

(d) (1) State cost sharing may be made available to farmers to help offset the costs of having a nutrient management plan prepared by a certified nutrient management consultant who is not employed by the federal, State, or a local government.

(2) [State cost share funds are to be made available for eligible costs up to 50% per acre, not to exceed \$3 per acre.

(3)] The Secretary of Agriculture shall adopt regulations authorizing the disbursement of State cost sharing funds under this subsection.

(e) (1) By December 31, 2001, a person who, in operating a farm, uses chemical fertilizer, shall have a nutrient management plan for nitrogen and phosphorus that meets the requirements of this subtitle.

(2) (i) By December 31, 2001, a person who, in operating a farm, uses sludge or animal manure, shall have a nutrient management plan for nitrogen.

(ii) By July 1, 2004, a person who, in operating a farm, uses sludge or animal manure, shall have a nutrient management plan for nitrogen and phosphorus.

(f) (1) By December 31, 2002, a person who, in operating a farm, uses chemical fertilizer, shall comply with a nutrient management plan for nitrogen and phosphorus that meets the requirements of this subtitle.

(2) (i) By December 31, 2002, a person who, in operating a farm, uses sludge or animal manure, shall comply with a nutrient management plan for nitrogen that meets the requirements of this subtitle.

(ii) By July 1, 2005, a person who, in operating a farm, uses sludge or animal manure, shall comply with a nutrient management plan for nitrogen and phosphorus that meets the requirements of this subtitle.

(g) A person may meet the requirements of subsection (e) of this section by requesting, at least 60 days before the applicable date set forth in subsection (e) of this section, the development of a nutrient management plan by a certified nutrient management consultant.

~~(h) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (e) and (f) of this section, if a person receives State funds for the development of a nutrient management plan for chemical fertilizer or a nutrient management plan for sludge and animal manure based on nitrogen, the person shall implement the plan upon completion of the development of the plan.~~

(i) (1) If a person violates the provisions of subsection (e) of this section, the Department shall notify the person that the person is in violation of the requirement to have a nutrient management plan.

(2) After a reasonable period of time, if the person fails to have a nutrient management plan, the person is subject to an administrative penalty not to exceed \$250.