



FARMER TRAINING & CERTIFICATION ONLINE
For Agronomic Crop and Animal Operations
Fall 2023: September 25th-October 23rd
“Write Your Own Nutrient Management Plan”



Description: An opportunity for producers with cropland and pastures who use commercial fertilizer and/or manure to learn how to write nutrient management plans (NMP) for their operations that meet Maryland Department of Agriculture’s regulations.

Please Advise: The course requires a minimum time commitment of 15-20 hours over 5 weeks. Larger, more complicated farm operations and those with high phosphorus soil test levels may require additional training and a larger time commitment.

Before registering, ensure you have the required materials and skills:

Required Materials/Technology:

- Reliable internet connection
- Email address
- Computer with Windows 7 or later (NuMan Pro software is not compatible with Mac)
- Printer
- Microsoft Word and Excel
- PDF reader software (Adobe acrobat or similar)

Required Skills

- Competency in high school math
- Intermediate computer skills including:
 - Familiarity with web browsing
 - Experience with MS Office programs (Word, Excel), PDF readers (Adobe Acrobat or similar)
 - Ability to download/open/save/retrieve computer files
 - Ability to learn a new software program (NuMan Pro)

You will receive:

- **Access to the Online Course** – Administered via the University of Maryland’s Enterprise Learning Management Systems (ELMS-Canvas).
- **A comprehensive training binder (electronic version- Google Drive Folder)** –Consists of all materials referenced throughout the course, compiled in one place. The binder materials will be used during the class, serve as a reference during the exam, and as a valuable resource when you write future NMPs for your farm.
- **NuMan Pro software**
- **Certification** – Producers who pass the exam and complete development of their NMP will be certified by MDA to write their own NMPs.
- **Voucher training credits** – This class will fulfill the nutrient applicator voucher training requirements.

Cost and Registration Information

- Space is limited therefore, **register early. Registration will close on 9/18/23 or when capacity is reached.**
- Cost for the course is a \$20 exam fee (to be paid directly to MDA following registration, no later than 10/16/2023)
- To register for the Fall 2023 FTC Online offering September 2023– October 2023 (see course outline below), go to ***bit.ly/fall2023-farmer-certification***

Week 1 9/25/23	Online Modules 1 and 2	Online Office Hours offered: Tuesday 9/26/23 2-3pm
Week 2 10/2/23	Online Modules 3 and 4	Online Office Hours offered: Tuesday 10/3/23 2-3pm
Week 3 10/9/23	Online Modules 5 and 6	Online Office Hours offered: Tuesday 10/10/23 2-3pm
Week 4 10/16/23	Online Modules 7 and 8	Online Office Hours offered: Tuesday 10/17/23 2-3pm
Week 5 10/23/23	Certification Exam NMP Submission	Online Certification Exam: Monday 10/23/23, 6pm-8pm NMP Submitted to MDA: October 31, 2023