

Wisconsin's Nutrient Reduction Strategy 2015-16

Implementation Progress

June 2017

Introduction

In November 2013, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources issued “Wisconsin’s Nutrient Reduction Strategy” on behalf of state, federal and local agencies in Wisconsin that are involved in managing phosphorus and nitrogen losses to water. Wisconsin, like all states in the Mississippi River basin, had agreed to develop and implement a nutrient reduction strategy to address its contribution to Gulf of Mexico hypoxia (consistent with the ***Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Action Plan 2008***). However, Wisconsin’s main objective in minimizing nutrient losses to water is to improve lakes, rivers, streams and groundwater within the state. Like other states in the Mississippi River basin,

implementation of the Nutrient Reduction Strategy is occurring mainly through existing programs that have catalyzed municipalities, farmers, landowners, technical assistance providers and concerned citizens to collaborate in addressing water quality problems in their own watersheds. The actions implemented to address local nutrient-related water quality impairments are also effective in reducing nutrient losses to the Mississippi River.

This report is a compendium of nutrient reduction activities in 2015 and 2016 that represent progress in implementing Wisconsin’s Nutrient Reduction Strategy.