



WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL
AGRICULTURAL CONSULTANTS

Proposed WI DNR Assured Planner Certification program clarified

What is it?

The DNR is putting together an Assured Planner Certification program for NM planners who write plans for WPDES Permits Farms in WI. It is going to be modeled after the Assured Wetland Delineator program already in use at the DNR. What the assured planner program will do for those that choose to participate is to help them gain quick approval of Permit Re-application NMPs within 1 week of submittal. The thought is that those who are in the assurance program will have plans minimally reviewed so approval will be granted quicker than in the past. This will only apply to permit re-application plans. All new WPDES permit application plans will undergo thorough department review regardless of whether or not the planner is in the assured program or not. Assured planners must apply to be in the program and need to be a CCA, CPSS or NAICC with a 4R certification or minimum 5yrs of WPDES NMP writing experience. Once in the program the certification is good for 2 years. Individuals in the program need to attend annual CAFO workshops and soon to be developed CAFO NMP workshops put on by the DNR. There is a decertification process for those in the program who do not meet criteria.

What is it not?

Plan writers who want to write NMP's for WPDES permit farms in WI are not required to be an Assured Planner in the DNR program. It just means that their plans will undergo more review than assured planners and take longer to get approved. This program, at this point, really only applies to permit re-application plans since annual updates are not really "approved" at this point.

Also participating in this program will not allow substantial revisions to be approved any faster. Those are still subject to the 14 day public notice.

Who was on Committee?

Dave Buss, NuSolutions Agronomy
Jen Walton, Rock River
Kevin Flyte, Dairyland labs
Kevin Beckard, Agsource
Todd Prill, Prill Crop Consulting
Michelle Hoffman, InDepth Agronomy
Ben Uvass, DNR
Stephanie Schneider, DATCP
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