the deadline date specified in the notice, the~~ The county land conservation  
3 committee shall issue a copy of the notice to all of the following:

4 2. The county planning and zoning committee if the land is covered by ~~an exclusive~~  
5 ~~agricultural~~ a farmland preservation zoning ordinance.

6 (d) A county land conservation committee may, at any time, withdraw a notice of  
7 noncompliance issued under par. (a). The committee shall issue a notice of withdrawal on a form  
8 approved by the department. The committee shall give notice of the withdrawal to any agency  
9 under par. (c) that received a copy of the notice of noncompliance.

10 **SECTION 29.** ATCP 50.16 (6) (d) (Note) is created to read:

11  
12 **Note:** The county may obtain a copy of the notice of noncompliance by contacting the  
13 department at:  
14 [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land\\_and\\_Water\\_Conservation/Soil\\_and](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and)  
15 [Water\\_Resource\\_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and) or calling (608) 224-4622.  
16 The county may obtain approval of its notice of withdrawal of noncompliance by  
17 contacting the department at: [DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPWorkingLands@wisconsin.gov) or by  
18 calling (608) 224-4622.  
19

20 **SECTION 30.** ATCP 50.18 (1) (b) is amended to read:

21 ATCP 50.18 (1) (b) The county's progress toward the objectives identified in the county  
22 land and water resource management plan under s. ATCP 50.12, including the county's progress  
23 under its benchmarks. The report shall identify key areas of improvement, key compliance  
24 activities and key remaining problem areas.

25 **SECTION 31.** ATCP 50.26 (2) (a) is amended to read:

26 ATCP 50.26 (2) (a) The activities for which the county seeks funding. These may include  
27 activities under this chapter, ch. 91, Stats., and s. 93.90, Stats., CREP program activities, and

1 ~~priority watershed activities previously funded under ch. NR 120 and projects funded by DNR~~  
2 ~~under ss. 281.65 and 281.66, Stats.~~

3 **SECTION 32.** ATCP 50.26 (2) (a) (Note) is repealed and recreated to read:

4 **Note:** The department establishes priorities for funding based on the criteria in s. ATCP  
5 50.30.

6  
7 **SECTION 33.** ATCP 50.28 (5) (a) 1. is renumbered ATCP 50.28 (5) (a) 1. a.

8 **SECTION 34.** ATCP 50.28 (5) (a) 1. a. (Note) is renumbered ATCP 50.28 (5) (a) 1. b.

9 (Note) and amended to read:

10 **Note:** The department will normally grant funding extensions under subd. 1. by April 30  
11 of each grant year, based on county and non-county extension requests filed by  
12 December 31 of the preceding grant year. See s. ATCP 50.34 (6). Staffing grants  
13 may not be extended into the next calendar year. Only non-county grants funded  
14 under s. 20.115 (7) (qf), Stats., or other provisions authorizing the expenditure of  
15 funds to non-county grant recipients, may be extended.

16  
17 **SECTION 35.** ATCP 50.28 (5) (a) 1. b. is created to read:

18 ATCP 50.28 (5) (a) 1. b. Extend non-county grant recipient contracts funded but not  
19 completed in the preceding grant year, provided that the non-county grant recipient requests the  
20 extension by December 31 of the preceding grant year and the department has not previously  
21 extended funding for the same contract from one grant year to another grant year. Extensions of  
22 non-county grant contracts shall comply with s. ATCP 50.35.

23 **SECTION 36.** ATCP 50.28 (5) (a) 2. and 3. are amended to read:

24 ATCP 50.28 (5) (a) 2. Increase the total grant to any county. The department shall give  
25 all counties notice and equal opportunity to compete for funding increases other than increases  
26 due to extensions under subd. 1., voluntary transfers of cost-share funds from one county to  
27 another county under subd. 5., and re-allocations of cost-share funds by the department under

1 subd. 2. from a reserve established in the annual allocation plan. The department shall make any  
2 revisions in compliance with the requirements in par. (b).

3 3. Reduce a grant award to any county. The department shall give all counties notice and  
4 an opportunity to comment for funding decreases other than those resulting from the voluntary  
5 transfer of funds from one county to another county. The department shall make any revisions in  
6 compliance with the requirements in par. (b).

7 **SECTION 37.** ATCP 50.28 (5) (a) 5. is created to read:

8 ATCP 50.28 (5) (a) 5. Approve the voluntary transfers of cost-share funds from one  
9 county to another county, or re-allocations of cost-share funds by the department from a reserve  
10 established in the annual allocation plan. Inter-county transfers shall comply with s. ATCP 50.34  
11 (5m).

12 **SECTION 38.** ATCP 50.28 (5) (b) is amended to read:

13 ATCP 50.28 (5) (b) The department shall do all of the following before it revises an  
14 annual grant allocation plan, if required under par. (a):

15 **SECTION 39.** ATCP 50.28 (5) (b) 1. (Note) is repealed.

16 **SECTION 40.** ATCP 50.28 (5) (c) is created to read:

17 ATCP 50.28 (5) (c) The department shall notify the LWCB, no later than April 15 of the  
18 following year, of revisions made to the allocation plan based on transfers under par. (a) 5., re-  
19 allocations under par. (a) 4., and extensions of funds under par. (a) 1. The department shall keep  
20 records regarding the disposition of each transfer, reallocation and extension requested.

21 **SECTION 41.** ATCP 50.30 (1) is amended to read:

22 ATCP 50.30 (1) COUNTY PRIORITIES. The department shall give high priority to  
23 maintaining county staff and project continuity. The department shall consider county priorities

1 identified in the county grant application under s. ATCP 50.26 and in the county's approved land  
2 and water resource management plan under s. ATCP 50.12, and shall balance funding these  
3 priorities with those in sub. (2).

4 **SECTION 42.** ATCP 50.30 (1) (Note) is created to read:

5 **Note:** The following county priorities may not be accorded the same weight as the  
6 statewide priorities in sub. (2) in making funding decisions: zoning  
7 administration (except as it relates to farmland preservation, livestock facility  
8 siting or administration of farm-related permits), septic system inspections,  
9 subdivision reviews, wildlife damage claims, invasive species control, and  
10 administration of non-soil and water conservation programs such as parks and  
11 forestry management.

12  
13 **SECTION 43.** ATCP 50.30 (2) (intro.), (b), (c) and (d) are amended to read:

14 ATCP 50.30 (2) (intro.) STATEWIDE PRIORITIES. The department ~~may~~ shall give priority  
15 to county or non-county projects that address statewide priorities identified by the department  
16 and DNR. These priorities may include:

17 (b) Farms ~~for which the rate of cropland erosion is more than twice T value~~ that pose  
18 significant environmental risks based on failure to comply with nutrient management and other  
19 farm conservation standards.

20 (c) Farms discharging substantial pollution to waters of the state, including farms issued  
21 a DNR notice of intent under s. 281.20, Stats., or a DNR notice of discharge under ch. NR 243.

22 (d) Farms claiming farmland preservation tax credits under subch. IX of ch. 71, Stats.,  
23 and subject to the soil and water conservation requirements under subch. V of ch. 91, Stats.

24 **SECTION 44.** ATCP 50.30 (2) (e) and (f) are created to read:

25 ATCP 50.30 (2) (e) Projects related to the control of soil erosion and nonpoint source  
26 pollution in which funding is based on the contribution of the activity to the overall pollution  
27 problem.

1 (f) Projects in which funding is coordinated among state agencies to maximize impacts  
2 in targeted areas.

3 **SECTION 45.** ATCP 50.30 (3) (b), (g), (h) and (m) are amended to read:

4 ATCP 50.30 (3) (b) A county's demonstrated commitment and capacity to implementing  
5 implement and maintain the farm conservation practices required under s. ATCP 50.04.

6 (g) The timeliness and completeness of county grant plans, applications and ~~annual~~  
7 reports.

8 (h) The ~~completeness of county grant~~ degree to which plans, applications and supporting  
9 data reports meet applicable criteria, including the adequacy of performance measures.

10 (m) The degree to which county activities ~~are consistent with~~ implement the county's  
11 approved land and water resource management plan.

12 **SECTION 46.** ATCP 50.30 (3) (o) is renumbered (3) (r).

13 **SECTION .** ATCP 50.30 (3) (o) and (p) are created to read:

14 ATCP 50.30 (3) (o) The need for award caps or other cost control measures to maximize  
15 funding available to meet conservation priorities or needs on agricultural lands.

16 (p) A county's commitment to meet department targets implementing the conservation  
17 practices established in the annual grant application.

18 **SECTION 47.** ATCP 50.32 (3) (a) (Note) is amended to read:

19 **Note:** Soil and water resource management activities may include activities under this  
20 ~~chapter and, ch. 91, Stats., and s. 93.90, Stats.,~~ the CREP program, activities  
21 ~~related to "priority watersheds" under ch. NR 120 and projects funded by DNR~~  
22 under ss. 281.65 and 281.66, Stats., and activities related to DNR notices of  
23 discharge under ch. NR 243.

24  
25 A county may contract with engineers, nutrient management planners, computer  
26 specialists, information and education specialists, consultants and other  
27 independent contractors to work on behalf of the county land conservation



1 committee. A county may use annual staffing grant funds to pay for the services  
2 of these independent contractors.

3  
4 **SECTION 48.** ATCP 50.32 (3) (b) is amended to read:

5 ATCP 50.32 (3) (b) Training for county employees and land conservation committee  
6 members to the extent authorized under sub. (3m).

7 **SECTION 49.** ATCP 50.32 (3m) is created to read:

8 ATCP 50.32 (3m) TRAINING COSTS. An annual staffing grant may pay for any of the  
9 following county employee and land conservation committee member training costs, including  
10 registration fees, travel and materials:

11 (a) Training in conservation planning and management, technical standards  
12 implementation, clerical assistance, computer usage, and communications.

13 (b) Courses building skills to perform current responsibilities or develop professionally  
14 in the field of soil and water management.

15 (c) Other training costs identified in the grant application for the grant year in which the  
16 funds are to be expended.

17 **SECTION 50.** ATCP 50.32 (5) (a) (Note) is amended to read:

18 **Note:** Subject to the availability of funds, the department ~~will normally~~ may offer each  
19 county ~~at least the a~~ minimum staffing grant amount ~~required in par. (b).~~  
20 ~~Additional staffing grant amounts, if any, may be based on the county's annual~~  
21 ~~financial contribution as last reported under s. ATCP 50.18 (1) (c). But the~~  
22 ~~department may also consider other factors under~~ specified in the annual grant  
23 application. See s. ATCP 50.26. In lieu of offering a minimum grant award, or in  
24 addition to such an award, the department may base awards on the grant priorities  
25 in s. ATCP 50.30. The department has legal discretion to adjust grant awards  
26 from year to year, based on any of those factors.  
27

28 **SECTION 51.** ATCP 50.32 (5) (b) is repealed and recreated to read:

29 ATCP 50.32 (5) (b) The total grant amount reimbursed to a county for training and  
30 support costs may not exceed 10% of a county's annual grant allocation.

1           **SECTION 52.** ATCP 50.32 (5) (b) (Note) is repealed.

2           **SECTION 53.** ATCP 50.32 (7) (a) (Note) is created to read:

3           **Note:** The department does not provide paper copies of its grant forms. To obtain the  
4           most current program grant forms, including the form to request reimbursement  
5           from the department, counties should refer to the program’s working manual on  
6           the department website at:  
7           [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and Water](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx)  
8           [Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx).

9  
10          **SECTION 54.** ATCP 50.32 (7) (b) is amended to read:

11          ATCP 50.32 (7) (b) ~~The county’s chief financial officer~~ An authorized county  
12 representative shall sign each reimbursement request. The request shall certify that the county  
13 has fully paid the costs for which the county seeks reimbursement, and that those costs are  
14 eligible for reimbursement under this chapter and the grant contract.

15          **SECTION 55.** ATCP 50.32 (7) (c) 4. and (Note) are repealed and recreated to read:

16          ATCP 50.32 (7) (c) 4. The amount of applicable matching funds provided to cover the  
17 county portion of salary and fringe benefits.

18          **Note:** Counties can use various funding sources to meet their match requirement,  
19          including county levy, permit fees, private grants, federal grants, state funds other  
20          than those under chs. 92, 281 and 283, Stats., or any other qualifying source.

21  
22          **SECTION 56.** ATCP 50.32 (8) (b) and (c) 2. are amended to read:

23          ATCP 50.32 (8) (b) The department may reimburse eligible county employee training  
24 and support costs at 100%, subject to sub. (5) (b).

25          (c) 2. The department may reimburse eligible costs for the county’s first designated staff  
26 person at 100%, ~~regardless of whether that person is a priority watershed staff person.~~

27          **SECTION 57.** ATCP 50.32 (8) (c) 3. is repealed.

28          **SECTION 58.** ATCP 50.32 (8) (c) 4. is amended to read:

1 ATCP 50.32 (8) (c) 4. Except as provided under subd. 2. ~~or 3.~~, the department may  
2 reimburse eligible staffing costs at the rate prescribed in s. 92.14 (5g) (a), Stats.

3 **SECTION 59.** ATCP 50.34 (1) (b) is amended to read:

4 ATCP 50.34 (1) (b) State or local regulations identified in the county's land and water  
5 resource management plan under s. ATCP 50.12 (2) (b). ~~The committee may not use funds under  
6 this chapter to award cost share grants for practices needed to comply with a DNR notice of  
7 intent or notice of discharge under s. 281.20 or ch. 283, Stats.~~

8 **SECTION 60.** ATCP 50.34 (1) (b) (Note) is repealed and recreated to read:

9 **Note:** The committee may use funds for recording fees and other related costs allowed  
10 under this chapter, but may not award funds under this chapter to cover state or  
11 local permit fees.  
12

13 **SECTION 61.** ATCP 50.34 (1) (d) is created to read:

14 ATCP 50.34 (1) (d) Any applicable requirements or provisions in ch. 92, Stats.

15 **SECTION 62.** ATCP 50.34 (3) (a) and (Note) are amended to read:

16 ATCP 50.34 (3) (a) File with the department a copy of the county's cost-share contract  
17 with the landowner within 30 calendar days of full execution of the contract. The cost-share  
18 contract shall comply with s. ATCP 50.40 (8) and (9).

19 **Note:** The department must specifically approve any cost-share contract that exceeds  
20 \$50,000. See s. ATCP 50.40 (8).  
21

22 **SECTION 63.** ATCP 50.34 (5m) and (Note) are created to read:

23 ATCP 50.34 (5m) INTER-COUNTY TRANSFERS. The department may approve an  
24 agreement between counties to transfer uncommitted bond revenue or other cost-share funds if  
25 all of the following apply:

26 (a) The grant funds subject to the transfer were not previously extended by the  
27 transferring county.

1 (b) The county transferring the cost-share funds certifies to the department that it has an  
2 uncommitted portion of its cost-share allocation equal to or greater than the transfer amount, and  
3 has approval of its land conservation committee to make these funds available for transfer.

4 (c) The county receiving the cost-share funds has made a commitment to use the  
5 transferred funds on a specific project, submits one or more cost-share contracts showing how the  
6 transferred funds will be spent, and the proposed project meets a priority in the county's land and  
7 water resource management plan.

8 **Note:** Transferred funds may be extended by the receiving county into the subsequent  
9 grant year for the same project, subject to sub. (6).

10  
11 **SECTION 64.** ATCP 50.34 (6) (a) 3. is amended to read:

12 ATCP 50.34 (6) (a) 3. The county land conservation committee files with the  
13 department, by December 31 of the initial grant year, a written request ~~and justification for the~~  
14 ~~funding extension~~ that identifies the cost-share projects for which the extended funds will be  
15 used, and the total funds to be extended. The department may, for good cause, accept an  
16 extension request filed between December 31 of the initial grant year and February 15 of the  
17 subsequent grant year.

18 **SECTION 65.** ATCP 50.34(6) (a) 3. (Note) is created to read:

19 **Note:** Good cause may include the long-term absence or loss of critical staff, or the  
20 damage or destruction of records.

21  
22 **SECTION 66.** ATCP 50.34 (6) (b) is amended to read:

23 ATCP 50.34 (6) (b) A county may ~~not~~ transfer a funding extension under par. (a) from  
24 one landowner cost-share contract to another provided that the department approves an extension  
25 of both projects. Extended funds may not be used on new cost-share contracts. Extended

1 funding, if not spent for the designated cost-share contract in the year of the extension, remains  
2 with the department for distribution under a future year’s allocation plan.

3 **SECTION 67.** ATCP 50.35 is created to read:

4 ATCP 50.35 **Grants to non-county grant recipients.** (1) The department may award a  
5 grant to a non-county grant recipient under s. 92.14 (10), Stats.

6 (2) Projects of non-county grant recipients funded with grants under s. 20.115 (7) (qf),  
7 Stats., or other provisions authorizing the expenditure of funds to non-county grant recipients,  
8 may be extended for a period of one year if the non-county grant recipient submits a written  
9 extension request by December 31 of the initial grant year, and identifies how the unspent funds  
10 will be used in the subsequent grant year.

11 **SECTION 68.** ATCP 50.40 (2) (d) and (Note) are created to read:

12 ATCP 50.40 (2) (d) Paragraph (a) does not apply to requirements imposed on a livestock  
13 facility operator in connection with a local approval or permit issued pursuant to s. 93.90, Stats.,  
14 and ch. ATCP 51.

15 **Note:** To secure a local approval or permit, an operator must meet the required  
16 standards, regardless of whether the applicant receives cost-sharing (see s. 93.90,  
17 Stats.). However, a political subdivision may choose to provide cost-sharing to  
18 the operator.

19  
20 **SECTION 69.** ATCP 50.40 (3) (a) (Note) is amended to read:

21  
22 Note: A county may package cost-share payments in a variety of ways. For example, a  
23 county might choose to negotiate a single overall payment (sometimes called an  
24 “incentive” payment) with a landowner who voluntarily agrees to maintain a  
25 combination of “soft” practices ~~(such as nutrient management, residue~~  
26 ~~management and contour farming, for example) as part of an overall farm~~  
27 ~~conservation plan.~~ The county may pay the landowner to continue these  
28 practices, even though the landowner has followed the same practices in the past.  
29 In some cases, counties may be limited, by the terms of prior department grants  
30 for landowner cost-sharing, in making payments to landowners to continue  
31 compliance with performance standards. The county is free to negotiate the cost-

1 share amount (“incentive” payment amount) with the landowner, as long as the  
2 arrangement is voluntary.

3  
4 **SECTION 70.** ATCP 50.40 (3) (b) 12. to 14. are created to read

5 ATCP 50.40 (3) (b) 12. Pay for the installation of a practice on land owned by the state of  
6 Wisconsin, or any local governmental unit.

7 13. Bring a landowner with an existing WPDES permit into compliance with any  
8 standards required under ch. 281, Stats.

9 14. Pay for any state or local administrative permit fees.

10 **SECTION 71.** ATCP 50.40 (4) and (7) (b) are amended to read:

11 ATCP 50.40 (4) ELIGIBLE COSTS. A cost-share grant may pay for relevant costs identified  
12 in s. ATCP 50.08 (3) and (4), regardless of whether cost-sharing is required under sub. (2) or s.  
13 ATCP 50.08. A cost-share grant may pay for the costs incurred by a county or landowner in  
14 recording, with the county register of deeds, any cost-share contract, whether or not recording is  
15 required under s. ATCP 50.40 (14). A cost-share grant may not pay for ineligible costs  
16 identified under sub. (3) (b) or subch. VIII.

17 (7) (b) A cost-share grant may reimburse the cost of engineering services under par. (a)  
18 provided by a professional engineer registered under ch. 443, Stats, or ~~an agricultural a~~  
19 conservation engineering practitioner certified at the applicable rating under s. ATCP 50.46. A  
20 cost-share grant may not reimburse the cost of engineering services provided by the county land  
21 conservation committee or its agent.

22 **SECTION 72.** ATCP 50.40 (9) (c) 1. to 3. are repealed.

23 **SECTION 73.** ATCP 50.40 (9) (c) (intro.), (d), and (j) (Note) are amended to read:

1 ATCP 50.40 (9) (c) The location of the land on which the cost-shared practice is to be  
2 installed, and a specific legal description of the land if cost-share payments may exceed ~~the~~  
3 ~~following applicable amount:~~ \$14,000.

4 (d) Specifications for the cost-shared practice, including engineering specifications for  
5 any ~~agricultural~~ conservation engineering practice identified under s. ATCP 50.46 (2).

6 (j) **Note:** Subchapter VIII specifies a minimum maintenance period of 10 years for most  
7 conservation practices. But it does not specify a minimum maintenance period  
8 for the following “soft” practices:

- 9 • Contour farming (ATCP 50.67).
- 10 • Cover crop (ATCP 50.68).
- 11 • Nutrient management (ATCP 50.78).
- 12 • Pesticide management planning (ATCP 50.79).
- 13 • Residue management (ATCP 50.82).
- 14 • Stripcropping (ATCP 50.89).

15  
16 **SECTION 74.** ATCP 50.40 (9) (L) 1. to 3. are repealed.

17 **SECTION 75.** ATCP 50.40 (9) (L) (intro.), (n) and (10) (b) are amended to read:

18 ATCP 50.40 (9) (L) If the contract provides for a cost-share grant that exceeds ~~the~~  
19 ~~following applicable amount~~ \$14,000, an agreement that the contract runs with the land and is  
20 binding on subsequent owners or users of the land for the period of time required under subch.  
21 VIII.;

22 (n) ~~An agreement that the Appropriate county land conservation committee must pre-~~  
23 ~~approve, according to a procedure specified in the contract,~~ pre-approval procedures for making  
24 any construction changes that may affect the terms or amount of the cost-share grant.

25 (10) (b) Installed in compliance with applicable construction site erosion control  
26 standards contained in the DNR ~~Wisconsin construction site best management practice~~  
27 ~~handbook, DNR Pub. WR 222 (April 1994)~~ Storm Water Construction Technical Standards, in  
28 effect on [LRB insert date].

1           **SECTION 76.** ATCP 50.40 (10) (b) (Note) is repealed and recreated to read:

2           **Note:** A copy of these technical standards can be found at the DNR website at:  
3           <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/stormwater/standards/index.html>. Copies of these technical  
4           standards are also on file with the department and the legislative reference bureau.  
5

6           **SECTION 77.** ATCP 50.40 (11) (b) (intro.), 2. and 3., are amended to read:

7           ATCP 50.40 (11) (b) (intro.) That the cost-shared practice is designed and installed  
8           according to sub. (10). If the cost-shared practice is ~~an agricultural~~ a conservation engineering  
9           practice identified under s. ATCP 50.46 (2), one of the following shall certify in writing that the  
10          practice complies with sub. (10):

11           2. ~~An agricultural~~ A conservation engineering practitioner certified under s. ATCP  
12          50.46.

13           3. A well driller or pump installer registered under s. 280.15, Stats., if the ~~agricultural~~  
14          conservation engineering practice consists of well construction or decommissioning.

15          **SECTION 78.** ATCP 50.40 (14) (a), (b) and (c) are repealed.

16          **SECTION 79.** ATCP 50.40 (14) (intro.) is renumbered (14) (a) and amended to read:

17          ATCP 50.40 (14) (a) If a county contract with a landowner exceeds ~~the following~~  
18          ~~applicable amount~~ \$14,000, the county or the landowner shall record the contract with the county  
19          register of deeds before the county makes any cost-share payment to the landowner;\_

20          **SECTION 80.** ATCP 50.40 (14) (b), (c) and (d) and (Note) are created to read:

21          ATCP 50.40 (14) (b) If recording is required under this subsection, the county shall  
22          record the cost-share contract before making any reimbursement payments to the landowner or  
23          grant recipient.

24          (c) Recording a contract which exceeds the amount in par. (a) is not required if the  
25          contract is only for conservation practices listed in s. ATCP 50.08 (5) (b).



1 (d) A county may choose to voluntarily record any contract in which cost-share  
2 payments under this chapter were awarded.

3 **Note:** Cost-sharing funds can be used to record any contract authorized under this  
4 chapter.

5  
6 **SECTION 81.** ATCP 50.40 (17) is amended to read:

7 ATCP 50.40 (17) COMBINED GRANTS. Cost-share grants under this chapter may be  
8 combined with grants from other federal, state, local and private sources. ~~Department~~ Except as  
9 restricted under s. ATCP 50.42 (1), department funds allocated under this chapter may be  
10 combined with DNR funds allocated under s. 281.65 or 281.66, Stats., to finance up to 70% of  
11 the total cost of a project, or up to 90% in cases of economic hardship under s. ATCP 50.42 (4).  
12 This subsection does not limit the use of cost-share funds from other sources. A cost-share grant  
13 under this chapter may not reimburse a landowner for any costs that another governmental entity  
14 is also reimbursing.

15 **SECTION 82.** ATCP 50.42 (1) (a) (Note), (bm) and (dm) are created to read:

16 ATCP 50.42 (1) (a) **Note:** The maximum cost-share rates in this section and other  
17 sections were established to meet the requirements of s. 281.16 (3) (e), Stats.,  
18 which provides that an owner or operator of an agricultural facility may not be  
19 required by the state or a municipality to comply with the performance standards,  
20 prohibitions, conservation practices or technical standards unless cost-sharing is  
21 available for at least 70% of the cost of compliance, or is 70% to 90% of the cost  
22 of compliance in cases of economic hardship. These maximum cost-share rates  
23 are not required for the practices specified in s. ATCP 50.42 (1) (dm).

24  
25 (bm) The economic hardship provision under sub. (4) is available to owners and grant  
26 recipients who operate farms and is not available to non-farmers.

27 (dm) The cost-share payments for the following conservation practices may not exceed  
28 50% of the total eligible costs to install and maintain the practice unless the landowner is

1 required to install the practice to achieve compliance with an agricultural performance standard  
2 on cropland, pastures or a livestock operation:

- 3 1. Access roads under s. ATCP 50.65.
- 4 2. Roof runoff systems under s. ATCP 50.85.
- 5 3. Streambank or shoreline protection under s. ATCP 50.88.
- 6 4. Stream crossing under s. ATCP 50.885.
- 7 5. Wetland development or restoration under s. ATCP 50.98.

8 **SECTION 83.** ATCP 50.42 (4) (intro.) is amended to read:

9 ATCP 50.42 (4) (intro.) ECONOMIC HARDSHIP. A landowner of a farm operation  
10 qualifies for economic hardship treatment if all the following apply:

11 **SECTION 84.** ATCP 50.46 (title) is amended to read:

12 ATCP 50.46 (title) ~~Agricultural~~ **Conservation engineering practitioners.**

13 **SECTION 85.** ATCP 50.46 (1) and (2) are repealed and recreated to read:

14 ATCP 50.46 (1) GENERAL. (a) A conservation engineering practitioner certified under  
15 this section, or approved under a parallel federal program identified in par. (b), may implement  
16 the agricultural or other conservation engineering practices in ch. 92, Stats., or s. 281.65, Stats.,  
17 and perform any of the following activities consistent with the person's level of certification  
18 under this section:

- 19 1. Certify the design specifications for a conservation engineering practice under sub.  
20 (2).

21 **Note:** A design certification typically involves the preparation or approval of a design  
22 document that prescribes the installation of a conservation engineering practice.  
23 The process typically requires the application of engineering principles and  
24 methods, and may include several planning and design components. For  
25 example, a practitioner may conduct a site inventory to gather data for the design

1 process, may identify or confirm particular water quality problems on the site, and  
2 may evaluate the adequacy of the proposed practices to address those problems.  
3

4 2. Certify that a conservation engineering practice has been installed according to an  
5 approved design, and according to applicable standards and specifications.

6 3. Engage in planning review and other engineering functions related to the installation  
7 of engineered conservation practices.

8 (b) NRCS administers a system of job approval ranking which authorizes persons to  
9 perform the functions identified in par. (a) at various levels of demonstrated expertise. The  
10 department shall operate its certification program under this section, to the extent possible, in  
11 conformance with the NRCS, or any other applicable federal agency system of job approval  
12 authority.

13 (c) For funding purposes under this chapter or ch. NR 120, no person, other than a  
14 conservation engineering practitioner certified under this section or a professional engineer  
15 registered under ch. 443, Stats., may certify that conservation practices were properly designed  
16 or installed in compliance with standards under this chapter or s. 281.65, Stats.

17 **Note:** See ss. 92.18 and 443.14 (10), Stats. Registered professional engineers, persons  
18 working under the direct supervision of registered professional engineers and  
19 employees of the NRCS may also seek certification under this section. A state or  
20 county employee certified under this section is exempt from the professional  
21 engineering registration requirements of ch. 443, Stats., when engaged in state or  
22 county activities under ch. 92, Stats., or s. 281.65, Stats., regardless of whether  
23 the activities are funded under this chapter.  
24

25 **Note:** Notwithstanding sub. (1), a well driller or pump installer registered under s.  
26 280.15, Stats., may certify a well construction or decommissioning under sub. (1).  
27

28 (2) CONSERVATION ENGINEERING PRACTICES. For purposes of this section, a  
29 conservation engineering practice includes any of those practices identified in subch. VIII,  
30 authorized by the department under s. ATCP 50.40 (3), allowed under s. 281.65, Stats., or

1 approved and published, as part of the NRCS technical guide or as a formal technical standard by  
2 the DNR.

3 **Note:** The DNR publishes its technical standards on its website at, for example:  
4 <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/stormwater/standards/index.html>.

5  
6 **SECTION 86.** ATCP 50.46 (2m) is created to read:

7 ATCP 50.46 (2m) STATE CONSERVATION ENGINEER. The department may designate an  
8 employee as the state conservation engineer. The designated person shall be a professional  
9 engineer registered under ch. 443, Stats., and demonstrate sufficient training and experience to  
10 carry out the functions of the position. The state conservation engineer shall do all of the  
11 following:

12 (a) Oversee the work of the field engineers who are responsible for certifying  
13 conservation engineering practitioners under this section.

14 (b) Conduct engineering activities requiring job approval authority ratings higher than  
15 those authorized under this section including job class ratings of V and above.

16 **SECTION 87.** ATCP 50.46 (3) (title) is amended to read:

17 ATCP 50.46 (3) (title) ~~AGRICULTURAL~~ CONSERVATION ENGINEERING PRACTITIONER;  
18 CERTIFICATION.

19 **SECTION 88.** ATCP 50.46 (3) (intro.) is renumbered (3) (a) and amended to read:

20 ATCP 50.46 (3) (a) A person who wishes to be certified as ~~an agricultural~~ a conservation  
21 engineering practitioner shall apply to the department or a county land conservation committee.  
22 An applicant may apply orally or in writing. The department or the county land conservation  
23 committee shall promptly refer the application to the department's designated field engineer.  
24 The field engineer shall evaluate the applicant and issue a decision granting or denying the  
25 request.

1           **SECTION 89.** ATCP 50.46 (3) (b) and (Note), (c) and (d) are created to read:

2           ATCP 50.46 (3) (b) The department, in cooperation with NRCS, shall develop a form for  
3 evaluating the certification level of applicants.

4           **Note:** A person may obtain a certification form by calling (608) 224-4622, by visiting  
5 the department website at:  
6 [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and Water](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx)  
7 [Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx) , or by writing to the following  
8 address:

9  
10           Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection  
11           Division of Agricultural Resource Management  
12           P.O. Box 8911  
13           Madison, WI 53708

14  
15           (c) Prior to revising the certification form, the department shall do all of the following:

16           1. Publish proposed revisions on the department’s website and other locations designed  
17 to provide reasonable notice to the public and other interested parties.

18           2. Notify counties and other interested parties of the department’s intent to revise the  
19 form and provide access to the proposed revisions.

20           3. Allow a minimum of 30 calendar days for the public and other interested parties to  
21 submit comments on the proposed revisions.

22           (d) The department shall finalize the certification form after considering any comments  
23 received.

24           **SECTION 90.** ATCP 50.46 (4) (a) is amended to read:

25           ATCP 50.46 (4) (a) To evaluate an applicant under sub. (3), the department’s field  
26 engineer shall complete ~~the a department~~ certification form ~~shown in Appendix E~~. The field  
27 engineer shall rate the applicant under sub. (5) based on the applicant’s demonstrated knowledge,  
28 training, experience and record of appropriately seeking assistance. Evaluations shall be fair and  
29 consistent.

1           **SECTION 91.** ATCP 50.46 (5) (a) (intro.), (a) 1. and 2. (Note), (6) (b), (7) (a), (9) (c) 2.

2 and (10) are amended to read:

3           ATCP 50.46 (5) (a) (intro.) For each type of agricultural or other conservation  
4 engineering practice identified in ~~Appendix E~~ the certification form required under sub. (3), the  
5 department's field engineer shall identify the most complex of the 5 job classes in ~~Appendix E~~  
6 the certification form for which the applicant is authorized to do each of the following:

7           1. Certify that design specifications for jobs in that class comply with ~~standards under~~  
8 ~~this chapter or~~ those identified in subch. VIII, authorized by the department under s. ATCP 50.40  
9 (3), allowed by s. 281.65, Stats., or approved and published, as part of the NRCS technical guide  
10 or as a formal technical standard by the DNR.

11           (a) 2. **Note:** The rating system under par. (a) is designed to be reasonably consistent with  
12 the system used by NRCS under 7 CFR 610.1 to 610.5. ~~Appendix E is~~ The  
13 department will attempt to maintain its certification form in a manner similar to the  
14 NRCS job approval delegation form. It identifies the controlling factors used to  
15 determine the relative difficulty of job classes, as well as the NRCS standard that  
16 applies. In cases where department field engineers may be required to provide a  
17 job certification approval at a level higher than their own, they should consult with  
18 a person who has appropriate certification in the areas being rated. A person who  
19 is certified at a job level under par. (a) may certify his or her own work at that level  
20 for any purpose including funding purposes ~~purposes~~ under this chapter.

21           (6) (b) Whenever the department's field engineer certifies ~~an agricultural~~ a conservation  
22 engineering practitioner, the field engineer shall issue a written certification ~~in~~ on the  
23 department's certification form ~~shown in Appendix E~~. The certification becomes effective when  
24 signed by all of the following:

25           (7) (a) A department field engineer shall review each certification rating under sub. (5) at  
26 least once every 3 years, and may review a rating at any time. A field engineer shall review a  
27 rating whenever a certified ~~agricultural~~ conservation engineering practitioner requests that  
28 review.  
29

1 (9) (c) 2. State and federal agencies that provide cost-share funds for ~~agricultural~~  
2 conservation engineering practices.

3 (10) CERTIFICATION GUIDELINES. The department may publish guidelines for the  
4 certification of ~~agricultural~~ conservation engineering practitioners under this section. The  
5 guidelines may include suggested or required courses, training activities, and types of knowledge  
6 and experience that may help applicants qualify for certification at specified rating levels, or be  
7 required in order to retain certification at certain rating levels.

8 **SECTION 92.** ATCP 50.46 (11) is renumbered (11) (a) and amended to read:

9 ATCP 50.46 (11) SIGNATURE AND DATE REQUIRED. (a) Whenever a person certified  
10 under this section approves or submits for approval any document related to the design or  
11 construction of ~~an agricultural~~ a conservation engineering practice under sub. (2), that person  
12 shall sign and date that document.

13 **SECTION 93.** ATCP 50.46 (11) (b) is created to read:

14 ATCP 50.46 (11) (b) On any project approval documentation, a certified conservation  
15 engineering practitioner may not sign and certify both the design specifications for the project,  
16 and the review and approval of conservation practice installation. At least two separate certified  
17 practitioners are required to sign the practice approval documentation. The person signing the  
18 final design approval shall have the appropriate job class certification for each of the practices  
19 used in the design. An engineer registered in the state of Wisconsin may be one of the  
20 signatories on the project approval, or may sign the final design approval in place of a person  
21 with job certification under this section.

22 **SECTION 94.** ATCP 50.46 (12) is amended to read:

1 ATCP 50.46 (12) SCOPE OF CERTIFICATION. No certified ~~agricultural~~ conservation  
2 engineering practitioner may, for any purpose, including funding purposes under this chapter or  
3 s. 281.65, Stats., certify any matter under sub. (5) (a) in a job class more complex than that for  
4 which the practitioner is authorized under sub. (5) (a). In the event a practitioner exceeds the  
5 authority authorized for certifying conservation practices, the department shall review the matter  
6 and may take action under subs. (7) and (9).

7 **SECTION 95.** ATCP 50.48 (2) (a) 4. (Note) is created to read:

8 **Note:** The department may develop minimum standards for a department-approved  
9 training course for farmers who develop their own nutrient management plans.

10 **SECTION 96.** ATCP 50.50 (2) (intro.) and (d) are amended to read:

11 ATCP 50.50 (2) (intro.) APPLYING FOR CERTIFICATION. A laboratory operator may apply  
12 to the department for certification under sub. (1). An operator shall submit a separate  
13 application, ~~using the form shown in Appendix A~~ on a form provided by the department, for each  
14 laboratory for which the operator seeks certification. The application shall include all of the  
15 following:  
16

17 (d) The soil tests, test methods, and nitrogen estimation methods used by the laboratory.

18 The laboratory shall be capable of performing the following tests according to methods  
19 prescribed by the University of Wisconsin-Extension in *Nutrient application guidelines for field,*  
20 *vegetable, and fruit crops in Wisconsin*, UWEX Publication A2809 (~~2006~~2012), and by the  
21 University of Wisconsin-Madison soil science department in *Wisconsin Procedures for Soil*  
22 *Testing, Plant Analysis and Feed & Forage Analysis*, Soil Fertility Series (~~December, 2007~~)  
23 (March, 2012), and shall be capable of estimating nitrogen levels based on those tests:

24 **SECTION 97.** ATCP 50.50 (2) (d) 5. (Note) is created to read:



1 **Note:** Copies of the *Nutrient application guidelines for field, vegetable, and fruit crops in*  
2 *Wisconsin*, UWEX Publication A2809 (2012) and the *Wisconsin Procedures for*  
3 *Soil Testing, Plant Analysis and Feed & Forage Analysis, Soil Fertility Series*  
4 (March, 2012) are on file at the department and legislative reference bureau. To  
5 obtain a copy of A2809, see s. ATCP 50.04 (3) (f) 4. (Note). Copies of the  
6 Wisconsin Procedures publication are available at the University of Wisconsin  
7 website at: <http://uwlab.soils.wisc.edu/lab-procedures/>.  
8

9 **SECTION 98.** ATCP 50.50 (2) (g) (Note) is amended to read:

10 **Note:** A list of approved soil testing laboratories can be found at the following web  
11 address: [http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land-](http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land-water/conservation/nutrient-mngmt/planning.jsp)  
12 [water/conservation/nutrient-mngmt/planning.jsp](http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land-water/conservation/nutrient-mngmt/planning.jsp)  
13 [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and Water](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx)  
14 [Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx) or by calling (608) 224-4622.  
15

16 **SECTION 99.** ATCP 50.50 (2) (g) (second Note) is created to read:

17 **(second) Note:** A person may obtain a copy of the soil test laboratory certification form  
18 by visiting the department website at:  
19 [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and Water](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50dex.aspx)  
20 [Resource Management/ATCP50dex.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50dex.aspx) or by calling (608) 224-4622.  
21

22 **SECTION 100.** ATCP 50.50 (4) (intro.) is amended to read:

23 ATCP 50.50 (4) (intro.) NUTRIENT RECOMMENDATIONS. If a certified laboratory  
24 recommends nutrient applications to a landowner that exceed the amounts required to achieve  
25 applicable crop fertility levels recommended by the University of Wisconsin Extension in ~~*Soil*~~  
26 ~~*Test Recommendations*~~ *Nutrient application guidelines for Field, Vegetable and Fruit Crops in*  
27 ~~*Wisconsin, UWEX publication A-2809*~~ *A2809 (1998/2012)*, the laboratory shall make those  
28 recommendations in writing and shall disclose all of the following in the same document:

29 **SECTION 101.** ATCP 50.50 (4) (c) (Note), (8) (b) (Note) and (c) (Note) are amended to  
30 read:

31 ATCP 50.50 (4) (c) **Note:** ~~*Appendix B*~~ contains a convenient summary of UWEX  
32 ~~publication A2809, for selected crops. You may obtain the complete publication~~  
33 ~~and the summary from your county extension agent. The complete publication is~~  
34 ~~also on file with the department and the legislative reference bureau. For further~~

1 ~~information, see Appendix G. To obtain a copy of A2809, see s. ATCP 50.04 (3)~~  
2 ~~(f) 4. (Note).~~

3  
4 (8) (b) **Note:** The University of Wisconsin-Extension publication, *Recommended*  
5 *Methods of Manure Analysis*, UWEX publication A3769 (2003), is on file with  
6 the department and legislative reference bureau. Copies may be obtained ~~from the~~  
7 ~~University of Wisconsin Extension at the following address: University of~~  
8 ~~Wisconsin Madison, Department of Soil Science, 1525 Observatory Drive,~~  
9 ~~Madison, WI 53706-1299 by visiting the UWEX website at:~~  
10 <http://learningstore.uwex.edu>.

11  
12 (c) **Note:** ~~The To obtain copies of the NRCS technical guide nutrient management~~  
13 ~~standard 590 (September, 2005) is reproduced in Appendix D. The and the~~  
14 ~~Wisconsin conservation planning technical note WI-1 is not reproduced in~~  
15 ~~Appendix D but is on file with the department and the legislative reference~~  
16 ~~bureau. Copies may be obtained from your county land conservation office or at~~  
17 ~~the following web address: <http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land->~~  
18 ~~[water/conservation/nutrient\\_mngmt/planning.jsp](http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land-), see s. ATCP 50.04 (3) (dm) 1.~~  
19 ~~(Note).~~

20  
21 **SECTION 102.** ATCP 50.52 (1) (g) and (Note) and (2) (d) are amended to read:

22 ATCP 50.52 (1) (g) Issue training guidelines and requirements for certified ~~agricultural~~  
23 conservation engineering practitioners under s. ATCP 50.46 (10).

24 **Note:** The department guidelines may include suggested or required courses, training  
25 activities, and the types of knowledge and experience that may help applicants  
26 qualify for certification at specified rating levels, or be required in order to  
27 maintain certification at certain rating levels.

28  
29 (2) (d) The statewide association of representing land conservation committees and their  
30 staffs.

31 **SECTION 103.** ATCP 50.52 (2) (e) is repealed.

32 **SECTION 104.** ATCP 50.54 (1) (Note) and (2) (b) are amended to read:

33 ATCP 50.54 (1) **Note:** “Local regulations” are defined in s. ATCP 50.01(18). Local  
34 conservation requirements should be consistent with this chapter (see ss. 92.05 (1),  
35 (3) (c) and (L), 92.07 (2), 92.11, 92.15 (2) to (4), 92.16, 92.17, 93.90 and 281.16  
36 (3), Stats.). The department may review and comment on local regulations, as it  
37 deems necessary. See specific requirements related to manure storage ordinances  
38 (s. ATCP 50.56), agricultural shoreland management ordinances (s. ATCP 50.58)  
39 and livestock ordinances (s. ATCP 50.60). A local regulation may not require a

1 livestock operator to obtain a license or permit for a new or expanding livestock  
2 operation, except as specifically authorized under s. 93.90, Stats., and ch. ATCP  
3 51. When exercising their approval authority under the livestock facility siting  
4 law, political subdivisions are limited in their application of local manure storage  
5 ordinances adopted under s. 92.16, Stats., and s. ATCP 50.56. (See s. ATCP 51.18  
6 (6)(Note)).

7  
8 (2) (b) Paragraph (a) does not apply to a nutrient management plan required under a  
9 ~~permit for a manure storage system voluntarily constructed by a landowner.~~ any of the following:

10 **SECTION 105.** ATCP 50.54 (2) (b) 1. and 2. are created to read:

11 ATCP 50.54 (2) (b) 1. A permit for a manure storage system voluntarily constructed by a  
12 landowner.

13 2. A permit required for a new or expanding livestock facility operation regulated under  
14 ch. ATCP 51.

15 **SECTION 106.** ATCP 50.56 (2) (e) and (f) are amended to read:

16 ATCP 50.56 (2) (e) ~~Abandonment~~ Closure provisions under sub. (4), if any.

17 (f) Conditions, if any, under which the county, city, village or town may require the  
18 ~~abandonment~~ closure of a manure storage system.

19 **SECTION 107.** ATCP 50.56 (3) is repealed and recreated to read:

20 ATCP 50.56 (3) CONSTRUCTION PROVISIONS. (a) An ordinance adopted under s. 92.16,  
21 Stats., shall establish requirements for constructing a new or modified manure storage system  
22 including storage and transfer components to handle manure.

23 **Note:** See s. ATCP 50.01 (20).

24  
25 (b) The ordinance shall include provisions that do all of the following:

26 1. Prohibit construction of any part of a manure storage system without a permit from the  
27 county, city, village or town that adopts the ordinance.

1           **Note:** A local governmental unit may not require a manure storage permit for livestock  
2           facilities if it also requires the livestock facility to obtain a permit under the  
3           livestock siting law (s. 93.90, Stats.) for a new or expanded livestock facility. (See  
4           s. ATCP 50.54 (1) (Note)).  
5

6           2. Require submission of a construction plan and “as built” documentation of the project  
7           demonstrating that the system was installed in accordance with technical standards.

8           **Note:** Unless the ordinance specifies otherwise, a permit would cover activities related to  
9           the construction of a facility, and not its operation and use.

10  
11           **Note:** Ordinances should provide sufficient time for the local governmental unit to  
12           review engineering plans and specifications submitted by applicants. The  
13           timelines in ss. NR 243.15 (1) (b) and s. ATCP 51.32 are designed to enable  
14           permit issuers to thoroughly review today’s complex systems for completeness  
15           and conformance with applicable standards. Local governmental units should  
16           make every effort to coordinate their permit reviews with other government  
17           programs conducting similar reviews.  
18

19           3. Require a nutrient management plan that complies with s. ATCP 50.04 (3).

20           **Note:** A nutrient management plan, demonstrating that manure can be properly utilized,  
21           should be included with a permit application under par. (a). If the county, city,  
22           village or town wants to monitor compliance with the nutrient management plan,  
23           its ordinance may include monitoring provisions under sub. (2) (g).  
24

25           4. Require consistency with state performance standards and prohibitions, and require  
26           construction in accordance with technical standards including all of the following:

27           a. NRCS technical guide waste storage facility standard 313 (September, 2012).

28           b. NRCS technical guide manure transfer standard 634 (September, 2012).

29           c. Other applicable NRCS technical guide standards.

30           d. Applicable DNR requirements under s. 281.65 (4) (g) 5., Stats.

31           **SECTION 108.** ATCP 50.56 (4) (intro.) and (a) are amended to read:

32           (4) (intro.) ~~ABANDONMENT~~ CLOSURE PROVISIONS. An ordinance adopted under s. 92.16,  
33           Stats., may prohibit any person from ~~abandoning~~ closing a manure storage system unless that  
34           person does all of the following:

1 (a) Submits ~~an abandonment~~ a closure plan for approval by the county, city, village or  
2 town. The ~~abandonment~~ closure plan shall comply with the waste facility closure provisions  
3 contained in the NRCS technical guide, closure of waste impoundments standard 360  
4 ~~(November, 2006)~~ (January, 2013).

5 **SECTION 109.** ATCP 50.56 (4) (a) (Note) is created to read:

6 **Note:** The NRCS technical guide standard 360 is on file with the department and the  
7 legislative reference bureau.

8  
9 **SECTION 110.** ATCP 50.56 (4) (b), (c) and (Note) and (6) are amended to read:

10 ATCP 50.56 (4) (b) Obtains a permit for the ~~abandonment~~ closure.

11 (c) Complies with the approved ~~abandonment~~ closure plan under par. (a).

12 **Note:** An ordinance may apply the ~~abandonment~~ closure requirements under sub. (4) to  
13 any manure storage system, regardless of when that system was installed.

14  
15 ~~For information on how to obtain~~ Copies of NRCS technical guide standards,  
16 including any secondary standards incorporated by reference in those standards,  
17 see ~~Appendix G~~ can be obtained by visiting the department website at:  
18 [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land\\_and\\_Water\\_Conservation/Soil\\_and\\_Water](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50_/index.aspx)  
19 [\\_Resource\\_Management/ATCP50\\_/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50_/index.aspx) or by calling (608) 224-4622.

20  
21 (6) DEPARTMENT REVIEW. Before a county, city, village or town adopts or amends an  
22 ordinance under s. 92.16, Stats., the county, city, village or town ~~shall~~ may submit the ordinance  
23 to the department. ~~The department shall~~ for review of the ordinance ~~for~~ to determine consistency  
24 with this chapter. The department may ask the county, city, village or town for information that  
25 it needs to perform the review.

26 **SECTION 111.** ATCP 50.60 (1) (a) (Note) is amended to read:

27 **Note:** See s. 92.15, Stats. A person adversely affected by a local livestock regulation  
28 may oppose its adoption at the local level. The person may also challenge a local  
29 regulation in court if the person believes that the local governmental unit has  
30 violated par. (a) or s. 92.15, Stats. A local governmental unit is responsible for  
31 analyzing the legal adequacy of its regulations, and may exercise its own legal  
32 judgment in deciding whether to seek state approval under this section.

1  
2 A local permit requirement does not, *by itself*, violate par. (a). But permit  
3 *conditions* codified in a local regulation must comply with par. (a). In the case of  
4 local permit conditions for new and expanding livestock operations, local  
5 governmental units must codify more stringent regulation and meet other  
6 requirements of s. ATCP 51.10 (3). If a local governmental unit routinely requires  
7 permit holders to comply with *uncodified* conservation requirements that exceed  
8 state standards, those uncodified requirements may be subject to court challenge  
9 under s. 92.15, Stats., and par. (a) as *de facto* regulatory enactments. A local  
10 governmental unit may forestall a legal challenge by codifying standard permit  
11 conditions and obtaining any necessary state approval under this section. The  
12 department will review codified regulations under sub. (2), but will not review  
13 individual permits or uncodified permit conditions.  
14

15 **SECTION 112.** Subchapter VIII (Note) is created to read:

16  
17 **Note:** For information on how to obtain NRCS technical guide standards and any other  
18 standards required under this subchapter, including any secondary standards  
19 incorporated by reference in those standards, a person may visit the department  
20 website at:

21 [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and Water](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land%20and%20Water%20Conservation/Soil%20and%20Water)  
22 [Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land%20and%20Water%20Conservation/Soil%20and%20Water), or contact the department in  
23 writing at the following address:

24  
25 Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection  
26 Division of Agricultural Resource Management  
27 P.O. Box 8911  
28 Madison, WI 53708-8911  
29

30 **SECTION 113.** ATCP 50.61 (title) and (1) are amended to read:

31 ATCP 50.61 **General standards for cost-shared practices; pre-approval of cost-**  
32 **shared practices.** (1) COST-SHARED PRACTICES MUST COMPLY. ~~Cost-shared~~ Except as authorized  
33 under sub. (3), cost-shared practices under this chapter shall comply with applicable standards  
34 under this subchapter.

35 **SECTION 114.** ATCP 50.61 (3) and (4) and (Note) are created to read:

36 ATCP 50.61 (3) VOLUNTARY USE OF UPDATED TECHNICAL STANDARDS. The department  
37 may authorize a county to cost-share a conservation practice to be implemented under the

1 updated version of a technical standard listed in this subchapter. The county may cost-share the  
2 conservation practice using the updated technical standard if all of the following apply:

3 (a) The updated technical standard provides conservation benefits at least as beneficial as  
4 the version listed in this subchapter.

5 (b) The updated technical standard has been adopted by NRCS, DNR or the applicable  
6 technical standards entity listed in this subchapter.

7 (c) The landowner voluntarily agrees, in writing, to the use of the updated standard to  
8 implement the conservation practice.

9 (4) PRE-APPROVAL OF COST-SHARED PRACTICES. The department may, at any time,  
10 require advance approval of any practice cost-shared under this chapter. The department shall  
11 provide written notice to affected parties of the cost-shared practices requiring pre-approval by  
12 the department and an opportunity for the affected parties to comment on the listed practices.  
13 The department shall do all of the following:

14 (a) Identify the practice for which pre-approval is required.

15 (b) Establish the conditions under which pre-approval is required and the process for  
16 securing the pre-approval.

17 (c) Provide at least 30 calendar days written notice to each county and other affected  
18 grant recipients before requiring pre-approval of the listed cost-shared practice.

19 **Note:** The approval authorized under this subsection is in addition to the approval  
20 required under s. ATCP 50.40(8) for contracts exceeding \$50,000 in cost-share  
21 payments.

22  
23 The department may provide notice by email or by posting the information on its  
24 website.

25  
26 **SECTION 115.** ATCP 50.62 (1) (b) 6. is created to read:

27 ATCP 50.62 (1) (b) 6. A waste transfer system as defined in s. ATCP 50.93.

1           **SECTION 116.** ATCP 50.62 (1) (e) 1. and 3. are amended to read:  
2           ATCP 50.62 (1) (e) 1. A milking center waste control system, except for the system  
3 component used to transfer the waste to manure storage.  
4           3. A barnyard runoff control system as defined in s. ATCP 50.64 (1), except for the  
5 system component used to transfer the waste to manure storage.

6           **SECTION 117.** ATCP 50.62 (1) (e) 5. is created to read:  
7           ATCP 50.62 (1) (e) 5. A feed storage system, except for the system component used to  
8 transfer leachate and contaminated runoff to manure storage.

9           **SECTION 118.** ATCP 50.62 (3) (d) (Note) and (5) (e) 1. to 5. are amended to read:  
10          ATCP 50.62 (3) (d) **Note:** The NRCS technical guide ~~nutrient management~~ standard 590  
11          ~~(September, 2005) is reproduced in Appendix D~~ is on file with the department and  
12          the legislative reference bureau. Copies can be obtained by visiting the department  
13          website at:  
14          [Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and Water</a></u><br/>15          <u><a href=) or by calling (608) 224-4622. The  
16          feasibility of applying manure to land under par. (d) will be determined in light of  
17          existing topographic, climatological and management factors.

18  
19          (5) (e) 1. NRCS technical guide waste storage facility standard 313 ~~(December, 2005)~~  
20          (September, 2012).

21          2. NRCS technical guide ~~manure~~ waste transfer standard 634 ~~(February, 2007)~~  
22          (September, 2012).

23          3. NRCS technical guide water well decommissioning standard 351 ~~(May, 2008)~~ (June,  
24          2011).

25          4. NRCS technical guide ~~fencing~~ fence standard 382 ~~(November, 1999)~~ (September,  
26          2010).

27          5. NRCS technical guide heavy use area protection standard 561 ~~(October, 2007)~~  
28          (January, 2011).



1           **SECTION 119.** ATCP 50.62 (5) (e) 6. is renumbered ATCP 50.62 (5) (e) 9.

2           **SECTION 120.** ATCP 50.62 (5) (e) 6. (Note) is repealed.

3           **SECTION 121.** ATCP 50.62 (5) (e) 6. to 8. are created to read:

4           ATCP 50.62 (5) (e) 6. NRCS technical guide pond sealing or lining – flexible membrane  
5 standard 521A (September, 2012).

6           7. NRCS technical guide pond sealing or lining-bentonite sealant standard 521C  
7 (January, 2011).

8           8. NRCS technical guide pond sealing or lining – compacted clay treatment standard  
9 521D (September, 2012)

10          **SECTION 122.** ATCP 50.62 (5) (em) is created to read:

11          ATCP 50.62 (5) (em) The landowner agrees, in writing, to maintain the original storage  
12 capacity of the cost-shared practice for the 10 year maintenance period of the cost-share contract.  
13 If more animals are added during the 10 year maintenance period, all of the following provisions  
14 apply:

15           1. The landowner is responsible, at his or her own cost, for construction of any additional  
16 storage necessary to maintain the same storage capacity if the landowner’s nutrient management  
17 plan cannot accommodate added manure from the facility expansion.

18           2. The landowner may be required to add manure storage capacity without an offer of  
19 cost-sharing, notwithstanding s. ATCP 50.08.

20          **SECTION 123.** ATCP 50.62 (5) (f) is amended to read:

21          ATCP 50.62 (5) (f) The landowner establishes a nutrient management plan, and agrees to  
22 comply with that plan and maintain the manure storage system for 10 years unless the landowner  
23 discontinues the animal feeding operation-is discontinued.

1       **SECTION 124.** ATCP 50.62 (5) (f) (Note) is created to read:

2       **Note:** The landowner must provide to the county a completed nutrient management  
3       checklist to receive cost-share payment for this practice and must provide an  
4       updated checklist for each year of the maintenance period. A person may obtain a  
5       copy of the checklist from the county conservation office or by visiting the  
6       department website at:  
7       [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and Water](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land%20and%20Water%20Conservation/Soil%20and%20Water%20Resource%20Management/ATCP50/index.aspx)  
8       [Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land%20and%20Water%20Conservation/Soil%20and%20Water%20Resource%20Management/ATCP50/index.aspx), or by contacting the department in  
9       writing at:

10                               Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection  
11                               Division of Agricultural Resource Management  
12                               P.O. Box 8911  
13                               Madison, WI 53708-8911  
14                               Email: [datcpnutrientmanagement@wisconsin.gov](mailto:datcpnutrientmanagement@wisconsin.gov)

15       **SECTION 125.** ATCP 50.63 (5) (Note) is repealed.

16       **SECTION 126.** ATCP 50.64 (1) (a), (b) and (e) are amended to read:

17       ATCP 50.64 (1) (a) Access ~~roads or cattle crossings~~ road under s. ATCP 50.65.

18       (b) ~~Animal trails~~ Trails and walkways under s. ATCP 50.66.

19       (e) Heavy use area protection ~~under s. ATCP 50.74~~ described in NRCS technical guide  
20       heavy use area protection standard 561 (January, 2011).

21       **SECTION 127.** ATCP 50.64 (1) (v) (Note) is created to read:

22       **Note:** The NRCS technical guide standard 561 is on file with the department and the  
23       legislative reference bureau. Copies can be obtained by visiting the department  
24       website at:  
25       [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and Water](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land%20and%20Water%20Conservation/Soil%20and%20Water%20Resource%20Management/ATCP50/index.aspx)  
26       [Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land%20and%20Water%20Conservation/Soil%20and%20Water%20Resource%20Management/ATCP50/index.aspx) or by calling (608) 224-4622.

27       **SECTION 128.** ATCP 50.64 (5) (a) and (b) are amended to read:

28       ATCP 50.64 (5) (a) The system complies with applicable design, construction and  
29       maintenance standards under this subchapter and NRCS technical guide heavy use area  
30       protection standard 561 (January, 2011).

1 (b) The landowner agrees to ~~maintain~~ a 10 year maintenance period for the barnyard  
2 runoff control system, and ~~the~~ any nutrient management plan if required under par. (c), ~~for 10~~  
3 ~~years unless the~~ landowner discontinues the animal feeding operation ~~is discontinued~~.

4 **SECTION 129.** ATCP 50.64 (5) (c) and (second Note) are created to read:

5 ATCP 50.64 (5) (c) The landowner agrees to maintain a nutrient management plan for 10  
6 years if any of the following apply:

7 1. Manure in the barnyard will accumulate for more than 15 days as a result of the new  
8 runoff control system.

9 2. The landowner has inadequate land to spread manure in relation to the animal units, as  
10 calculated under ch. ATCP 51, Appendix A, Worksheet 3, Part B.

11 **(second) Note:** The NRCS technical guide standard 561 is on file with the department  
12 and the legislative reference bureau. Copies can be obtained by visiting the  
13 department website at:

14 [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and Water](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water)  
15 [Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water) or by calling (608) 224-4622.

16  
17 **SECTION 130.** ATCP 50.65 (title), (1) and (2) are amended to read:

18 ATCP 50.65 (title) ~~Access roads and cattle crossings~~ road. (1) DEFINITION. In this  
19 section, “access road ~~or cattle crossing~~” means a road or pathway which confines or directs the  
20 movement of livestock ~~or~~, farm equipment or vehicular traffic, and which is designed and  
21 installed to control surface water runoff, to protect an installed practice, ~~to control livestock~~  
22 ~~access to a stream or waterway, to stabilize a stream crossing,~~ or to prevent erosion.

23 (2) ELIGIBLE COSTS. A cost-share grant under s. ATCP 50.40 may reimburse the cost of  
24 ~~establishing~~ installing conservation practices necessary to prevent water quality impairment that  
25 may result from the construction of an access road ~~or cattle crossing~~ if the access road ~~or cattle~~  
26 ~~crossing~~ is needed to comply with applicable state or local regulations.

1           **SECTION 131.** ATCP 50.65 (2) (Note) and (2m) are created to read:

2           ATCP 50.65 (2) **Note:** An eligible practice could be a culvert.

3

4           (2m) INELIGIBLE COSTS. A cost-share grant under s. ATCP 50.40 may not be used to  
5 cover the costs for road surfacing and other road construction activities beyond the area  
6 necessary to address the environmental problem.

7           **SECTION 132.** ATCP 50.65 (3) (intro.), (a) and (Note) are amended to read:

8           ATCP 50.65 (3) (intro.) DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE STANDARDS. A cost-  
9 share grant under s. ATCP 50.40 may not reimburse the cost of establishing water quality  
10 practices associated with an access road or cattle crossing unless all of the following conditions  
11 are met:

12           (a) The access road ~~or cattle crossing~~ complies with all of the following that apply:

13           1. NRCS technical guide access road standard 560 ~~(August, 2006)~~(September, 2010).

14           2. NRCS technical guide streambank and shoreline protection standard 580 ~~(December,~~  
15 ~~2005)~~(November, 2009).

16           ~~3. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (November 1999).~~

17           **Note:** ~~For information on how to obtain NRCS technical guide standards, including any~~  
18           ~~secondary standards incorporated by reference in those standards, When an access~~  
19           ~~road crosses a stream, see Appendix Gs. ATCP 50.885.~~

20

21           **SECTION 133.** ATCP 50.65 (3) (b) is amended to read:

22

23           ATCP 50.65 (3) (b) The landowner agrees to maintain the access road ~~or cattle crossing~~  
24 practice for 10 years unless farming operations on the affected land are discontinued or the  
25 practices are no longer required to prevent the environmental problem.

26           **SECTION 134.** ATCP 50.66 (title), (1), (2), (3) (intro.) and (a) are amended to read:

1 ATCP 50.66 (title) ~~Animal trails~~ **Trails and walkways.** (1) DEFINITION. In this section,  
2 “~~animal~~ trail or walkway” means a travel lane to facilitate movement of livestock or people.

3 (2) ELIGIBLE COSTS. A cost-share grant under s. ATCP 50.40 may reimburse the cost of  
4 establishing ~~an animal~~ a trail or walkway when necessary to comply with state or local  
5 regulations.

6 (3) (intro.) DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE. A cost-share grant under s.  
7 ATCP 50.40 may not reimburse the cost of establishing ~~an animal~~ a trail or walkway unless all  
8 of the following conditions are met:

9 (a) The ~~animal~~ trail or walkway complies with all of the following that apply:

10 1. NRCS technical guide animal trails and walkways standard 575 (~~August,~~  
11 ~~2006~~)(November, 2012).

12 2. NRCS technical guide streambank and shoreline protection standard 580 (~~December,~~  
13 ~~2005~~)(November, 2009).

14 3. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (~~November, 1999~~)(September, 2010).

15 **SECTION 135.** ATCP 50.66 (3) (a) 3. (Note) is renumbered ATCP 50.66 (3) (a) 4. (Note)  
16 and amended to read:

17 **Note:** ~~For information on how to obtain~~ When an access road crosses a stream, see s.  
18 ATCP 50.885.

19 ~~NRCS technical guide standards, including any secondary standards incorporated~~  
20 ~~by reference in those standards see Appendix G.~~

21  
22  
23 **SECTION 136.** ATCP 50.66 (3) (a) 4. is created to read:

24 ATCP 50.66 (3) (a) 4. NRCS technical guide trails and walkways standard 568  
25 (December, 2010).

26 **SECTION 137.** ATCP 50.66 (3) (b) is amended to read:

1 ATCP 50.66 (3) (b) The landowner agrees to maintain the ~~animal~~ trail or walkway for 10  
2 years unless farming operations on the affected land are discontinued or the practice is no longer  
3 required to prevent the environmental problem.

4 **SECTION 138.** ATCP 50.67 (3) (a), (b) and (c) are amended to read:

5 ATCP 50.67 (3) (a) NRCS technical guide contour farming standard 330 (~~May,~~  
6 ~~2002~~)(November, 2008).

7 (b) NRCS technical guide obstruction removal standard 500 (~~May, 2002~~)(December, 2010).

8 (c) NRCS technical guide ~~standard-wildlife~~ upland wildlife habitat management standard  
9 645 (~~July, 2000~~)(January, 2013), if habitat management is used to mitigate the loss of habitat  
10 resulting from the installation of contour farming.

11 **SECTION 139.** ATCP 50.67 (3) (c) (Note) is repealed.

12 **SECTION 140.** ATCP 50.68 (4) (a) is amended to read:

13 ATCP 50.68 (4) (a) The cropland cover meets NRCS technical guide cover crop standard  
14 340 (~~June, 2002~~)(February, 2012).

15 **SECTION 141.** ATCP 50.68 (4) (a) (Note) is repealed.

16 **SECTION 142.** ATCP 50.69 (1) and (4) (a) 1. to 7. are amended to read:

17 ATCP 50.69 (1) DEFINITION. In this section, “critical area stabilization” means planting  
18 suitable vegetation on erodible areas such as steep slopes, and gullies ~~and roadsides~~, so as to  
19 reduce soil erosion or pollution from agricultural nonpoint sources. “Critical area stabilization”  
20 may also include treating areas that drain into bedrock crevices, openings or sinkholes.

21 (4) (a) 1. NRCS technical guide critical area planting standard 342 (~~June, 2002~~)(January,  
22 2013).

23 2. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (~~November, 1999~~)(September, 2010).

1 3. NRCS technical guide field border standard 386 (~~May, 2002~~)(November, 2009).

2 4. NRCS technical guide ~~use exclusion~~ access control standard 472 (~~June,~~  
3 ~~2002~~)(October, 2008).

4 5. NRCS technical guide mulching standard 484 (~~June, 2002~~)(January, 2012).

5 6. NRCS technical guide tree/shrub establishment standard 612 (~~April, 2003~~)(July,  
6 2011).

7 7. NRCS technical guide karst sinkhole treatment standard 725 (~~March,~~  
8 ~~2000~~)(December, 2010).

9 **SECTION 143.** ATCP 50.69 (4) (a) 7. (Note) is repealed.

10 **SECTION 144.** ATCP 50.69 (4) (b) is amended to read:

11 ATCP 50.69 (4) (b) The landowner agrees to maintain the critical area stabilization  
12 practice for 10 years unless farming operations on the affected land are discontinued or the  
13 practice is no longer required to prevent the environmental problem.

14 **SECTION 145.** ATCP 50.70 (4) (b) 1. to 4. and 6. to 9. are amended to read:

15 ATCP 50.70 (4) (b) 1. NRCS technical guide critical area planting standard 342 (~~June,~~  
16 ~~2002~~)(January, 2013).

17 2. NRCS technical guide diversion standard 362 (~~August, 2006~~)(December, 2010).

18 3. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (~~November, 1999~~)(November, 2010).

19 4. NRCS technical guide grassed waterway standard 412 (~~June, 2008~~)(January, 2011).

20 6. NRCS technical guide obstruction removal standard 500 (~~May, 2002~~)(December,  
21 2010).

22 7. NRCS technical guide subsurface drain standard 606 (~~June, 2002~~)(October, 2012).

23 8. NRCS technical guide underground outlet standard 620 (~~May, 2002~~)(January, 2011).

1 9. NRCS technical guide ~~wildlife~~ upland wildlife habitat management standard 645  
2 (~~July, 2000~~)(January, 2013).

3 **SECTION 146.** ATCP 50.70 (4) (b) 9. (Note) is repealed.

4 **SECTION 147.** ATCP 50.705 is created to read:

5 ATCP 50.705 **Feed storage runoff control systems.** (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

6 (a) “Feed storage area” means an area used to store livestock feed including corn silage,  
7 haylage, and industrial by-products including distillers grain, brewers grain, candy, pizza crust,  
8 bakery waste, cotton seed, soybean meal, animal fats, blood meal, fish meal, cannery waste, beet  
9 pulp, citrus pulp, soy hulls, corn middlings, whey, potatoes, and grocery store vegetables. The  
10 feed storage area includes the area up to the outside edge of the surface on which the feed is  
11 stored and any apron area. The feed storage area does not include storage areas for feeds  
12 considered dry, at 40% moisture or less, if the storage areas are protected from precipitation.

13 (b) “Feed storage runoff control system” means a system of facilities or practices to  
14 contain, divert, retard, treat or otherwise control the discharge of leachate and contaminated  
15 runoff from livestock feed storage areas.

16 (2) ELIGIBLE COSTS. A cost-share grant under this section may reimburse any of the  
17 following costs related to a feed storage runoff control system:

18 (a) Costs for diversion of clean water from the storage area.

19 (b) Costs for conduits, permanent pumps and related equipment required to collect,  
20 transfer and store discharges of leachate and contaminated runoff including subsurface and  
21 surface discharges.

22 (c) Costs for preparation of a site for a runoff treatment area and establishment of  
23 permanent vegetative cover.



1           **(3) INELIGIBLE COSTS.** A cost-share grant under s. ATCP 50.40 may not reimburse any  
2 of the following costs related to a feed storage runoff control system:

3           (a) Costs for any system, component or practice that is not required to correct an  
4 identified water pollution hazard.

5           (b) Buildings or modifications to buildings.

6           (c) Portable equipment to pump or spread feed storage runoff onto land or to incorporate  
7 those wastes into land.

8           (d) A non-permanent storage area allowed under NRCS technical guide waste treatment  
9 standard 629 (September, 2012).

10           **(4) FEED STORAGE RUNOFF CONTROL SYSTEMS; GRANT DISQUALIFICATION.** A county land  
11 conservation committee may not award a cost-share grant for a feed storage runoff control  
12 system if any of the following apply:

13           (a) The landowner intentionally aggravated a pollution discharge from the animal  
14 feeding operation.

15           (b) The landowner could have prevented the discharge of pollutants through improved  
16 management practices at nominal cost.

17           (c) The landowner holds, or is required to apply for, a Wisconsin pollution discharge  
18 elimination system permit for the animal feeding operation under s. 283.31, Stats.

19           (d) The landowner could have prevented the discharge of pollutants by complying with  
20 an operations and maintenance plan previously agreed upon by the landowner and one of the  
21 following:

22           1. The department.

23           2. The county land conservation committee.

1 3. DNR.

2 4. NRCS.

3 (5) DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE. A cost-share grant may not reimburse  
4 any costs related to a feed storage runoff control system unless all of the following conditions are  
5 met:

6 (a) The system complies with all of the following that apply:

7 1. NRCS technical guide waste storage facility standard 313 (September, 2012).

8 2. NRCS technical guide waste treatment standard 629 (September, 2012).

9 3. NRCS technical guide waste transfer standard 634 (September, 2012).

10 4. NRCS technical guide vegetated treatment area standard 635 (September, 2012).

11 5. NRCS technical guide wetland restoration standard 657 (September, 2000).

12 6. NRCS technical guide nutrient management standard 590 (September, 2005).

13 7. NRCS technical guide diversion standard 362 (December, 2010).

14 8. Other standards specified by the department.

15 **Note:** Additional regulatory requirements may apply for runoff control systems  
16 including s. NR 213.13 requirements for sweet corn silage stacks of greater than  
17 150 tons, and s. ATCP 51.20 (3) requirements for livestock facilities required to  
18 obtain a siting permit.

19  
20 (b) The landowner agrees to a 10 year maintenance period for a feed storage runoff  
21 control system, and a nutrient management plan, if runoff is collected from a feed storage area  
22 over 1 acre in size and the runoff is not transferred to a manure storage system. The maintenance  
23 period does not apply if the animal feeding operation is discontinued.

24 **Note:** To comply with the process wastewater performance standard in s. NR 155.055  
25 for feed storage, landowners may install conservation practices or make  
26 management changes that reduce the level of discharge below the “significant”  
27 threshold, as determined in s. NR 151.055 (3). However, when state cost-sharing  
28 funds are available, landowners should be provided cost-sharing to install the

1 suite of practices that both correct and prevent discharges, ensuring adequate  
2 protection of groundwater and surface water. Farms with small storage areas have  
3 lower cost options to meet the technical standards.  
4

5 **SECTION 148.** ATCP 50.71 (1) is amended to read:

6 ATCP 50.71 (1) DEFINITION. In this section, “field windbreak” means a strip or belt of  
7 trees, shrubs or grasses established or ~~restored~~renovated within or adjacent to a field, so as to  
8 control soil erosion by reducing wind velocities at the land surface.

9 **SECTION 149.** ATCP 50.71 (3) (b) 1. to 3. are amended to read:

10 ATCP 50.71(3) (b) 1. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (~~November,~~  
11 ~~1999~~)(September, 2010).

12 2. NRCS technical guide ~~windbreak/shelterbreak~~ windbreak/shelterbelt establishment  
13 standard 380 (~~June, 2002~~)(November, 2011).

14 3. NRCS technical guide ~~use-exclusion~~ access control standard 472 (~~June,~~  
15 ~~2002~~)(October, 2008).

16 **SECTION 150.** ATCP 50.71 (3) (b) 3. (Note) is repealed.

17 **SECTION 151.** ATCP 50.71 (3) (b) 4. is created to read:

18 ATCP 50.71 (3) (b) 4. NRCS technical guide windbreak/shelterbelt renovation standard  
19 650 (January, 2013).

20 **SECTION 152.** ATCP 50.72 (3) (a) 1. to 3., and 5. to 7. are amended to read:

21 ATCP 50.72 (3) (a) 1. NRCS technical guide critical area planting standard 342 (~~June,~~  
22 ~~2002~~)(January, 2013).

23 2. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (~~November, 1999~~)(September, 2010).

24 3. NRCS technical guide field border standard 386 (~~May, 2002~~)(November, 2009).

- 1           5. NRCS technical guide ~~use exclusion~~ access control standard 472 (~~June, 2002~~)  
2 (October, 2008).
- 3           6. NRCS technical guide mulching standard 484 (~~June, 2002~~)(January, 2012).
- 4           7. NRCS technical guide riparian forest buffer standard 391 (~~January, 2001~~)(January,  
5 2013).
- 6           **SECTION 153.** ATCP 50.72 (3) (a) 7. (Note) is repealed.
- 7           **SECTION 154.** ATCP 50.73 (3) (d) 1. to 7. and 9. to 12. are amended to read:
- 8           ATCP 50.73 (3) (d) 1. NRCS technical guide critical area planting standard 342 (~~June,~~  
9 ~~2002~~)(January, 2013).
- 10          2. NRCS technical guide sediment basin standard 350 (~~August, 2008~~)(December, 2010).
- 11          3. NRCS technical guide diversion standard 362 (~~August, 2006~~)(December, 2010).
- 12          4. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (~~November, 1999~~)(September, 2010).
- 13          5. NRCS technical guide obstruction removal standard 500 (~~May, 2002~~)(December,  
14 2010).
- 15          6. NRCS technical guide grade stabilization structure standard 410 (~~July, 2001~~)(January,  
16 2010).
- 17          7. NRCS technical guide grassed waterway standard 412 (~~June, 2008~~)(January, 2011).
- 18          9. NRCS technical guide mulching standard 484 (~~June, 2002~~)(January, 2012).
- 19          10. NRCS technical guide subsurface drain standard 606 (~~June, 2002~~)(October, 2012).
- 20          11. NRCS technical guide underground outlet standard 620 (~~May, 2002~~)(January,  
21 2011).
- 22          12. NRCS technical guide water and sediment control basin standard 638 (~~July, 2001~~)  
23 (January, 2011).

1           **SECTION 155.** ATCP 50.73 (3) (d) 12. (Note) is repealed.

2           **SECTION 156.** ATCP 50.74 is repealed.

3           **SECTION 157.** ATCP 50.75 (4) (a) 1. and 2. are amended to read:

4           ATCP 50.75 (4) (a) 1. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (~~November,~~  
5 ~~1999~~)(September, 2010).

6           2. NRCS technical guide ~~use exclusion~~ access control standard 472 (~~June,~~  
7 ~~2002~~)(October, 2008).

8           **SECTION 158.** ATCP 50.75 (4) (a) 2. (Note) is repealed.

9           **SECTION 159.** ATCP 50.76 (5) (a) 2. to 4. are amended to read:

10          ATCP 50.76 (5) (a) 2. NRCS technical guide watering facility standard 614 (~~April,~~  
11 ~~2002~~)(May, 2011).

12          3. NRCS technical guide water well standard 642 (~~May, 2005~~)(April, 2011).

13          4. NRCS technical guide livestock pipeline standard 516 (~~April, 2002~~)(October, 2012).

14          **SECTION 160.** ATCP 50.76 (5) (a) 5. (Note) is repealed.

15          **SECTION 161.** ATCP 50.76 (5) (a) 6. and 7. are created to read:

16          ATCP 50.76 (5) (a) 6. NRCS technical guide heavy use area protection standard 561  
17 (January, 2011).

18          7. NRCS technical guide pumping plant standard 533 (July, 2011).

19          **SECTION 162.** ATCP 50.77 (4) (a) 1. and (Note), and 2. to 4. are amended to read:

20          ATCP 50.77 (4) (a) 1. ~~The University of Wisconsin Extension pollution control guide~~  
21 ~~for milking~~ Milking center waste water management, UWEX publication A3592 (July, 1994)  
22 wastewater guidelines, a companion document to Wisconsin NRCS standard 629 (June, 2009).

23          **Note:** ~~The UW extension pollution control guide for~~ Copies of milking center waste  
24 water management-wastewater guidelines, a companion document to Wisconsin

1 NRCS standard 629 (June, 2009) isare on file with the department and the  
2 legislative reference bureau ~~Copies may be purchased from the department or the~~  
3 ~~University of Wisconsin Extension (UWEX Pub. No. A3592). For further~~  
4 ~~information, see Appendix G~~ and can be obtained by visiting the department  
5 website at:  
6 [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and Water](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx)  
7 [Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx) or by calling (608) 224-4622. For  
8 printed copies contact the Wisconsin state NRCS office at (608) 662-4422.

9  
10 2. NRCS technical guide waste treatment standard 629 (~~August, 2008~~)(September,  
11 2012).

12 3. NRCS technical guide waste storage facility standard 313 (~~December, 2005~~)  
13 (September, 2012).

14 4. NRCS technical guide ~~manure~~ waste transfer standard 634 (~~February, 2007~~)  
15 (September, 2012).

16 **SECTION 163.** ATCP 50.77 (4) (a) 5. (Note) is repealed.

17 **SECTION 164.** ATCP 50.77 (4) (a) 6. and 7. are created to read:

18 ATCP 50.77 (4) (a) 6. NRCS technical guide vegetated treatment area standard 635  
19 (September, 2012).

20 7. NRCS technical guide constructed wetland standard 656 (September, 2012).

21 **SECTION 165.** ATCP 50.78 (3) (a) (Note) is amended to read:

22  
23 **Note:** The NRCS technical guide nutrient management standard 590 (September, 2005)  
24 ~~is reproduced in Appendix D~~ can be obtained by visiting the department website  
25 at:

26 [http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land and Water Conservation/Soil and Water](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx)  
27 [Resource Management/ATCP50/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx) or by calling (608) 224-4622.

28  
29 **SECTION 166.** ATCP 50.79 (2) (intro.), (3) (a) 1., and (b) are amended to read:

30 ATCP 50.79 (2) (intro.) **ELIGIBLE COSTS.** A cost-share grant under s. ATCP 50.40 may  
31 reimburse costs for pesticide management described in a pesticide management plan, if required,

1 or described in the plan for the design of a pesticide structure. A cost-share grant may reimburse  
2 any of the following costs related to pesticide management:

3 (3) (a) 1. NRCS technical guide integrated pest management standard 595 (~~June,~~  
4 ~~2003~~)(January, 2013).

5 (b) The landowner agrees to maintain the pesticide management ~~practice plan, if~~  
6 required, for each cropping season for which cost sharing is provided the duration specified in  
7 the cost-share contract, and to maintain any structures for 10 years unless farming operations on  
8 the affected land are discontinued.

9 **SECTION 167.** ATCP 50.80 (3) (a) 1. to 6., 7. (Note) and 8. are amended to read:

10 ATCP 50.80 (3) (a) 1. NRCS technical guide critical area planting standard 342 (~~June,~~  
11 ~~2002~~)(January, 2013).

12 2. NRCS technical guide ~~pasture and hayland forage and biomass planting standard 512~~  
13 (~~June, 2002~~)(January, 2013).

14 3. NRCS technical guide ~~use exclusion~~ access control standard 472 (~~June, 2002~~)  
15 (October, 2008).

16 4. NRCS technical guide streambank and shoreline protection standard 580 (~~December,~~  
17 ~~2005~~)(November, 2009).

18 5. NRCS technical guide heavy use area protection standard 561 (~~August,~~  
19 ~~2008~~)(January, 2011).

20 6. NRCS technical guide prescribed grazing standard (managed grazing-Wisconsin) 528  
21 (~~December, 2005~~)(December, 2008).

22 7. **Note:** Copies of “Pastures for profit: a guide to rotational grazing” are on file with the  
23 department and the legislative reference bureau. Copies may be ~~purchased from~~  
24 ~~the department or~~ obtained from the University of Wisconsin-Extension (UWEX  
25 Pub. No. A3529). ~~For further information, see Appendix G.~~

1  
2 8. NRCS technical guide animal trails and walkways standard 575 (~~August,~~  
3 ~~2006~~)(November, 2012).

4 **SECTION 168.** ATCP 50.80 (3) (a) 9. (Note) is repealed.

5 **SECTION 169.** ATCP 50.82 (4) (c) 1. to 3. are amended to read:

6 ATCP 50.82 (4) (c) 1. NRCS technical guide residue and tillage management-no till/strip  
7 till/direct seed standard 329 (~~October, 2006~~)(January, 2012).

8 2. NRCS technical guide residue and tillage management-mulch till standard 345  
9 (~~October, 2006~~)(January, 2012).

10 3. NRCS technical guide residue management-seasonal standard 344 (~~October, 2006~~)  
11 (January, 2012).

12 **SECTION 170.** ATCP 50.82 (4) (c) 3. (Note) is repealed.

13 **SECTION 171.** ATCP 50.82 (4) (c) 4. is created to read:

14 ATCP 50.82 (4) (c) 4. NRCS technical guide residue and tillage management-ridge till  
15 standard 346 (January, 2012).

16 **SECTION 172.** ATCP 50.83 (3) (a) 1. to 3., 5. to 7. and 9. are amended to read:

17 ATCP 50.83 (3) (a) 1. NRCS technical guide critical area planting standard 342 (~~June,~~  
18 ~~2002~~)(January, 2013).

19 2. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (~~November, 1999~~)(September, 2010).

20 3. NRCS technical guide field border standard 386 (~~May, 2002~~)(November, 2009).

21 5. NRCS technical guide ~~use exclusion~~ access control standard 472 (~~June, 2002~~)  
22 (October, 2008).

23 6. NRCS technical guide mulching standard 484 (~~June, 2002~~)(January, 2012).



1           7. NRCS technical guide riparian forest buffer standard 391 (~~January, 2001~~)(January,  
2 2013).

3           9. NRCS technical guide ~~wildlife~~ upland wildlife habitat management standard 645  
4 (~~July, 2000~~)(January, 2013).

5           **SECTION 173.** ATCP 50.83 (3) (a) 9. (Note) is repealed.

6           **SECTION 174.** ATCP 50.84 (5) (a) is amended to read:

7           ATCP 50.84 (5) (a) The roof complies with ~~the american society of civil engineers,~~  
8 ~~“Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures,” ASCE/SEI 7-05 (2006)~~ NRCS  
9 technical guide roofs and covers standard 367 (October, 2011).

10          **SECTION 175.** ATCP 50.84 (5) (a) (Note) is repealed.

11          **SECTION 176.** ATCP 50.85 (4) (a) 1. and 2. are amended to read:

12          ATCP 50.85 (4) (a) 1. NRCS technical guide roof runoff structure standard 558 (~~January,~~  
13 ~~2008~~)(September, 2010).

14          2. NRCS technical guide underground outlet standard 620 (~~May, 2002~~)(January, 2011).

15          **SECTION 177.** ATCP 50.85 (4) (a) 2. (Note) is repealed.

16          **SECTION 178.** ATCP 50.86 (4) (b) 1. to 8. and (Notes) are amended to read:

17          ATCP 50.86 (4) (b) 1. NRCS technical guide critical area planting standard 342 (~~June,~~  
18 ~~2002~~)(January, 2013).

19          2. NRCS technical guide sediment basin standard 350 (~~August, 2008~~)(December, 2010).

20          3. NRCS technical guide ~~manure-waste~~ transfer standard 634 (~~February,~~  
21 ~~2007~~)(September, 2012).

22          4. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (~~November, 1999~~)(September, 2010).

- 1           5. NRCS technical guide vegetated treatment area standard 635 (~~August, 2008~~)  
2           (September, 2012).
- 3           6. NRCS technical guide heavy use area protection standard 561 (~~August, 2008~~)  
4           (January, 2011).
- 5           7. NRCS technical guide underground outlet standard 620 (~~May, 2002~~) (January, 2011).
- 6           8. Wisconsin DNR conservation practice standard 1001, wet detention basin (~~June,~~  
7           ~~1999~~) (October, 2007).

8           **Note:** Copies of the DNR conservation practice standard 1001 are on file with the  
9           department and the legislative reference bureau. Copies may be obtained from  
10           ~~DNR or the department. For more information, see Appendix G by visiting the~~  
11           DNR website at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/stormwater/standards/index.html>.

12  
13           ~~**Note:** For information on how to obtain NRCS technical guide standards, including any~~  
14           ~~secondary standards incorporated by reference in those standards, see Appendix~~  
15           ~~G.~~

16  
17           **SECTION 179.** ATCP 50.86 (4) (b) 8. (second Note) is repealed.

18           **SECTION 180.** ATCP 50.87 (4) (a) 1. to 3. are amended to read:

19           ATCP 50.87 (4) (a) 1. NRCS technical guide karst sinkhole treatment standard 725  
20           (~~March, 2000~~) (December, 2010).

21           2. NRCS technical guide diversion standard 362 (~~August, 2006~~) (December, 2010).

22           3. NRCS technical guide grassed waterway standard 412 (~~June, 2008~~) (January, 2011).

23           **SECTION 181.** ATCP 50.87 (4) (a) 3. (Note) is repealed.

24           **SECTION 182.** ATCP 50.88 (title) and (1) are amended to read:

25           ATCP 50.88 (title) **Streambank andor shoreline protection.** (1) DEFINITION. In this  
26           section, “streambank and or shoreline protection” means ~~using vegetation or structures~~  
27           waterbody-specific treatments used to stabilize and protect the eroding banks of streams or  
28           constructed channels, and shorelines of lakes, reservoirs or estuaries, ~~or excavated channels~~

1 ~~against scour and erosion, or to~~ The practice is designed and installed to provide water quality  
2 benefits or control soil erosion including degradation from livestock and may protect fish habitat  
3 ~~and water quality from degradation due to livestock access~~ as an incidental benefit. Streambank  
4 or shoreline protection may include any of the following components:

5 **SECTION 183.** ATCP 50.88 (1) (a) to (h) are created to read:

6 ATCP 50.88 (1) (a) Critical area stabilization under s. ATCP 50.69.

7 (b) Diversions under s. ATCP 50.70.

8 (c) Grade stabilization under s. ATCP 50.73.

9 (d) Riparian buffers under s. ATCP 50.83.

10 (e) Roof runoff systems under s. ATCP 50.85.

11 (f) Subsurface drain under s. ATCP 50.90.

12 (g) Underground outlet under s. ATCP 50.92.

13 (h) Wetland development or restoration under s. ATCP 50.98.

14 **SECTION 184.** ATCP 50.88 (2) (intro.) is amended to read:

15 ATCP 50.88 (2) (intro.) ELIGIBLE COSTS. A cost-share grant under s. ATCP 50.40 may  
16 reimburse any of the following costs related to streambank ~~and~~ or shoreline protection:

17 **SECTION 185.** ATCP 50.88 (2) (a) is repealed.

18 **SECTION 186.** ATCP 50.88 (2) (b) is renumbered ATCP 50.88 (2) (a) and amended to  
19 read:

20 ATCP 50.88 (2) (a) Costs to install new soil bioengineering and structural treatments  
21 including rock riprap. Wood chunks, unsorted demolition material, brick, plaster, blacktop and  
22 other materials that may produce leachates may not be used as riprap. A cost-share grant may  
23 reimburse costs for rock and timber riprap used to establish fish habitat, in combination with the

1 restoration of a riparian buffer and as part of a streambank ~~and~~ or shoreline protection scheme,  
2 provided that reimbursement for fish habitat does not exceed 25% of the cost-share grant.

3 **SECTION 187.** ATCP 50.88 (2) (c) is renumbered ATCP 50.88 (2) (b).

4 **SECTION 188.** ATCP 50.88 (2) (d) is repealed.

5 **SECTION 189.** ATCP 50.88 (2) (e) is renumbered ATCP 50.88 (2) (c).

6 **SECTION 190.** ATCP 50.88 (2) (c) (Note) is created to read:

7 **Note:** Additional cost-shared practices may be combined with this practice to fully  
8 address the environmental problems at the site and protect the natural resource.  
9 Where appropriate, additional practices may include fencing (s. ATCP 50.75) to  
10 exclude livestock, water pumps or other facilities (s. ATCP 50.76) if this is the  
11 most cost-effective way to deliver water to livestock excluded from access to  
12 surface water, or stream crossings (s. ATCP 50.885) to minimize disturbance at  
13 points of entry to a stream.

14  
15 **SECTION 191.** ATCP 50.88 (2) (f) is repealed:

16 **SECTION 192.** ATCP 50.88 (2m) is created to read:

17 ATCP 50.88 (2m) INELIGIBLE COSTS. Except for violations of this chapter or ch. NR  
18 151, a cost-share grant under s. ATCP 50.40 may not reimburse costs related to mitigation or  
19 correction of a violation of state or local laws.

20 **SECTION 193.** ATCP 50.88 (3) (a) 1. to 5. are amended to read:

21 ATCP 50.88 (3) (a) 1. NRCS technical guide critical area planting standard 342 (~~June,~~  
22 ~~2002~~)(January, 2013).

23 2. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (~~November, 1999~~)(September, 2010).

24 3. NRCS technical guide streambank and shoreline protection standard 580 (~~December,~~  
25 ~~2005~~)(November, 2009).

26 4. NRCS technical guide tree/shrub establishment standard 612 (~~April, 2003~~)(July,  
27 2011).

1           5. NRCS technical guide heavy use area protection standard 561 (~~August,~~  
2 ~~2008~~)(January, 2011).

3           **SECTION 194.** ATCP 50.88 (3) (a) 5. (Note) is repealed.

4           **SECTION 195.** ATCP 50.88 (3) (b) is repealed and recreated to read:

5           ATCP 50.88 (3) (b) Cost-share recipients shall obtain all required DNR permits before  
6 installing any practices. The department may require documentation that permits have been  
7 obtained before it makes reimbursements under this chapter.

8           **SECTION 196.** ATCP 50.88 (3) (c) is amended to read:

9           ATCP 50.88 (3) (c) The landowner agrees to maintain the streambank or shoreline  
10 protection for 10 years unless ~~farming operations on the affected land are discontinued~~the  
11 practices are no longer required to prevent the environmental problem.

12           **SECTION 197.** ATCP 50.885 is created to read:

13           ATCP 50.885 **Stream Crossing.** (1) DEFINITION. In this section, “stream crossing”  
14 means a road or pathway which confines or directs the movement of livestock, farm equipment  
15 or vehicular traffic over a stream, and which is designed and installed to improve water quality,  
16 reduce erosion, protect an installed practice or control livestock access to a stream.

17           (2) ELIGIBLE COSTS. A cost-share grant under s. ATCP 50.40 may reimburse any of the  
18 following costs related to a stream crossing:

19           (a) The costs of constructing the stream crossing structure.

20           (b) The costs of installing conservation practices necessary to limit water quality  
21 impairment from a stream crossing.

1 (c) The costs of installation of a culvert, to the extent the costs exceed the cost of normal  
2 culvert installation, and the additional costs are necessary to prevent soil erosion to the  
3 waterway.

4 (3) INELIGIBLE COSTS. A cost-share grant under s. ATCP 50.40 may not reimburse for  
5 the costs of a stream crossing if the traffic can be re-directed along another route that would not  
6 result in the same water quality impairment.

7 (4) DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE. A cost-share grant under s. ATCP 50.40  
8 may not reimburse the cost of establishing a stream crossing unless all of the following  
9 conditions are met:

10 (a) The stream crossing complies with all of the following that apply:

- 11 1. NRCS technical guide access road standard 560 (September, 2010).
- 12 2. NRCS technical guide streambank and shoreline protection standard 580 (November,  
13 2009).
- 14 3. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (September, 2010).
- 15 4. NRCS technical guide stream crossing standard 578 (January, 2013)

16 (b) The landowner agrees to maintain the stream crossing for 10 years unless the farming  
17 operations on the affected land are discontinued or the practices are no longer required to prevent  
18 the environmental problem.

19 **SECTION 198.** ATCP 50.89 (3) (b) 1. and 2. are amended to read:

20 ATCP 50.89 (3) (b) 1. NRCS technical guide obstruction removal standard 500 (~~May,~~  
21 ~~2002~~)(December, 2010).

22 2. NRCS technical guide stripcropping standard 585 (~~June, 2002~~)(April, 2009).

23 **SECTION 199.** ATCP 50.89 (3) (b) 3., 4. and 4. (Note) are repealed.

1           **SECTION 200.** ATCP 50.90 (3) (b) 1. and 2. are amended to read:  
2           ATCP 50.90 (3) (b) 1. NRCS technical guide subsurface drain standard 606 (~~June,~~  
3 ~~2002~~)(October, 2012).  
4           2. NRCS technical guide underground outlet standard 620 (~~May, 2002~~)(January, 2011).  
5           **SECTION 201.** ATCP 50.90 (3) (b) 2. (Note) is repealed.  
6           **SECTION 202.** ATCP 50.91 (3) (b) 1., 2. and 4. to 8. are amended to read:  
7           ATCP 50.91 (3) (b) 1. NRCS technical guide critical area planting standard 342 (~~June,~~  
8 ~~2002~~)(January, 2013).  
9           2. NRCS technical guide grassed waterway standard 412 (~~June, 2008~~)(January, 2011).  
10          4. NRCS technical guide obstruction removal standard 500 (~~May, 2002~~)(December,  
11 2010).  
12          5. NRCS technical guide terrace standard 600 (~~June, 2002~~)(December, 2010).  
13          6. NRCS technical guide subsurface drain standard 606 (~~June, 2002~~)(October, 2012).  
14          7. NRCS technical guide underground outlet standard 620 (~~May, 2002~~)(January, 2011).  
15          8. NRCS technical guide water and sediment control basin standard 638 (~~July,~~  
16 ~~2001~~)(January, 2011).  
17          **SECTION 203.** ATCP 50.91 (3) (b) 8. (Note) is repealed.  
18          **SECTION 204.** ATCP 50.92 (3) (b) 1. and 2. are amended to read:  
19          ATCP 50.92 (3) (b) 1. NRCS technical guide subsurface drain standard 606 (~~June,~~  
20 ~~2002~~)(October, 2012).  
21          2. NRCS technical guide underground outlet standard 620 (~~May, 2002~~)(January, 2011).  
22          **SECTION 205.** ATCP 50.92 (3) (b)2. (Note) is repealed.  
23          **SECTION 206.** ATCP 50.93 (4) (a) 1. and 2. are amended to read:

1           ATCP 50.93 (4) (a) 1. NRCS technical guide ~~manure~~waste transfer standard 634  
2 ~~(February, 2007)~~(September, 2012).

3           2. NRCS technical guide underground outlet standard 620 ~~(May, 2002)~~(January, 2011).

4           **SECTION 207.** ATCP 50.93 (4) (a) 2. (Note) is repealed.

5           **SECTION 208.** ATCP 50.94 (3) (a) 1. to 5. are amended to read:

6           ATCP 50.94 (3) (a) 1. NRCS technical guide critical area planting standard 342 ~~(June,~~  
7 ~~2002)~~(January, 2013).

8           2. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 ~~(November, 1999)~~(September, 2010).

9           3. NRCS technical guide ~~use exclusion~~ access control standard 472 ~~(June,~~  
10 ~~2002)~~(October, 2008).

11          4. NRCS technical guide mulching standard 484 ~~(June, 2002)~~(January, 2012).

12          5. NRCS technical guide vegetated treatment area standard 635 ~~(August,~~  
13 ~~2008)~~(September, 2012).

14          **SECTION 209.** ATCP 50.94 (3) (a) 5. (Note) is repealed.

15          **SECTION 210.** ATCP 50.95 (3) (a) 1. to 4. are amended to read:

16          ATCP 50.95 (3) (a) 1. NRCS technical guide critical area planting standard 342 ~~(June,~~  
17 ~~2002)~~(January, 2013).

18          2. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 ~~(November, 1999)~~  
19 (September, 2010).

20          3. NRCS technical guide water and sediment control basin standard 638 ~~(July,~~  
21 ~~2001)~~(January, 2011).

22          4. NRCS technical guide underground outlet standard 620 ~~(May, 2002)~~(January, 2011).

23          **SECTION 211.** ATCP 50.95 (3) (a) 4. (Note) is repealed.



1           **SECTION 212.** ATCP 50.96 (3) (b) 1. to 7. are amended to read:

2           ATCP 50.96 (3) (b) 1. NRCS technical guide critical area planting standard 342 (~~June,~~  
3 ~~2002~~)(January, 2013).

4           2. NRCS technical guide fence standard 382 (~~November, 1999~~)(September, 2010).

5           3. NRCS technical guide grassed waterway standard 412 (~~June, 2008~~)(January, 2011).

6           4. NRCS technical guide mulching standard 484 (~~June, 2002~~)(January, 2012).

7           5. NRCS technical guide obstruction removal standard 500 (~~May, 2002~~)(December,  
8 2010).

9           6. NRCS technical guide subsurface drain standard 606 (~~June, 2002~~)(October, 2012).

10          7. NRCS technical guide underground outlet standard 620 (~~May, 2002~~)(January, 2011).

11          **SECTION 213.** ATCP 50.96 (3) (b) 7. (Note) is repealed.

12          **SECTION 214.** ATCP 50.96 (3) (b) 8. is created to read:

13          ATCP 50.96 (3) (b) 8. NRCS technical guide lined waterway or outlet standard 468  
14 (January, 2013).

15          **SECTION 215.** ATCP 50.97 (3) (a) is amended to read:

16          ATCP 50.97 (3) (a) NRCS technical guide water well decommissioning standard 351  
17 (~~May, 2008~~)(June, 2011).

18          **SECTION 216.** ATCP 50.97 (3) (b) (Note) is repealed.

19          **SECTION 217.** ATCP 50.98 (3) (a) (Note) is repealed.

20          **SECTION 218.** Ch. ATCP 50, Appendices A to G are repealed.

21          **SECTION 219. EFFECTIVE DATE AND INITIAL APPLICABILITY.** (1) Except as provided in  
22 sub. (2), this rule takes effect on the first day of the month following publication in the  
23 Wisconsin administrative register, as provided under s. 227.22 (2) (intro.).

1           (2) This rule first applies to small businesses as defined in s. 227.114 (1), Stats., on the  
2 first day of the third month commencing after the rule publication date, as required by s. 227.22  
3 (2) (e), Stats.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Brancel  
Secretary