

Name of Practice:
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (RMP) IMPLEMENTATION
DCR Specifications for No. RMP-2

This document specifies terms and conditions for the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Resource Management Plan implementation best management practice that are applicable to all contracts entered into with respect to that practice.

A. Description and Purpose

The implementation of Resource Management Plans (RMPs) is needed to improve water quality. RMPs can be developed for eligible farms throughout the state on crop, pasture, and/or hay acreage. Once an RMP has been approved, verified as being fully implemented by the review authority and the owner/ operator has received a Certificate of RMP Implementation such owner/operator is eligible for this practice.

The purpose of this practice is to offer financial assistance to farmers and certified Resource Management Plan Developers for the implementation of RMPs.

B. Policies and Specifications

An owner /operator cannot apply for, or receive cost-share funding, until such owner/operator has received a Certificate of RMP Implementation by meeting the requirements set out in 4VAC50-70-80 thus affirming that the RMP was determined to be adequate and that the RMP has been fully implemented.

Implementation shall be considered complete provided the owner or operator has installed the complete list of the BMPs that he agreed to implement or maintain to meet the minimum standards set out in 4VAC50-70-40.

1. Definitions (in addition to those set out in 4VAC50-70-10):

- i. **Cropland** means land used for the production of grain, oilseeds, silage, or industrial crops.
- ii. **Hay** means grass, legume, or other plants, such as clover or alfalfa, which is cut and dried for feed, bedding, or mulch.
- iii. **Pasture** means land that supports the growth of forages for grazing of animals.
- iv. **Management unit** means one or more agricultural fields or United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency tracts under the control of the owner or operator and identified as the appropriate unit for RMP implementation. The management unit may consist of single fields, multiple fields and tracts, or an entire agricultural operation.
- v. **Review authority** means a soil and water conservation district or the department (DCR), where applicable, that is authorized to determine the adequacy of a Resource Management Plan and perform verification inspections and other authorized programmatic actions.

2. Cost-share funds received for the RMP-2 practice do not count against or otherwise affect an applicant's annual cost-share cap for other cost-shared practices.
3. Eligibility:
 - i. Receipt of RMP-2 cost-share is not contingent upon prior receipt of RMP-1 practice cost-share that may be provided to assist with RMP development.
 - ii. This practice applies to crop, hay, and pasture lands that are included in an approved RMP that receives a Certificate of Resource Management Plan Implementation.
 - iii. A cost-share payment cannot be made until the onsite verification inspection is conducted by the review authority and the review authority affirms such adequacy and implementation to DCR.
 - iv. Before a cost-share payment can be made, a current copy of the Certificate of RMP Implementation must be on file with the SWCD.
 - v. Participants may redirect their cost-share payment to their certified RMP developer by signing a written statement to that effect. A DCR assignment authorization form is attached to this specification.
 - vi. An applicant may apply for a new RMP-2 on land management units which have previously received cost-share for RMP-2 when a new RMP has been implemented and a new Certificate of RMP Implementation issued.
 - vii. An applicant may apply for multiple RMP-2 practices either within the same cost-share program year or another cost-share program year, but the RMP-2 applications must not include the same land management units.
4. In order to be eligible for cost-share or tax credit, nutrient management plans must be prepared by a certified planner who holds a current Nutrient Management Planner Certificate issued by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. Nutrient Management Plans must be written to comply with all requirements set forth in the Nutrient Management Training and Certification Regulations, (4 VAC 50-85-10 et seq.) and the criteria set forth in the Virginia Nutrient Management Standards and Criteria, revised July 2014
5. Ineligible:

No cost-share payment can be made unless all BMPs in an approved RMP necessary to meet minimum standards are verified as being fully implemented by the review authority and DCR has issued a Certificate of RMP Implementation.
6. RMP-2 is not eligible for carryover.

C. Rate(s)

1. The cost share rate is \$5.00 per acre for all eligible acres within a management unit.
2. Payment for any single RMP-2 practice instance must not exceed \$3,250.00

3. The SWCD must provide an Internal Revenue Service Form 1099-G to any cost-share program participant who receives \$600 or more in cost-share payment(s) per their federal taxpayer identification number or social security number during the calendar year. If the payment for this practice is redirected at the participant's request to a certified RMP developer, an IRS 1099-Misc tax form should go to the entity receiving the cost-share funds. SWCDs must also file the appropriate IRS Form 1099 and Form 1096 with the Internal Revenue Service in accordance with IRS regulations.

D. Technical Responsibility

Technical and administrative responsibility is assigned to qualified technical DCR and SWCD staff in consultation, where appropriate and based on the controlling standard, with DCR, Virginia Certified Nutrient Management Planner(s), NRCS, DOF, and VCE. Individuals certifying technical need and technical practice installation shall have appropriate certifications as identified above, and/or Engineering Job Approval Authority (EJAA), for the designed and installed component(s). All practices are subject to spot check procedures and any other quality control measures.

Technical responsibility for plan conformance with regulations and assurance that the plan reflects in field conditions is assigned to the Virginia Certified Resource Management Plan Developer who has prepared the RMP.

Revised March, 2016

**ASSIGNMENT OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION (RMP-2)
COST-SHARE PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION**

I _____, do hereby direct
Name

the _____ Soil and Water

Conservation District (SWCD) to pay any and all cost-share funds disbursed under the

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION (RMP-2) to

_____, of
Name

_____ for
Business

services provided during development of my Nutrient Management Plan. It is further acknowledged that an IRS form 1099 in the amount of the payment will be sent directly to the above identified contractor.

Signature

Date

Neither the local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) nor the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is providing tax advice; both the program participant and the contractor may wish to consult with an independent tax advisor regarding potential tax consequences.