



## Wisconsin Farm Sustainability Rewards Program

### Policy for Protecting Confidential Information in Producer Supplied Farm Management Data

The Farm Sustainability Rewards (FSR) program is a two-year project to assess feasibility of a new model for farm incentive programs that rewards producers for measurable, whole-farm environmental performance. The project is led by a partnership with Wisconsin's Green Fire and Clean Wisconsin with funding from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Part of the FSR project will involve quantifying crop system performance as it relates to phosphorus losses, soil losses, nitrogen leaching and denitrification, and carbon storage using real farm data supplied by Wisconsin agricultural producers from representative farms and cropping systems throughout the state. Using whole-farm farm data voluntarily provided by producers will help assure our work is based on the real experience of Wisconsin farms.

The FSR project recognizes that farm management data is sensitive and confidential, and that unwanted release of such information could cause disruption or unintended consequences.

Wisconsin's Green Fire and Clean Wisconsin commit to maintaining the confidentiality of all information supplied voluntarily by agricultural producers who agree to share their farm plans for use by the FSR project.

#### Specifically, the FSR project commits to:

- Protect all original plans, documents and data sets supplied by Wisconsin agricultural producers and not releasing such information as originally provided or in any form that includes personally identifiable information for that farm to any other party not associated with the FSR project.
- Limit access to producer's original information to only persons specifically tasked with collecting such information and who will use the information in modeling and analysis detailed in our project work plan.
- Ensure that any publicly-shared information or reports that rely on producer provided data will be based on aggregated data or anonymized data for which the specific farm or farm location will not be identifiable.
- At the request of the provider, the FSR project will destroy all provided farm records at the conclusion of the project.

Please direct any questions on this policy to:

FSR Co-executive Jimmy Vandenbrook ([jvandenbrook@wigreenfire.org](mailto:jvandenbrook@wigreenfire.org)).

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