



Nutrient Management Plan Maintenance And Annual Reporting Requirements

To be in compliance with the State of Maryland Nutrient Management Regulations it is necessary to **1)** have a current Nutrient Management Plan that includes recommendation for crops you intend to plant and **2)** complete and return an Annual Implementation Report (AIR) form to Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) each March. **Farmers are subject to legal action for non-compliance.**

Nutrient Management Plan

Nutrient management plans are developed in advance of the cropping season. One of the major components of a nutrient management plan is crop nutrient recommendations. A nutrient recommendation is based on soil test results and expected yield goals for the crop(s) to be planted. The recommendations tell you how much fertilizer and/or manure can be applied to each crop on each field for the time period for which the plan was developed.

Nutrient management plans must be updated at least every three years, and more likely, every year. Consult your nutrient management plan to determine when your plan expires.

Annual Implementation Report

Every year, by March 1, farmers must submit an Annual Implementation Report (AIR) to the MDA. An AIR is a 2-page form requesting information about actual fertilizer and/or manure applications that took place the previous calendar year.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture will mail you an AIR form every year in early January. You must summarize the previous year's actual nutrient applications on a crop basis, complete the form, and return it to the MDA by March 1 of the year you receive the form.

An "example" of the 2007 Maryland Department of Agriculture Nutrient management Annual Implementation Report is included in your nutrient management plan.

Essential aspects of a nutrient management plan and the Annual Implementation Report are compared below.

Nutrient Management Plan	Annual Implementation Report
developed prior to the cropping season	compiled at the end of the cropping season
includes all crops you plan to grow	report what crops you actually grew
reflects what nutrients you plan to apply	reports what nutrients you did apply
only initial plans are submitted to MDA	submitted to MDA every year by March 1

Contact your Maryland Department of Agriculture regional nutrient management specialist for more information on submitting your plan and AIR.

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