



**Contact:**

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CONSERVE TODD COUNTY: Managing nutrients

Submitted by Todd County NRCS

Nutrients can help or harm, either leading to bountiful harvests or contributing to water quality issues. How we manage nutrients affects how much is taken up by plants and how much is lost from our farm fields.

Nutrients come from many sources in rural, suburban and urban America. Here in Todd County, producers help improve water quality by managing nutrients, using the **right** kind, the **right** amount, applied at the **right** time, and using the proper method of application. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service helps producers use nutrients wisely – through a conservation practice called “nutrient management”.

Nutrient management allows farmers and ranchers to achieve optimal agricultural and economic outcomes while improving the quality of air, soil and water. Through nutrient management, farmers perform a soil or plant tissue test to determine nutrient needs and apply only the amount needed to optimize crop yields.

Managing nutrients comes with a number of benefits for the producer. Producers can see cost savings from lower inputs and potential yield increases, thus creating a win-win situation.

With 88 percent of surface water falling on private land before it reaches our lakes, streams and underground aquifers, private landowners, like farmers, play an important role in decreasing the amount of nutrients in our waterways.

If you want more information on nutrient management, stop by our local field office, located at:

USDA NRCS Field Office  
607 9<sup>th</sup> St NE  
Long Prairie, MN 56347

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