

## WHY SHOULD I CONSIDER DOING A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN?

While each individual will base their decision on whether to do a NMP on one or more factors specific to their farm, some reasons you might consider include:

- Potential to reduce fertilizer costs
- Potential to increase yields
- Maximize nutrient use efficiency and minimize nutrients leaving the field
- Potentially qualify for NRCS/FSA reimbursement for EQIP program practices
- Basis of “affirmative defense” as stated in Ohio law against private civil lawsuits (e.g. those brought by environmental groups if you are in compliance with your NMP)
- No financial cost to individuals but will require an investment of your personal time

This summary is intended to provide “food for thought”. The information about your operations necessary to create a NMP that meets NRCS requirements is detailed and you will want to investigate the process before making a decision. Producers will need to have soil tests within the last two years and provide information about field rotations, implements, management practices, water sources and more.

We highly recommend you contact a member of our team to begin the process if you are a grain farmer. Our team will travel to interested individuals who farm in the Western Lake Erie Basin.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

# NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

## OUR PURPOSE

The Nutrient Management Plan Writers are a team working to assist farmers in developing Nutrient Management Plans (NMP) in the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB) of Ohio. The plan provides both fertility recommendations and an environmental site risk for fields that help identify resource concerns impacting nutrient and sediment loss. These plans are the basis for EQIP funding cost share applications through NRCS that address identified resource concerns through the plan. The plans provide general guidelines on 4R Nutrient Stewardship practices for your farm resulting in the “Right” *rate, source, timing* and *placement* of nutrients to maximize efficiency in fertilizer use. These plans also meet criteria needed for “affirmative defense” once coupled with other criteria defined in Ohio law. They are provided without cost to the participants.

Ohio contributors to the project:

- Ohio Farm Bureau Federation
- Ohio Soybean Council
- Ohio Small Grains Marketing Program
- Ohio Corn Marketing Program
- Ohio State University Extension

The program is funded from a grant through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

## MEET OUR TEAM



**Tony Campbell**  
Paulding County

Tony received both his bachelor's and master's degrees from The Ohio State University in Agricultural Education. He retired in 2014 as an Agricultural Education Teacher after 35 years, spending the last 24 years at Lincolnvew Local Schools in Van Wert County.



**Jessie Schulze**  
Defiance County

Jessie is a graduate of The Ohio State University in Agricultural Education and taught for seven years in Ashland and Wayne counties. She received her Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction - Environmental Sciences from Concordia University – Portland.



**Brittany Sieler**  
Wood County

Brittany is a graduate of Michigan State University with a B.S. in Animal Science. She grew up in a farming community and was active in 4-H as a student, as well as fulfilling a leadership position as an adult. She has worked in a hardware store, a greenhouse and a manufacturing facility.



**Linda Lauber**  
Fulton County

Linda is a graduate of Bowling Green State University with a B.S. in biology and a chemistry minor. She has worked as a research technician for the Campbell Institute for Research and Technology in the compost biochemistry department, zoning officer, and substitute teacher. Linda also co-owns Lauber Tree Farm in Archbold.



## WHAT IS A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN?

To summarize current Ohio law, a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) can take several forms, including those originating from:

- OSU Nutrient Management Workbook
- Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) meeting all of the requirements of NRCS
- A plan equivalent to those of the two previous bullets and approved by the Director of ODA or his designee and contains at a minimum, information on current soil tests, 4Rs for all nutrients utilized, fields covered by the plan, crops grown and yield information