



FAQs for ALL agricultural fertilizer applicators in Ohio:

Do I need agricultural fertilizer certification?

The certification is required for anyone in Ohio if you apply fertilizer (other than manure) to more than 50 acres of agricultural production grown

primarily for sale. If you hire a co-op or other custom applicator for fertilizer applications, you do not need the certification.

How do I become certified?

If you do not have an Ohio Pesticide Applicator License, you need to attend a 3-hour class. If you have a pesticide license, you need to attend a 2-hour class. All classes locations are available online at nutrienteducation.osu.edu

Do I need the certification if I raise forage for my livestock?

The term “agricultural production” is defined as the cultivation, primarily for sale, of plants or any parts of plants on more than 50 acres. If you raise forage (e.g., hay, silage, corn) for use on your farm, and have questions about fertilizer certification, please contact the Ohio Department of Agriculture at 614-728-6987 or email: pesticides@agri.ohio.gov

When do I need the certification?

Individuals are encouraged to obtain certification as soon as possible, or when renewing their pesticide applicator license. The certification must be obtained by September 30, 2017.

What records need to be kept?

Recordkeeping requirements are available online at nutrienteducation.osu.edu or by contacting your county OSU Extension office.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Exemptions for small and medium operations.

Small and medium agricultural operations (defined by number of species*) may apply for a temporary exemption from restrictions on fertilizer and manure applications.

- A medium agricultural operation may be exempt up to July 3, 2016
- A small agricultural operation may be exempt up to July 3, 2017.
- An exempt operation will not be subject to civil penalties for violations if working toward compliance.
- Contact Ohio Division of Soil & Water Conservation for information on exemptions

Enforcement.

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) has authority to investigate violations upon receiving a complaint from any person or receiving any information that suggest a potential violation. ODA may assess penalties for violations, which may not exceed \$10,000 per violation.

Brochure created September, 2015.

* Number of species is defined by ODA in Livestock Environmental Permitting

Anywhere in Ohio:

Certification requirements for any persons using manure from Concentrated Animal Feeding Facility (CAFF)

No person may apply manure from a concentrated animal feeding facility without a permit from ODA unless:

- The person is an Ohio Certified Livestock Manager (CLM), **OR**
- The person has been certified through the Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training (FACT)

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Regulations for Fertilizer and Manure Applications in the Lake Erie Western Basin Watershed



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Pesticide Safety Education Program

614-292-4070 • pested@osu.edu

nutrienteducation.osu.edu



**Department of
Agriculture**

Pesticide & Fertilizer Regulation

614-728-6987 • pesticides@agri.ohio.gov

agri.ohio.gov

New Restrictions on Fertilizer and Manure Applications for Lake Erie Western Basin Watershed

These regulations became effective July 3, 2015 and affect counties shown below in the watershed map.



Ohio Counties in the Lake Erie Western Basin Watershed

Larger map is at nutrienteducation.osu.edu More information about the regulation and upcoming fertilizer applicator certification training is also available on the website or at your county OSU Extension office.

Fertilizer application restrictions in the western basin watershed. In the western basin, a person may not apply fertilizer (defined as nitrogen or phosphorous) under these conditions:

- On snow-covered or frozen soil
- When the top two inches of soil are saturated from precipitation
- In granular form when the local weather forecast for the application area contains greater than a 50% chance of precipitation exceeding one inch in a 12 hour period

Exceptions – the restrictions do not apply if the fertilizer is:

- Injected into the ground
- Incorporated within 24 hours of surface application
- Applied onto a growing crop

Manure application restrictions in the western basin watershed. In the western basin, a person may not surface apply livestock or poultry manure under these conditions:

- On snow-covered or frozen soil
- When the top two inches of soil are saturated from precipitation
- When the local weather forecast for the application area contains greater than a 50% chance of precipitation exceeding 1/2 inch in a 24 hour period

*Exceptions – the above restrictions do not apply if the manure is:**

- Injected into the ground
- Incorporated within 24 hours of surface application
- Applied onto a growing crop
- See exemptions for some farms on back panel

*Emergency exemption needs permission from Ohio Division of Soil & Water