Hello Winnebago County Producers,

When I was a youngster showing dairy at the county fair, my father allowed me be very involved with sire selection. At that time, following pedigrees and picking bulls was something I read up on often. Ever since, genetics has remained fascinating to me. As my professional interests grew towards agronomy, I worked in the seed industry for a few years. Evaluating new hybrids and varieties was equally as fascinating as animal genetics. Now the progress in both crops and dairy are largely dominated by understanding the DNA profile of individual plants and animals. Genomics!

Genomics is very much out of science fiction. There is a movie titled *Gattaca* released in 1997 that used genomics, a simple hair sample, to sort out who had the right DNA for specific jobs or made a good spouse. This is what science allows us to do in the dairy industry today. Enclosed with this newsletter is an excellent tipsheet from UW-Madison Dairy Science about Understanding Your Genetic Results of dairy heifers. The tipsheet compares Genomic Predicted Transmitting Abilities of two calves. After looking at the genetic strengths and weaknesses of each calf, in your mind, form an opinion about which calf you would hire...keep her in your herd.

In addition to selecting better heifers to raise, genomics can help you avoid costly breeding problems. Holstein Haplotype 1, 2, 3 are traits that can result in 25% embryonic death if both the bull (continued on page 3)
# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8:30 am - 12:30 pm</td>
<td>Youth Tractor Safety</td>
<td>Omro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>10:00 am - 2:30 pm</td>
<td>Better Quality Through Better Soil Health</td>
<td>Green Bay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9 am-Noon, 1-4 pm</td>
<td>Manure Applicator Training</td>
<td>Chilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>9:00 am - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>Pesticide Applicator Training</td>
<td>JPCC Oshkosh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>6:30 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Beekeeping Class</td>
<td>JPCC Oshkosh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>8:30 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Wisconsin Dairy &amp; Beef Animal Well-Being Conference</td>
<td>Kimberly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>8:30 am - 12:30 pm</td>
<td>Youth Tractor Safety Exam</td>
<td>Omro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>6:00 - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Winning the Game: Launch Your Pre–Harvest Marketing Plan</td>
<td>JPCC Oshkosh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>Dairy 30/20 Grants Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Noon to 1:30 pm</td>
<td>Dairy Breakfast Planning Meeting</td>
<td>Farm Bureau Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>6:30 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Beekeeping Class</td>
<td>JPCC Oshkosh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-28</td>
<td>9:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>WPS Farm Show, EAA Grounds</td>
<td>Oshkosh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>2:30-4:30, 6-8:00 pm</td>
<td>ATCP 50 Soil and Water Rule Revision</td>
<td>Appleton</td>
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## April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9:45 am - 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Heart of the Farm</td>
<td>Kiel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>9:00 -11:00 am</td>
<td>Agriculture Clean Sweep</td>
<td>Larsen</td>
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## May

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>7:00 - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Youth Meat Animal Quality Assurance</td>
<td>JPCC Oshkosh</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>7:00 - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Youth Meat Animal Quality Assurance</td>
<td>JPCC Oshkosh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>7:00 - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Youth Meat Animal Quality Assurance</td>
<td>JPCC Oshkosh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
and female are carriers. If a calf carries a Haplotype trait, the farmer could reduce breeding cost by selecting a mating sire that does not carry the same gene. The breeding cost savings of mating two carriers is nearly equivalent to the basic genomic evaluation if the breeding resulted in embryonic death.

While I was in college there were fellow students that who researching QTLs (Quantitative Trait Locus) as a tool to select better plant genetics. These students gained the skills to become today's plant geneticists. Now a few plant breeding companies remain that have mapped the genome of our leading crops like corn. Successfully using genomics to screen and select new varieties has been an important step in the yield climb.

So what is the next genomics frontier? There is no doubt that amazing advancements will continue in plant and animal genetics. But there is an agriculture frontier that a few researchers are quietly beginning to make headway in. I believe this next step may be soil health. If you work in agriculture, you have heard the saying that there are millions if not billions of soil microbes in a teaspoon of soil. How do we know which microbes are good? Which microbes are bad? How do we shift the balance of soil microbes to a more favorable population? What if there was a genomic test that could assess the quality of your soil’s microbe population? Or a test to measure quantity of the good guys versus bad guys in your soil? If we know the genetic profile of your herd of microbes, then are there agronomic practices we can adopt that will increase the population of good guys?

A blood sample can be collected from a calf to learn about her genetic potential. A leaf sample can be collected from a corn plant to learn about its potential too. We can collect a soil sample to learn about fertility or pathogens, such as anthracnose or soybean cyst nematodes. How about an affordable, commercially available soil genomic test? While the agriculture industry is not there yet, check out the progress being made by Cornell University: http://soilhealth.cals.cornell.edu/.

Cornell Universities Soil Health Assessment may be a forerunner to evaluation tools that can change the way we view our soil and its herd of microorganism livestock.

Nick Schneider, Your County Agricultural Agent
WINNING THE GAME: LAUNCH YOUR PRE-HARVEST MARKETING PLAN
When: Thursday, March 13, 2013
Where: J.P. Coughlin Center, 625 E. Cty Rd Y, Oshkosh WI
Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Cost: Free

What would you do with an extra $4000?*

According to the University of Minnesota’s Center for Farm Financial Management, that’s how much the average participant at previous workshops earned—simply by making better grain-marketing decisions.

Presented by Nick Schneider, this evening workshop gives you an opportunity to develop your own marketing plan. Topics covered in this presentation include:

- Seasonal price trends in grain
- The role of crop insurance, target dates, target prices, and “trump cards” in a marketing plan
- A test of your skills using a marketing game with actual daily market prices

Presented by Nick Schneider of University of Wisconsin Extension. Winning the Game has been a popular grain marketing class developed and delivered by the University of Minnesota.

No Fee.

Please call (920) 232-1971 to register for attendance by Monday, March 11, 2013
BETTER QUALITY THROUGH BETTER SOIL HEALTH

When: Tuesday, March 5, 2013
Where: Brown County Ag & Extension Service Center,
1150 Bellevue St. Green Bay WI
Time: 10:00 am - 2:30 pm
Cost: Free, limited to first 50 registrants

9:30—10:00 a.m. Registration/Welcome
10:00 a.m. Cover Crop Impacts on Soil & Water (0.5 SW)
   Francisco Arriaga, Assistant Professor Extension Soil Scientist, UW-Madison
10:45 a.m. Planting Cover Crops for Profit & Soil Protection (0.5 CM)
   Nick Schneider, Agriculture Agent UWEX - Winnebago County
11:15 a.m. Plum Creek Case Study: What do Runoff Phosphorus & Sediment Tell us About Soil Management Needs (0.5 NM)
   Kevin Fermanich, Associate Professor Applied & Natural Sciences
   UW-Green Bay
Noon Soil Health Demonstration & Lunch
   (Lunch provided by Wisconsin Public Service)
1:00 p.m. Rules & Regulations of Waterway Design (0.5 SW)
   Crystal Schiefelbein, WDNR, Water Regulation & Zoning Specialist
   Matt Heyroth, Brown County, Assistant Zoning Administrator
1:30 p.m. Lower Fox River TMDL & Its Impact on Agriculture (0.5 SW)
   Rob McLennan, WDNR, NR Basin Supervisor
2:00 p.m. Panel Discussion - What We See, Know and What is Needed on the Land (0.5 CM)
   Mark Vanden Plas, Agro-Tech Protection Services
   Shawn Eckstein, Eckstein Agronomic Services
   Nathan Nysse, Polenske Agronomic Consulting
2:30 p.m. Conclusion

For more information please contact:
   Brad Holtz, Agronomist- Brown County Land & Water Conservation
   (920)391-4630 or Holtz_bp@co.brown.wi.us
Dairy and beef producers, veterinarians, farm service providers, educators, emergency managers, first responders, and elected officials are encouraged to attend. The conference focuses on expanding awareness and understanding of the growing concern nationwide of how dairy and beef animals are cared for and what the implications could be for Wisconsin farmers and the agriculture industry.

Topics and presenters this year include:

- **Why Animal Welfare and Why Now?** Jen Walker, DVM, PhD, ACVPM, Director of Dairy Stewardship-Dean Foods, Dallas, Texas. Dr. Walker will share her experience working with some of this country’s largest food customers, including McDonald’s and Walmart.

- **Animal Welfare: Scientific & Legislative Updates.** Amy Stanton, PhD UW-Extension/Madison Dairy Well-being Specialist.

- **Making the Link Between Cull Cows & Carcass Quality; and New Euthanasia Protocols.** Kurt Vogel, PhD, UW-River Falls/Vogel Livestock Solutions.

- **Managing Down Cows.** Bob Leder, DVM, WVMA.

- **Emergency Response Rescue Planning/Training for Dairy and Beef Cattle.** Sandy Stutgen, DVM, UW-Extension agriculture agent and Howard Ketover, DVM, Dane County. Emergency Response.

- **Lameness Prevention: A Cattle Husbandry Undertaking.** Karl Burgi, Dairyland Hoofcare Institute
The program has been accredited by the UW School of Veterinary Medicine with 6.3 hours of continuing education credits available for veterinary practitioners and technicians. Go to http://fyi.uwex.edu/animalhusbandryconference/ for the program agenda and registration information. Sponsors and supporters include: Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Equity Livestock, Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board, JBS USA – Packerland, Northeast Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association, Nation Dairy Farm Assessment Program, Animart, Vogel Livestock Solutions, Dean Foods, and UW-Extension.

Contact: Greg Blonde, 715-258-6230, greg.blonde@ces.uwex.edu

**DAIRY 30/20 GRANTS ARE BACK!**


Up to $5,000 grant develops an on farm management team to assist dairy producers in improving management of existing operational systems and identify opportunities to improve profit.

The Profit Teams are a successful model in which groups of specialists and advisors work with farmers to evaluate opportunities for their farm based on the specific needs of their operation.

Services include a series of three to four meetings in which the farmer and team members identify issues and opportunities and develop strategies for near and long-term planning. Topics include new or appropriate technology implementation, farm growth, financial success, long-term sustainability, and other production enhancing measures through focuses on herd health, nutrition, milk production, software for operational efficiencies and training, managed grazing planning, or transition to organic production.

Assistance (up to $5,000.00) to cover meeting expenses including facilitator’s expenses, consultant fees, applicable testing, and associated costs. Cost share payments by the farmer required at 20% of the grant amount. Contact Nick for copies of the grant application and assistance if you would like it.
AG CLEAN SWEEP FOR WINNEBAGO AND OUTAGAMIE COUNTIES
When: Friday, April 19, 2013
Where: Clayton Public Works Dept. 8348 Cty Rd T, Larsen
Time: 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Cost: Free Disposal for Farmers

One-day event for farmers to dispose of unwanted pesticides and chemicals.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!
Call Winnebago County Solid Waste Management: 920-232-1850

Sponsored by:
Outagamie and Winnebago County Departments of Solid Waste and the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

Do you want to receive the most current University of Wisconsin research information by e-mail? The Winnebago County agriculture list receives a weekly update during summer on crop conditions, pests to watch out for, and events. If you would like to be included on this list, please send an e-mail to nick.schneider@ces.uwex.edu.
2013 PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING

When: Thursday, March 7, 2013
Where: J.P. Coughlin Center, 625 E. County Rd. Y, Oshkosh
Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Cost: $30.00 + $8 for lunch

✓ All private applicators have the option to certify/recertify through a self-study option. A minimum score of 70% is required on all self-study exams. A minimum score of 50% is required if you elect to attend the training session. PAT certification is required for people who use Restricted Use Pesticides.

✓ All producers are charged $30.00 for the training materials and the state certification. An additional $8.00 charge will be to cover the cost of a noon meal to be catered on that day. You can choose to bring your own lunch and not pay the $8.00 lunch fee.

✓ Registration to attend the class is due February 28, 2013.

✓ Questions: please call the UW Extension Office at 920-232-1971 or 920-727-8643.

✓ To obtain a registration form, please contact the UW Extension Office or visit the website at http://winnebago.uwex.edu/.

**A Wisconsin Pesticide Applicator certification is valid for 5 years. If you already hold a valid private applicator license, you do not need to retake the training until your license expires.**
WPS FARM SHOW
When: March 26, 27, and 28, 2013
Where: EAA Grounds in Oshkosh
Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm on 26-27 (3:00 pm on 28th)
Cost: Free, BUT Parking Costs $3 per Vehicle

The UW-Extension booth is in Hangar B, B4654. We will be featuring Cover Crops and Beef Production.

Hungry? Support a local organization! Stop by the Winnebago County Holstein Breeders booth of dairy delights in the food tent.

Feeling Lucky? Stop by the Farm Bureau booth to sign up for excellent raffle prizes.

MANURE HAULER TRAINING
When: Wednesday, March 6, 2013
Where: Calumet County Court House, Chilton
Time: 9:00 am - Noon, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Cost: $5 pre-registered, $10 at the door

This training is provided to meet Professional Nutrient Applicator Association of Wisconsin Level 1 Training and Testing requirements. It focuses on regulator compliance during manure applications, spill response, safety, and best management practices. Pre-registration is requested to ensure enough handouts and materials are available.

Pre-Register at the UW-Extension Office, 920-232-1971.
Winnebago County Agriculture Activities & Advice

HEART OF THE FARM
When: Thursday, April 4, 2013
Where: 16524 Lax Chapel Road, Kiel WI
Time: 9:00 am - 3:30 pm
Cost: $20.00

The Heart of the Farm — Women in Agriculture addresses the needs of farm women by providing education on pertinent topics, connecting them with agricultural resources, and creating support networks.

Agenda
9:00 am Registration
9:45 am Introductions
10:00 am Better Understanding of Yourself and Others
11:45 am Lunch (Provided)
12:30 pm Our BIG Girl Boots are On
1:15 pm Cultivating your Financial Health
2:00 pm BREAK
2:15 pm Is it a Three-Ring Circus or a Balancing Act?
3:15 pm Wrap-up, door prizes, evaluations
3:30 pm Adjourn

If you have any questions, please contact:
Tina Kohlman, tina.kohlman@ces.uwex.edu, 920.929.3171
OR
Scott Gunderson, Scott.gunderson@ces.uwex.edu, 920.683.4168
OR
Jenny Vanderlin, jmvander@wisc.edu, 608.263.7795
WONDERING HOW MUCH NITRATE MIGHT BE LEFT IN THE SOIL FROM THE 2012 CROP?

By Carrie A.M. Laboski, UW Extension Soil Fertility Specialist

Drought conditions throughout much of Wisconsin in 2012 resulted in yields that were less than growers had been planning for when they planted in the spring. Under drought conditions, there is the possibility that the drought stressed crop did not use all of the nitrogen that was applied. This unused (or residual or excess) N will remain in the soil profile until it is used by another crop or leached. Situations with the greatest potential for excess N to remain in the soil profile after the 2012 crop include fields with drought stressed corn, where manure was applied for the 2012 crop, or where forage legumes were grown in 2011. If fall, winter, and early spring rainfalls are normal or below normal, it is likely that unused N from 2012 will still be in the soil profile in spring 2013 and be available for the 2013 crop. To adjust N applications to corn fields in 2013 where residual nitrate is likely, a preplant nitrate test (PPNT) can be taken prior to planting corn in the spring. Soil samples for PPNT are collected at the 0-1’ and 1-2’ depth. In the spring prior to planting, it is typical to see 50 lb N/a in the soil profile. Therefore, 50 lb N/a should be subtracted from the PPNT results to arrive at a N credit. This N credit should then be subtracted from the top end of the corn MRTN rate guidelines.

For more information on the PPNT and MRTN consult Chapter 5 in UWEX Publication A2809 *Nutrient application guidelines for field, vegetable, and fruit crops in Wisconsin*. In an effort to assess residual soil nitrate following the 2012 corn crop, a soil nitrate monitoring network was developed. Soil samples were collected from 0-1’, 1-2’, and in some cases, 2-3’ deep in fields throughout the state after corn was harvested and after adequate rainfall occurred to allow sampling with depth. The amount of residual nitrate at each location along with some field information can be found at: http://uwlab.soils.wisc.edu/soilnitratemonitoring. The amount of nitrate remaining in the soil profile across the state is highly variable. Coarser textured soils typically had low amounts of residual N. Fields with higher N application rates and/or manure application tended to have higher residual N. The greatest amount of residual N was 325 lb N/a. If this amount of nitrate was found in PPNT samples, the N credit would be 275 lb N/a (325-50=275); more than enough to grow a crop of corn with no additional fertilizer or manure.
These results suggest that growers should strongly consider taking soil samples for PPNT in the spring to adjust N applications to improve profitability. Soil samples will also be collected from the soil nitrate monitoring network fields in spring 2013 and results posted as soon as data are available. Local Results:

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<tr>
<td>Town, State</td>
<td>Fremont, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>Winnebago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil series</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surface texture</td>
<td>Fine Sand</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012 corn crop yield</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total fertilizer N rate applied</td>
<td>94 lb N/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>Type of manure applied</td>
<td>Dairy Solid; Surface</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rate of manure applied</td>
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<td>Precipitation 2012 season*</td>
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<td>Irrigation 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-1' lb N/a</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-3' lb N/a</td>
<td>160</td>
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NEW FACES AT WINNEBAGO COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Meet Sheila Kiddy
Hello from the new Agronomist at Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Department. My name is Sheila Kiddy, and my background includes many years as a private crop consultant in the New London, WI area. My main experience in the last several years has been writing and following Nutrient Management Plans (NMP). I even have a bit of experience from a fertilizer plant and seed sales. I look forward to meeting the farmers in the area. I would like to assist them in using their NMP as a useful management tool along with getting to know them and their farming operations.

Meet Andy Maracini
Hi! My name is Andy Maracini, and I joined the Land & Water Conservation Department in May 2012. As GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Technician for the department, I assist staff and residents with all of their mapping and technology needs. I have over 15 years experience using GIS in environmental applications. I have a Master’s Degree in Urban & Regional Planning from Ball State University. My wife and I reside in Appleton with our baby girl Isla, and chocolate lab Beny.

Meet Mike Hasse
Hello. In December, I joined the staff of the Winnebago County Land & Water Conservation Department. I am looking forward to establishing working relationships with the landowners of Winnebago County. I spent the last 23 years assisting rural landowners with their conservation practices for the Calumet County LWCD. I have an Associate’s Degree in Natural Resources from Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton; and I attended high school in New London, Wisconsin.

My wife and I have four children ages 3, 5, 12, & 19. I grew up in the northwest corner of Winnebago County near Winchester where my parents owned and operated a small farm. Winnebago County is a homecoming for me and I look forward to serving its residents.
SIGN UP SOONER, NOT LATER, FOR CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Many farmers don’t realize that most of the USDA conservation programs are open for sign-up at any time, continuously, not just for a few weeks each year. Most of the programs offered by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are open year-round for applications.

For example, you can make an appointment and sign-up for cost-sharing through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) at any time throughout the year. Those applications are held until an annual ranking date is announced, then all applications that NRCS has received to date will be ranked for funding that year.

Frequently, the ranking dates are in the winter, and farmers rush to sign up when the ranking date is announced. However, this is Wisconsin and the snow cover makes it difficult for the NRCS staff to get a good look at the land and add all needed practices. Funding may not be available in the spring to add anything that was missed, but that can be avoided by signing up earlier.

Call now for an appointment to talk about conservation options for your farm. More information on NRCS programs is available at www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov under Programs.

For more information, visit or contact Merrie Schamberger at the NRCS office at the USDA Service Center for Winnebago County at (920) 424-0329 ext 3.

AG CENSUS REMINDER

If you have not done so already, please complete the 2012 Census of Agriculture. Granted the deadline has passed, but every farm’s data is important. Census data is important to tell the story of agriculture in our county to policy decision makers and neighbors. The 2007 Ag Census revealed 1,001 farms in Winnebago County with over $107,000,000 in market value of products sold. In a county dominated by urban residents, the Ag Census remains an important tool for showing that the economic impact of farming still remains significant here and throughout Wisconsin.
GET HELP BUILDING YOUR NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

The foundation of any good cropping plan is an accurate and current soil test of the cropland in the plan. Producers in Winnebago County who would like to begin doing Nutrient Management Planning or are currently practicing Nutrient Management may be eligible for cost-sharing to off-set some of the expense. The Wisconsin Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection (WDATCP), working through Winnebago County has appropriated funds to help cost-share soil testing for the purpose of nutrient management planning, and the plan writing.

The Land and Water Conservation Department (LWCD) may also have funds available through the Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program to help with the cost of soil testing and nutrient management plan writing. If you would like more information about Nutrient Management Planning and the cost sharing program, please contact Tom Davies or Sheila Kiddy at the LWCD (920-232-1950).

ATCP 50: WISCONSIN’S SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT RULE REVISION

When: March 27, 2013
Where: Outagamie Co. Highway Dept. Conference Rm. 1313 Holland Rd. Appleton
Time: 2:30-4:30 pm and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

ATCP 50 is the administrative rule that governs Wisconsin’s soil and water resource management program, along with Chapter 92 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, or DATCP, administers the program in cooperation with other agencies. DATCP is proposing to revise ATCP 50 and is calling for public comment on the proposed changes. Details about proposed changes can be found online at: http://datcp.wi.gov/Environment/Land_and_Water_Conservation/Soil_and_Water_Resource_Management/ATCP50/index.aspx

Public hearings: You can attend a public hearing to comment orally, turn in written comments, or simply to learn about the proposal.
EMERGENCY PLANNING REQUIREMENT
FOR FARMERS

You may need to complete a Farm Emergency Planning Notification Form if your farm has specified amounts of certain agricultural chemicals stored overnight or longer. For example, if you plan to use anhydrous ammonia as a fertilizer, and will keep an applicator tank of this chemical on your property overnight, you will likely meet the SARA Title III minimum notification requirement for this substance. Many other agricultural products such as those insecticides containing dimethoate, or the herbicides containing paraquat, may also meet this notification requirement if stored above specified quantities.

The overall purpose of this law is to provide for the safety and effectiveness of your local fire and law enforcement personnel in the event that they need to respond to your property during an emergency situation. Even though your part in this process has been simplified into a single form that should only take you a matter of minutes to complete, by doing so could provide the pertinent information that could save lives!

If you are unsure as to whether or not you utilize any products containing an Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS) on your farm, please feel free to contact me with the trade name(s) of your product(s) by mail, phone or email so that, if necessary, I can assist you through this SIMPLE notification process. The planning process is FREE to all farming operations that employ less than 10 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees within the State.

Bernie Sorenson, Deputy Director
Winnebago County Emergency Management
4311 Jackson Street
Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901
Office: (920) 236-7464  Cell: (920) 410-1495
bsorenson@co.winnebago.wi.us
CONSERVATION TIP BY NICK SCHNEIDER

MANURE RUN-OFF AND SNOW MELT

With the warm winter and little bit of snow last year, this article wasn’t very useful. But this winter is a different story.....

Many farms have built manure storage sufficient for six months of containment to avoid spreading in winter, yet most of you with livestock will need to spread at least a little in winter. UW Discovery Farms, along with many years of research from others, has plenty of data to track the time of the year most susceptible to manure runoff. The data supports common sense. Late winter/early spring during periods of rapid snowmelt (late February to early April) are most susceptible to manure runoff. Manure particles and even some soluble nutrients get caught up in the melt water and begin to flow toward waterways and streams. Manure running off fields creates non-compliance situations AND VERY NOISY NEIGHBORS.

Here are some fundamentals you should know. By the way, these are part of the nutrient management regulations, which makes them enforceable.

1. Manure cannot runoff fields.
2. Manure should not be spread through waterways and buffers. If manure gets into your grass waterway, it could flow from the field.

In winter......

3. You should not spread within 300 feet of a stream or river or 1,000 feet of a pond or lake.
4. Don’t spread on fields over 9% slope or 12% if contoured.
5. Don’t spread within 200 feet of wells, drain tile inlets, sinkholes or other groundwater conduits unless it can be incorporated into the soil within 3 days….pretty challenging in winter.
6. The rate should be reduced. From a nutrient loading perspective, winter spread manure should be limited to 7,000 gallons liquid or about 17 tons solid. This is thin and often means adding more fertilizer later in spring.
7. Stack and wait for drier conditions or until incorporation will work.

Simply put...it makes sense to spread winter manure on the flattest field furthest from water going into corn that you have.
WHAT’S NEW ON UWEX WEB PAGES?

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http://counties.uwex.edu/winnebago/

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UW-Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources:  
http://www.uwex.edu/ces/ag/
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UW Publications: http://learningstore.uwex.edu/

Dairy and Livestock:
Dairy Cattle Nutrition: http://www.uwex.edu/ces/dairynutrition/
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Center for Dairy Profitability: http://cdp.wisc.edu/  
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