

Do you Live or Work in an Arkansas Nutrient Surplus Area (NSA)?

Karl VanDevender
Professor -
Extension Engineer
Biological & Agricultural
Engineering

Eric Simon
Program Associate -
Biological & Agricultural
Engineering

Mike Daniels
Professor -
Crop, Soil & Environmental
Science

The State of Arkansas implemented nutrient management laws with the purpose to maintain the benefits derived from the wise use of poultry litter, commercial fertilizers, and other soil nutrients while avoiding unwanted effects from excess nutrient applications on the waters within the State. One of the laws defines specific watersheds within the state as Nutrient Surplus Area (NSA), which is an area that has been designated by the Arkansas General Assembly as having such high concentrations of one or more nutrients that continued unrestricted application of the nutrient could negatively impact soil fertility and waters of the state. For information pertaining to the Arkansas Nutrient Surplus Area Regulations refer to The University of Arkansas Extension publication "[New Arkansas Laws Regulate Use and Management of Poultry Litter and Other Nutrients, FSA29](#)".

Within the designated NSAs, materials spread on land (> 2.5 contiguous acres or more) that contain nutrients, defined as nitrogen and phosphorus for the purposes of fertilizing turfgrass, pastures and crops, are regulated. Organic base nutrients, such as chicken litter, must be applied by a state-certified applicator according to a state-approved nutrient management plan written by a state-certified nutrient management planner. Inorganic sources of nitrogen and phosphorus can be applied according to the protective use rate tables included in the regulations. For more information, please refer to: The Arkansas Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Division

[Nutrient and Poultry Litter Application and Management Program \(Title 22\)](#). The regulation's Subtitle II, Nutrient Surplus Area, page 4, defines the NSA watersheds. Appendix A of the same document includes the map shown in Figure 1.

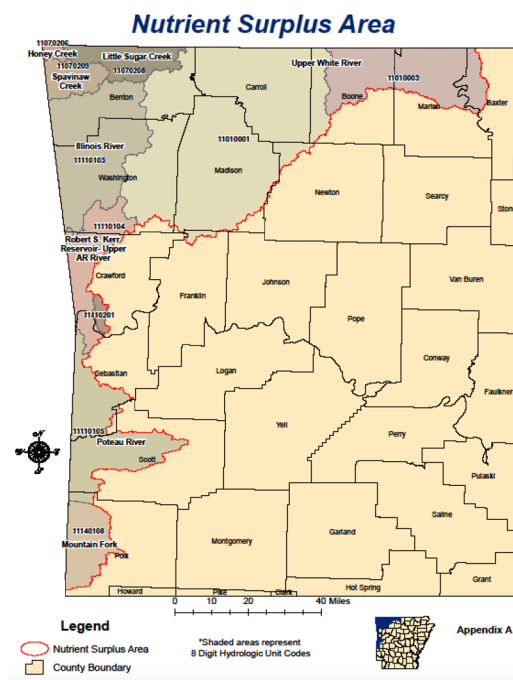


Figure 1. Title 22 Appendix A Map

Nutrient Surplus Area Watersheds

1. Illinois River: HUC 11110103
2. Spavinaw Creek: HUC 11070209
3. Honey Creek: HUC 11070206
4. Little Sugar Creek: HUC 11070208
5. Upper Arkansas River (including Lee Creek within Crawford and Washington counties, and Massard Creek within Sebastian County): HUC 11110104
6. Poteau River: HUC 11110105
7. Mountain Fork of the Little River: HUC 11140108
8. Upper White River watershed above Buffalo River confluence: HUC 11010001 and HUC 11010003 (excluding HUCs 1101000308, 1101000309, 1101000310, and 110100031108)

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How do I know if I live or work in a NSA?

To determine which watershed you live in and whether it is included in the Nutrient Surplus Area, you can refer to the map. Alternatively you can enter the desired street address into the space provided at the Arkansas Watershed Information System webpage “[Find your Watershed](#)”. You can also manipulate the map at this site to adjust the location of interest as well as the scale and background of the map.

The website supplies the 8-, 10-, and 12-digit Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUCs) and names for the nested watersheds that include your selected location. Note that all the Nutrient Surplus Area watersheds have 8-digit HUCs except for the eighth which excludes some 10- and 12-digit HUC sub or nested watersheds. For more information on Arkansas Watersheds and HUC designation, please refer to the University of Arkansas Extension publication FSA9125 “[Arkansas Watersheds](#)”.

Here is an example of how to use the “[Find your Watershed](#)” to determine your HUC and reference if you are in a the Nutrient Surplus Area. The example uses the Washington County Extension office’s address (2536 N McConnell Ave, Fayetteville, AR 72704)

Enter your address (or city) to find your watershed

Enter your address here → 2536 N McConnell Ave, Fayetteville, AR 72704 Go!

If the result below is incorrect, drag the marker (📍) to the correct location or try again.

Map Satellite

Based on the current marker location (📍), your watershed is:

8-Digit HUC: 11110103 +
Name: Illinois

10-Digit HUC: 1111010302 +
Name: Clear Creek-Illinois River

12-Digit HUC: 111101030203 +
Name: Hamestring Creek

Clear Watershed Layers

Current marker location: 36.097729, -94.180231

Here is your 8-Digit HUC. Use this number to reference the list above to determine if your HUC is in an NSA. In this example the watershed is Illinois (River) and the HUC is 11110103. This is #1 on the list above, which means this address is in the Nutrient Surplus Area.

Arkansas Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Division Nutrient and Poultry Litter Application and Management Program (Title 22): https://www.agriculture.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Title_22.pdf

Arkansas Watershed Information System webpage “Find your Watershed”: http://watersheds.cast.uark.edu/find_your_watershed.html

Arkansas Watersheds. <https://www.uaex.uada.edu/environment-nature/water/quality/FSA-9521.pdf>

References and Links

The links indicated above are listed below and were verified on Nov. 29, 2023.

New Arkansas Laws Regulate Use and Management of Poultry Litter and Other Nutrients, [FSA29: https://www.uaex.uada.edu/publications/pdf/fsa-29.pdf](https://www.uaex.uada.edu/publications/pdf/fsa-29.pdf)

KARL VANDEVENDER is a professor - Extension engineer, ERIC SIMON is a program associate - biological and agricultural engineering, and MIKE DANIELS is a professor - crop, soil and environmental science. All are with the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture, Little Rock.

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