



## **Row Crop Producers**

**Date:** July 2025

**Cost-Share Sign-up Available**  
**through the Peter Francisco Soil & Water Conservation District**  
*serving Buckingham and Cumberland Counties*

### **Winter Cover Crop & Nutrient Management Practices**

If you are interested in signing up for the available cover crop or nutrient management practices under the new program year of July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026, call the Peter Francisco Soil and Water Conservation District office at (434) 983-7923 or send an email to [cody.smith@vaswcd.org](mailto:cody.smith@vaswcd.org) or [kelly.snoddy@vaswcd.org](mailto:kelly.snoddy@vaswcd.org).

- We recommend scheduling an appointment with staff to ensure an efficient sign-up. We will need to review program specifications, aerial maps, crop reports, etc.
- All Board meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.
  - Applications must be on file with District staff no later than the Wednesday before the monthly Board meeting to be considered during that monthly round.

**A current Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) is required to be on file with the District prior to payment.**  
*If you do not have an NMP or need it to be updated, cost-share assistance is available for plans written by private plan writers.*

### **See below a summary for available Cover Crop practices**

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#### **SL-8: Protective Cover for Specialty Crops**

- Specialty crops are: vegetables, tobacco, etc.
- Planting must be certified by November 30th
- 60% cover MUST be reached by December 15th, for practice to receive payment
- Cover must be maintained at least 90 days after seeding certification, then may be incorporated or left on the land
- Flat rate per acre cost-share amount: \$40/acre one-time payment

#### **SL-8H: Harvestable Cover Crop**

- Cover crop may be harvested, rather than killed
- Planting deadline: October 25th
- NO nutrients of any source are allowed between harvesting of previous crop and March 1<sup>st</sup> of the next calendar year
- 60% cover MUST be maintained from December 15 – March 14, for practice to receive payment
- Harvesting is allowed after March 14th
- Cost-share amount: \$20/acre



**SL-8B: Small Grain Cover Crop for Nutrient Management and Residue Management**

- Early planting date October 25<sup>th</sup>
- Late planting date November 15<sup>th</sup>
- NO nutrients of any source are allowed between harvesting of previous crop and March 1<sup>st</sup> of the next calendar year
- 60% cover MUST be maintained from December 15 – March 14, for practice to receive payment
- Cover crop MUST be killed (chemical, mechanical, or grazed) between March 15 - June 1
- Cost-share amount:
  - \$40/acre base payment, \$30/acre early planting bonus, \$20/acre for pure stands of rye, \$10/acre if killed between May 1 – June 1 “planting green”

**SL-8M: Small Grain Cover Crop for Nutrient Management and Residue Management**

- Cover crop MUST be killed (chemical, mechanical, or grazed) between March 15 - June 1
- Early planting date October 25<sup>th</sup>
- Late planting date November 15<sup>th</sup>
- Aerial seeding application is NOT allowed for this practice
- \*Manure (with less than 40 lbs. N per acre tested) is allowed between the harvesting of the previous crop and March 1
- 60% cover MUST be maintained from December 15 – March 14, for practice to receive payment
- Cost-share amount: \$20/acre base payment, \$25/acre early planting bonus,
- \$10/acre for pure stands of rye, and \$10/acre if killed between May 1 – June 1 “planting green”

**WQ-4: Legume Based Cover Crop**

- Planting dates: Crimson Clover (September 28), Austrian Winter Pea/Hairy Vetch (October 26)
- Flat rate per acre cost-share amount: \$45/acre
- Legume cover crop must be left on the surface intact to serve as mulch
- Removal of the legume residue by baling is not allowed

**See below a summary for available Nutrient Management practices**

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**NM-1A: Nutrient Management Plan Writing or Revision**

- Development or revision of nutrient management plans
- Cost-share amount: \$2.00/acre for fields receiving only commercial fertilizer or a combination of imported animal manure and commercial fertilizer
- Cost-share amount: \$4.00/acre for fields receiving the participant’s on-farm generated animal manure or combination of the participant’s on-farm generated manure and commercial fertilizer



### **NM-3C – Sidedress Application of N on Corn**

- Intended for sidedress application of N on corn
- Applications must be on file with the District prior to April 1
- All secondary or sidedress applications of N must be made after the corn is 15” to 24” tall
- Cost-share amount:
  - \$6.00/acre for the sidedress application
  - PSNT sample collection and analysis by a lab, \$12.00/sample
- Acres enrolled may not be enrolled in NM4 or NM5N practices simultaneously

### **NM-4 – Late Winter Split Application of Nitrogen on Small Grains**

- Intended for applying nitrogen during late winter to small grains in two increments
- Minimum of 20lbs N/acre must be applied to be considered a split application
- Applications must be on file with the District prior to February 1
- Acres enrolled may not be enrolled in SL8H or NM3C or NM5N practices simultaneously
- Cost-share amount:
  - \$6.00/acre for the second application of N
    - If only 1 application is made, no reimbursement is to be provided
  - \$12.00/sample for Soil Nitrate test sample collection and analysis by lab

### **NM-5N – Precision Nutrient Management on Cropland – Nitrogen Application**

- Intended for multiple split applications of N to corn, cotton, small grains crops, grain sorghum/milo
- Soil pre-sidedress nitrate tests (PSNT) and all variable rate N application technologies
  - PSNT or fall soil nitrate test samples
  - Variable rate N applications or zone application of N based on soil tests
  - 3 or more split applications of N on small grains
  - 2 or more split sidedress applications of N on corn or cotton
  - Injection at sidedress
- Applications must be on file prior to April 1
- Minimum of 20lbs N/acre must be applied to be considered a split application
- Does not apply to late winter split application of N on small grains
- Cost-share amount:
  - \$8.00/acre
  - \$12.00/sample for PSNT or fall soil nitrate test sample collection and analysis by lab, up to 1 PSNT per field (not per sample)
- Acres enrolled may not be enrolled in NM3C or NM4 simultaneously

### **NM-5P – Precision Nutrient Management on Cropland – Phosphorous Application**

- Intended for row crops, small grains, grain sorghum/milo, canola, specialty crops
- Applications must be on file prior to April 1
- Based on zone or grid soil fertility samples
- Cost-share amount: \$8.00/acre for acres receiving variable rate zone or grid application of P

### **NM-6 Manure Injection**

- Manure injection on pasture and cropland, consistent with NMP recommendations
- Cost-share amount: \$45/acre