

# Nutrient Management Training and Certification Program

- **✓** Education
- **√** Experience
- **√Exam**



# **Education and Experience**

- Ag-Related Degree
  - Agronomy
  - AnimalHusbandry
  - Forestry
  - Geology
  - Soil Science

- 1 Yr. Nutrient
   Management Job-Related
   Experience
  - Fertilizer Salesman
  - Biosolids Field Manager
  - Farmer
  - Farm Manager
  - CAFO Inspector
  - SWCD Employee



### **Education and Experience**

- NutrientManagementRelated Training
  - Work related Training
  - College ShortCourses
  - NutrientManagementTraining School

- 3 Yrs. Nutrient
   Management Job-Related Experience
  - Fertilizer Salesman
  - Biosolids FieldManager
  - Farmer
  - Farm Manager
  - CAFO Inspector
  - SWCD Employee



#### **Certification Exam**

- 100 Multiple Choice Questions
- Subject Matter Listed in Knowledge Areas
- Two Parts
  - Core 75 Questions: First 9 KSA
    - Closed Book
    - 70%
  - Practical 25 Questions: Mainly 10th KSA
    - Open Book
      - VA Nutrient Management Standards and Criteria
      - Phosphorus Index Technical Guide
    - 80%



#### **Certification Exam**

- 3 Hours Allowed for the Exam
  - 1 hour + for each part
- Held First Friday of February & August
- Application Submitted 30 Days Before
- Application Fee \$100
- Results Released by Mail 45-60 Days After Exam



#### **Certification Application Statement**

I hereby apply for nutrient management certification in accordance with the provisions of 10.1-104.2 of the Code of Virginia, agree to comply with the Nutrient Management Training and Certification regulations, and certify that the above information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.



# **Exam Tips**

- Use information listed in question
- Do not over think question
- Environmental Optimum Does Not Apply
- Pick Closest Numerical Given in Answer
- Read Questions Carefully: Look for words like
  - NOT
  - Increase or Decrease
  - Most or Least



#### **Certificate Renewal**

- Certificates expire after two years
  - Expire on the last day of the month issued
- You will receive a renewal application about 45 days before certificate expiration
- \$100 renewal fee
  - List meetings attended for Continuing
- Education Credits
  - 4 Credits needed if plan(s) written
  - 8 Credits needed if no plans written
- Va. Nut. Mgt. Credits, NOT CCA Credits
- Excess credits cannot be carried forward



# Reporting

- Annual Activity Reports
- Report by September 30 of each year
- Plan Writing Summary by acres and hydrologic unit for period from July 1 through June 30
- Report form supplied by DCR



# Record Keeping

- MAINTAIN PLAN RECORDS FOR 3 YEARS
  - A list of all plans prepared
  - Landowner or operator name
  - Date plan was prepared of revised
  - Soil samples
    - dated not later than 3 yrs. prior to date plan was written
  - Copies of soil survey maps, or soil survey for each field
    - (unless soil survey not published)
  - Calculations used to determine planning yield, if changed from soil productivity



# Record Keeping (continued)

- Type and number of livestock, with description and average weight
- Calculations or records indicating annual manure volume
- All organic nutrient source analysis; manure, litter, biosolids
  - TKN, Ammonia, Total Phosphorus, Total Potassium



# Inspections

- Review plan content for compliance with Regulations and Standards and Criteria
- Make recommendations
- Discuss with Planner
  - Ways to improve plans
  - How to handle unusual situation(s)
  - Plan writing progressively improves



# **Nutrient Management Certification Contacts**

- Exam Applications, Certification
   Renewals, Continuing Education Credit
   Count
  - Susan Jones
    - 804-824-1573
    - Susan.Jones@dcr.Virginia.gov