

RAINWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. RAINWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

A rainwater management plan is a detailed evaluation of a farm, designed to map water flow across both the farmyard and the surrounding land, following the ASSAP assessment methodology. This assessment identifies areas where nutrients, pesticides, and sediment are at risk of entering nearby rivers and drainage systems. It plays a vital role in determining the most effective locations for implementing mitigation measures. The assessment is conducted in collaboration with the farmer to ensure its accuracy. The plan also considers extreme weather events, such as heavy rainfall and cloudbursts, to ensure resilient water management strategies. Furthermore, it provides an opportunity to engage with the farmer and share valuable insights about local water quality.

REQUIREMENTS

1. A rainwater management plan must be provided with all applications. This equates to the standard ASSAP farm assessment plus farm maps (including PIP maps) for the land within the Area for Action (farmyard & land holding subject to application). Proposed exceptions to the above must be accompanied by justification.
 2. The farm is to be assessed as per the ASSAP Farm Assessment methodology using the Ag Planner system where available.
 3. Water serves as the primary vector for transporting nutrients, sediment, and pesticides to vulnerable water receptors. By following rainwater pathways and intercepting pollutants, farmers can adopt a logical approach, enabling them to target the right mitigation measures in the right locations. The rainwater management plan consists of two key components: a) the Farmyard Map and b) the Farmland Map. These maps highlight areas at risk of pollutant runoff into water sources and identify the appropriate Farming for Water (FFW) Environmental Innovation Programme (EIP) measures to reduce these losses.
 - a. Farmyards
 - i. To identify if rainwater enters the yard from upslope and transverses the farmyard area.
 - ii. Identify the outfall drains from the farmyard and provide advice on how to prevent contaminant losses entering the drainage network e.g. recommending applicants to apply for TAMS funding where necessary.
 - iii. To identify locations for interception measures.
 - iv. Provide advice (captured on Ag Planner) on areas within the yard that require attention, diverting clean water away from the yard.
 - b. Farmlands
 - i. To use information available from EPA PIP and Flow Delivery Path, Flow Delivery Point maps and LAWPRO characterisation and referral information to identify the areas/points on a farm map where mitigation measures are best situated. PIP maps must be verified on the ground in consultation with the farmer.
 - ii. Advisors and farmers should leverage their expertise and local knowledge to identify areas not included on the EPA maps that may be contributing to water quality issues. Appropriate measures should then be recommended to address these concerns.
 - iii. Interception of pathways with appropriate measures to be recommend by Advisors from the list of FFW EIP measures and may also consider Bespoke Measures.
4. The farmyard, farm roadways, farm drain network springs/wells, location of underpasses, culverts etc. must all be examined as part of the rainwater management plan.
5. The rainwater management plan submitted to the EIP project team must include the following:
 - a. An aerial (satellite) map of the farmyard, identifying flow of water through the yard & clean water outfall to any EIP funded measures for the farmyard.
 - b. Aerial (satellite) maps identifying the flow delivery paths and points for the farm that fall within the Area for Action or Referral area.
 - c. PIP N & PIP P maps for the applicants farm that fall within the Area for Action or referral area.
 - d. The flow delivery path/point map must show/identify the locations of any EIP funded measures outside of the farmyard.
 - e. The measures for submission to the EIP Team are to be identified on the excel application form.

PAYMENT

Applicants will receive a one-off payment of €250 for participation in the development of the Rainwater Management Plan.







VALIDATION

Submission of plan.

Rain Water Management Plan: Farmyard Map



Notes:
Mark out the preferential flow pathways that rainwater will take during wet weather, including very heavy weather such as cloud bursts.






- Slope: 
- Water outlet from yard: 
- Clean Water Drain 
- M28 – Willow Bed 
- M29 – Farmyard Settlement 
- Tank 

Example of a Rain Water Management Plan: Farmyard Map

Rain Water Management Plan: Land Area Maps



- Key:**
- River: 
 - Drain: 
 - Water outlet from farmyard: 

- Farm boundary: 
- Slope: 
- M5 Multi Species Swards 
- M14 - Spatially Targeted Buffer 
- M23 & M24 - Water bars & Sediment Traps 

- Notes:**
- North of farmland: High PIP (N)
 - South of farm: High PIP (P)

Example of a Rain Water Management Plan: Land Area Maps



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Speak to your advisor today or check out the Farming for Water website www.farmingforwater.ie for further information. Phone our office on **062 33063** - Office hours 9:00am - 4:30pm.



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