

WINTER 2025

LAND CONSERVATION

Official Newsletter of the Green Lake County Land Conservation Department

Mark your Calendars! Nutrient Management Plan Training

February 19th, 2025 at 10AM-3PM

Creating a nutrient management plan is not only a great way to protect soil and water resources on your farm, but is also a good way to improve on farm profitability! Please join us on Wednesday, February 19th in the West Wing training room for a how-to nutrient management plan! Lunch will be provided.

The first 20 people to sign up are eligible for a \$500 stipend after a nutrient management plan is submitted. Scan the QR code or visit the website to register. [Sign up by February 17th.](#)



Why have a
nutrient
management
plan?

- to help budget, supply, and conserve nutrients
- to minimize risk of agricultural nonpoint pollution
- improve air quality
- save money!

Cost-Share Available for County Farmers

We need your help! The Land Conservation Department is looking for landowners who would like to implement phosphorus reduction structural practices on their land. These best management practices include grade-stabilization structures, terraces, streambank stabilizations, harvestable buffers, and many others. Additional funding may be available thanks to partnering organizations.

Unsure if these projects are suitable on your land? Give us a call or email!

When can you spread?

Please visit the Runoff Risk Advisory before you spread. This website looks at a 10 day forecast and will let you know a good time to spread nutrients on your fields.



or visit

www.manureadvisorysystem.wi.gov

Register for Nutrient Management Plan Training:



or visit

www.greenlakecountywi.gov/nutrient-management-training-registration



Benefits of Native Plants

- erosion control
- water conservation
- soil protection
- supports biodiversity
- provides habitat
- attracts pollinators

Native Plant Site QR



Townships in Farmland Preservation Zoning District

- Berlin
- Brooklyn
- Green Lake
- Mackford
- Manchester
- Marquette

Townships in an Agricultural Enterprise Area

- Princeton
- St. Marie
- Marquette

Tax Credit Rates

- \$10/acre if land is under a Farmland Preservation Agreement and Agricultural Enterprise Area
- \$10/acre if land is located in a farmland preservation zoning district
- \$12.50/acre if land is in an AEA, and in a Farmland Preservation zoning district

Native Plant Sale: Coming Spring 2025

This spring, LCD is hosting a native plant sale to encourage local planting of Wisconsin natives! There will be 4 different mix kits available:

- Butterfly Mix
- Lakeshore Mix
- Prairie Mix
- Rain garden Mix

Each kit has 32 native plants selected for various sun exposure and soil types. Each kit is sold for \$105 + tax.

With the proceeds, we will be sponsoring scholarships for students to attend the Wisconsin Land and Water Youth Conservation Summer Camps and to provide groundwater programs in our county's classrooms.

To order, please visit greenlakecountynativeplantsale.square.site. Last day to order is March 15th, 2025. Pick up is early June at 570 South Street, Green Lake, WI. You will be notified about 3 weeks prior for a pickup day and time. Plants must be planted promptly after receiving!

What you need to know about the Farmland Preservation Program

The Farmland Preservation Program provides land use tools to help ensure agricultural land remains viable and available for current and future generations of farmers. Natural resources such as land and water are also protected due to landowners' complying with conservation practices that meet state standards.

By joining this program, you will be able to claim annual income tax credits on eligible land. The amount of credit depends on if your land is located in a farmland preservation zoning district or is located in a Agricultural Enterprise Area and is under a farmland preservation agreement (see left).

To claim, you must be the landowner, a Wisconsin resident, the land in question must produce \$6,000 in a year or \$18,000 in 3 years, and the land must meet state soil and water conservation standards.

Please contact us if interested!

Why care about phosphorus runoff?

Excess phosphorus leads to algae blooms that are harmful to human and animal health. Algae can deplete oxygen in a waterway, which causes fish kills and damages the ecosystem.
1 lb phosphorus = 500 lbs of algae

Benefits of Buffers!

- prevents phosphorus and sediment runoff from entering waterways
- prevents erosion
- improves water quality
- can be harvested to feed livestock!

Through the county buffer program, permanent hunting stands are allowed in grass-buffered areas!

Get paid for your grassed buffer!

The LCD has a buffer program that offers an annual payment for the implementation of herbaceous cover around a stream located in cropland. An annual payment will be received based on current CRP funding rates. The average annual payment is \$335/acre.

The program also pays for all costs associated with seeding establishment, grading/leveling/filling (if needed), and alternative cost-effective accesses to buffers.

Eligible land includes:

- cropland adjacent to perennial, intermittent streams or drainage ditches
- area of buffer must be more than 50% cropland
- buffer strip has to be within 30-120 ft. of a waterway

Contact information below.



Green Lake Watershed Funding

If your land is located within the Big Green Lake watershed, you are eligible for a cost-share reimbursement for the implementation of best management practices. Some popular projects include cover crops, residue management, and grade-stabilizations. If you have a project you are thinking of accomplishing or want more information, please reach out to the LCD or Green Lake Sanitary District.



Big Green Lake Watershed Rates:

- cover crops: \$20 per acre
- residue management: \$18.50 per acre
- structural practices: 70% of cost

Additional Best Management Practices Covered

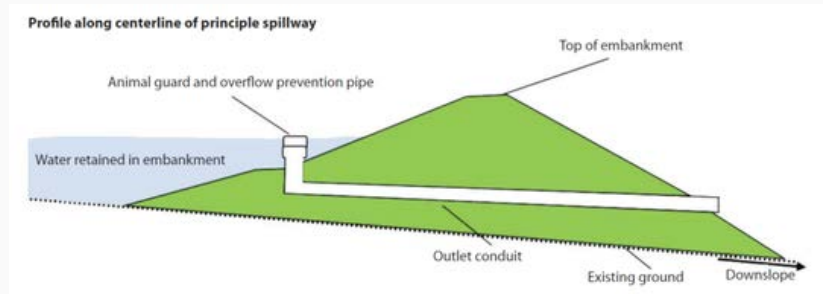
- manure storage systems
- nutrient management
- terrace systems
- diversions
- filter strips
- stream/shoreline shaping and seeding
- prescribed grazing
- and more!

Recent Construction Projects

Our latest project was just installed in the township of Green Lake in the middle of November. Here, we implemented a grade-stabilization structure.

A grade-stabilization structure is implemented to address problems with soil erosion and gulley formation caused by the flow of water running through a field. This water is typically from heavy rainfall, when all the water falling can't soak into the ground. In a previous year, a grassed waterway was installed to create a place for the water to flow without causing destruction in the field.

This year, a wall of soil, known as a berm, was constructed with a pipe running through it. The water from the rainfall will pool temporarily in a pond on the front side of the berm and slowly run through the pipe to the other side. This slows the water down significantly and saves our waterways from sediment runoff and our fields from gulley formation.



Want to receive this
quarterly
newsletter electronically?

[www.greenlakecountywi.gov
/connect-with-us/](http://www.greenlakecountywi.gov/connect-with-us/)



Follow us on Facebook!

Look up: Green Lake County
Land Conservation Department
or click here:

[https://www.facebook.com
/GreenLakeCountyLCD](https://www.facebook.com/GreenLakeCountyLCD)

Land Conservation Department Staff and Contact Information

Todd Morris

County Conservationist
(920)294-4052
tmorris@greenlakecountywi.gov

Derek Kavanaugh

Soil Conservationist III
(920)294-4057
dkavanaugh@greenlakecountywi.gov

Jordan Dornfeld

Soil Conservationist II
(920)294-4054
jdornfeld@greenlakecountywi.gov

Heidi Weishaar

Administrative Assistant
(920)294-4051
hweishaar@greenlakecountywi.gov

Parker Richter

Soil Conservationist I
(920)294-4055
prichter@greenlakecountywi.gov

Olivia Fischer

Soil Conservationist I
(920)294-4053
ofischer@greenlakecountywi.gov

General

(920)294-4051
lcd@greenlakecountywi.gov

