

Water Quality Enhancement Activity – WQL06 – Apply Controlled Release Nitrogen Fertilizer

Enhancement Name

Apply only slow-release or controlled release formulations of nitrogen fertilizer

Land Use Applicability

This enhancement is applicable on cropland and pasture land.

Benefits

Nutrient management encompasses managing the amount, source, placement, form, and timing of the application of plant nutrients and soil amendments. Nutrient management effectively utilizes available nutrient resources to supply crops with nutrients required to efficiently produce food, forage, fiber, and cover while minimizing environmental degradation. The use of slow or controlled release nitrogen fertilizer makes nitrogen available to plants over a longer portion of the growing season to match the plant uptake needs. This limits the loss of nitrogen to leaching and denitrification, and can help control soil emissions of the greenhouse gas nitrous oxide.

Criteria

Follow guidance given in Michigan Agronomy Technical Note #31, “Description of Products that Enhance Nitrogen Use Efficiency”, found in Section I of the Michigan Field Office Technical Guide.