

**1. What are the components in the plan? Are the components determined by farming operation/enterprise? (1 hour discussion)**

(Information from HB1830)

Specify that the required components of each resource management plan shall be based upon an individual on-farm assessment. Such components shall comply with on-farm water quality objectives as set forth in subdivision B 4, including best management practices identified in this subdivision and any other best management practices approved by the Board or identified in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model or the Virginia Chesapeake Bay TMDL Watershed Implementation Plan.

a. For all cropland or specialty crops such components shall include the following, as needed and based upon an individual on-farm assessment:

(1) A nutrient management plan that meets the nutrient management specifications developed by the Department;

(2) A forest or grass buffer between cropland and perennial streams of sufficient width to meet water quality objectives and consistent with Natural Resources Conservation Service standards and specifications;

(3) A soil conservation plan that achieves a maximum soil loss rate of "T," as defined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service; and

(4) Cover crops meeting best management practice specifications as determined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service or the Virginia Agricultural Best Management Practices Cost-Share Program.

b. For all hayland, such components shall include the following, as needed and based upon an individual on-farm assessment:

(1) A nutrient management plan that meets the nutrient management specifications developed by the Department;

(2) A forest or grass buffer between cropland and perennial streams of sufficient width to meet water quality objectives and consistent with Natural Resources Conservation Service standards and specifications; and

(3) A soil conservation plan that achieves a maximum soil loss rate of "T," as defined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

c. For all pasture, such components shall include the following, as needed and based upon an individual on-farm assessment:

(1) A nutrient management plan that meets the nutrient management specifications developed by the Department;

(2) A system that limits or prevents livestock access to perennial streams; and

(3) A pasture management plan or soil conservation plan that achieves a maximum soil loss rate of "T," as defined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

(Comments from RAP committee members at RAP meeting)

Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act Maps (5), Nutrient management plan, Erosion and sediment control, Pesticide

Best management practices (sufficient per land use)

Erosion (T)

Nutrient management plan implementation

**2. Are the plans for the whole operation? Just certain tracts? (1 hour discussion)** (Comments from RAP committee members at RAP meeting)

Does it have to use NRCS unit (RUSLE 2)? Whole farm water protection plan? Entire agricultural operation/farm?

**3. What is the lifespan of the plan? Renewals/new plan development? (1 hour discussion)** (Comments from RAP committee members at RAP meeting)

Nutrient management– at least 3 year life span; 3-5 maximum lifespan window; no time limit on plan as long as there is no significant change

Anytime there's a significant change in operation a renewal/revisions/new plan will need to be developed; changes in TMDLs will require revisions in a plan

**4. Is there an implementation timeline or a schedule? (1 hour discussion)**

**5. Who writes plans? Qualifications?**

(Comments from RAP members at RAP meeting)

Nutrient Management Planner (DCR certification); train farmers to write own plans; state agencies; SWCD; private technical service provider; RUSLE

**6. Do plans have to be approved or reviewed? If so, by whom?**

(Comments from RAP members at RAP meeting)

Local SWCD Board; DCR