



Community Development Department

10/15/2014

Dear Farmland Owners,

St. Croix County Resource Management Division (formally Land & Water Conservation Department) along with UW Extension is again hosting a free Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) workshop for **December 10th, 11:00 am till 3:00 pm at the Baldwin Agriculture Service and Education Center**. The primary focus will be on NMP basics and the SNAP-Plus computer model to help certify producers in writing their own plans on land they own and rent that needs to comply with the State's Farmland Preservation Program.

Topics to be covered will include:

- Components of a nutrient management plan
- Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potash management
- Crediting on-farm nutrient sources
- Maximum return to Nitrogen ratio (MRTN) guidelines
- Soil testing basics
- Farm example using Snap-Plus computer program

Soil tests that were taken in the last 4 years and done at a State Certified lab can be used in the SNAP-Plus program. County staff will help assist any producer in setting up computer software and NMP on their own computer. If you have soil tests older than 4 years, please pull samples this fall. Soil samples should be done at the 5 acre per sample density and according to UW guidelines. Sample bags and submittal forms are available through UW Extension.

While the class is primarily focused on "first time" NM plans, landowners who have taken the class previous years are also invited to come back for a refresher. A new SNAP-Plus version 2 has been released. We would be happy to help those producers update their plans for the 2015 crop year into the new computer program. In addition, some grant money maybe available to help cover soil test cost. Please contact us if you are interested in attending to learn more about nutrient management and staying eligible for the Farmland Preservation Program. We also need to know numbers for lunch. Hope you have a good harvest season and see you in December!

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Enclosure