



# Program Overview

## Overview:

Ohio Department of Agriculture’s H2Ohio program provides incentives for farmers to implement proven, science-based best management practices (BMPs). Your local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will work with you to develop a plan to determine what practices will meet your goals and needs on your farm.

H2Ohio is Governor Mike DeWine's comprehensive, data-driven water quality plan to reduce harmful algal blooms, improve wastewater infrastructure, and prevent lead contamination. ODA is leading the efforts to minimize agricultural loss of nutrients from farm fields.

## Program Benefits:

H2Ohio provides producers with financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices.

- Reducing financial risks of trying new conservation practices on their cropland.
- Increasing the effectiveness of recommended systems or individual conservation practices.
- Scheduling practices that fit the cooperator’s timetable and resources.

Together, the SWCD and the producers are working to reduce phosphorus loading by implementing conservation practices and may reduce nutrient applications on their crop land.

## Eligibility:

Enrollment is **currently open** through August 15 for producers in Crawford, Erie, Huron, Marion, Ottawa, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Shelby, and Wyandot counties. H2Ohio is a statewide program, and producers in all 88 counties can learn more through their local SWCD.

## How do I enroll?

Please visit your local Soil and Water Conservation District for more information.

## Requirements:

A voluntary nutrient management plan (VNMP) is **required** for all cropland enrolled in H2Ohio. For a VNMP the following are required:

- Qualifying soil tests within the last 4 years.
- Crop rotation with yield goals for the length of the plan.
- N, P, K fertility plan follows 2020 Tri-State.

Best Management Practice	Incentives
Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan Implementation	\$10/Ac. - Basic \$15/Ac. - Precision
Subsurface Phosphorus Placement	\$20/Ac.
Manure Incorporation and Utilization	\$35/Ac. - Poultry litter and solid manure \$60/Ac. - Liquid manure
Overwintering Cover	\$40/Ac.



For more information, visit [h2.ohio.gov](http://h2.ohio.gov).



Department of Agriculture

An approved Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan (VNMP) is **required** for all cropland enrolled in H2Ohio.



### **Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan (VNMP) Basic or Precision**

**\$10/Ac.** for Basic VNMP - (<25ac. composite samples)

**\$15/Ac.** for Precision VNMP - (Grid <6ac. or Zone <12ac.)

- Soil tests must be no older than 4 years.
- Phosphorus rates shall not exceed more than a two-year recommendation, per 2020 Tri-State Fertilizer Recommendations
- VNMP may be developed by an ag retailer, independent crop consultant, or producer.



### **Overwintering Cover - \$ 40/Ac.**

- Establish crops that provided overwintering cover according to NRCS Appendix A.
- Overwintering cover can be harvested as a grain or forage.
- Overwintering cover must be maintained until March 15 of the contracted crop year.
- 50% of the mixes must contain overwintering species for cover crops.



### **Subsurface Phosphorus Placement - \$20/Ac.**

- All phosphorus applied must be placed.
- Fields that receive broadcast applications of phosphorus fertilizer are not eligible for this practice until the applied nutrients are utilized through crop removal.
- Producers may be eligible for payment when recommendations are made for the field, but nutrients are not applied.



### **Manure Incorporation & Utilization**

**\$35/Ac.** for dry manure or litter

**\$60/Ac.** for all liquid manure

**\$15/Ac. bonus** - fields that have a field average of less than 25 ppm Mehlich-III

- All manure applications must be completed by November 1.
- Manure application may be achieved through 9 different methods and timings of applications.

**Disclaimer:** This document is intended as a high-level overview only and should not be used as a substitute for reviewing detailed practice standards. It does not provide comprehensive guidance on best management practices. For complete and accurate information, please refer to the relevant practice standards and guidelines.

