

Farmer Written Nutrient Management Training Course
Brady Bartels, Conservation Technician

In the spring of 2025, the Grant County Conservation, Sanitation, and Zoning department (CSZD) held a farmer written nutrient management class. Nutrient management plans are important as they tell you how much Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium we are applying to the soil. It can tell you whether you are not applying enough or if you are applying too much of one nutrient to the field. It is important there are enough nutrients for the crop to utilize but we don't want to apply too much and have it run off the field or leach into the ground where the plant cannot take it up. If plants cannot utilize the nutrients, then that means you are losing money since the plant is not utilizing the excessive nutrients. Nutrient Management Plans are due to our office every year by October 2 for the 2026 growing year and April 15th for the 2027 growing year. They can be mailed, emailed or dropped off to our office.

This was a two-day class, which consisted of updating the nutrient management plan (NMP). County, UW Extension, and DATCP staff were there to help with any questions and show farmers how to use the program if needed. In total, we had 16 participants. In order to write your own plan, you must take a DATCP approved course once every four years. These courses can be found online through UW extension, attending the Grant County class if you have attended it before, or going through Southwest Technical College (SWTC). The Grant County CSZD has partnered with Southwest Technical College for anyone who wants to start writing their own plan. Through this partnership, County staff will be helping Southwest Tech when they host their annual class and members from Southwest Tech will be helping County staff when we host our annual class. SWTC will also be able to receive a larger grant due to the partnership with the County. If you would like more information on writing your own plan through Southwest Tech, contact Kory Stalsberg by phone number 608-379-4076 or email kstalsberg@swtc.edu.

Caption for Farmer Written NMP Class: The Grant County Conservation Technician, Brady Bartels, and UW Extension staff, Landon Baumgartner, are busy helping several farmer's write their own Farmer Written Nutrient Management Plans.