

The Enrollment Process:

They are breaking down the process into phases.

- Phase 1 will be submitting a VNMP/CNMP and soil tests into MyFarms.
- Phase 2 will mainly be the producer and H2Ohio tech deciding what practices to enroll in.
- Phase 3 will be completing the practices.
 - There will be a list of different documentation options someone will need to upload for verification.

How to prepare and stay on top of things Prt1: SOIL TEST SOIL TESTS SOIL TESTS!!!

- It is encouraged to get soil tests updated before writing/updating any more nutrient management plans for producers.
- Soil tests will need to be within 4 years of the current crop year.
 - For the next version of H2Ohio, if they have 2022 or 2023 soil tests they will set for the duration of the contract.
 Any 2020 or 2021 will be accepted, but only for the first and or second year of the contract. A new test and plan for each field will then need reuploaded and approved again.

How to Prepare and stay on top of things prt2: VNMP/CNMP and Prescription Maps

- After getting updated soil tests, I encourage having recommendation prescription maps prepared.
- Can you start writing/updating a plan??
 - ODA staff is still trying to figure out what this will look like with the MyFarms program. For now, hold off and focus on getting updated soil tests and prescription maps.

What to Prepare for and Expect for the next version of H2Ohio

H2Ohio is officially going to have open Enrollment for 2024-2026 Crop Year!

There are several factors that need to be accounted for when preparing for the new version of H2Ohio. This next enrollment of H2Ohio will be very different from before. There have been updates to the program's practices/guidelines and will now be completed through an online site called MyFarms.

Please read carefully through each textbox to get an idea and understanding on how to prepare for the new version and what to expect in the next couple of months. If there are any questions, please Van Wert SWCD.

The New H2Ohio:

- The new program will roll out early July (as long as all goes as planned with the budget) and ANYONE can enroll, as long as they have updated soil tests and VNMP or CNMP. The program's enrollment will be from <u>July-December 2023</u>.
- ODA is streamlining BMPs from seven practices to four to better serve enrolled producers. The VNMP will continue to be the foundation of the program and these changes will allow a more efficient program delivery. Practice requirements will be updated to provide producers more options to implement BMPs. The new practice requirements/guidelines are still in the drafting. They likely will not be released until June/July.
- Please read attachment <u>'ODA H2Ohio Program Proposals Fact Sheet'</u> to see the Proposed BMP changes.

My Farms:

- We are moving completely away from Paper Documents and *EVERYTHING* is to be digitized.
- Ag Retailers/Consultants (or if producer works independently), will be expected to upload Soil Tests, Prescription/As-applied maps to MyFarms.
- Communication between Producer, Ag Retailer/Consultant and H2Ohio Tech will be vital when it comes to being efficient with the new Myfarms program.
 - o It is not expected for Producers to be able to do MyFarms on their own.
- They are planning to have training sessions in May/Early June.
- There will be someone from the MyFarms team available to help 24/7. Their company's contact info will be provided to us to reach out with questions or technological difficulties.