



May 4, 2018

SUBJECT: Environmental Management System Policy

TO: Scientists, Support Staff and Students

FROM: Jane Johnson, Acting Research Leader

In accordance with standing Presidential Executive Orders, Greening The Government Through Leadership In Environmental Management, the USDA, REE, ARS, Environmental Management System Policy Statement dated June 28, 2004, and the Midwest Area Environmental Management System Policy dated September 16, 2010, the North Central Soil Conservation Research Laboratory (NCSCRL) has established and implemented an Environmental Management System.

Location Research Mission:

The Research Mission of the NCSCRL is to **“Enhance productive conservation of agricultural and natural resources base, improve environmental health, and contribute to national food security through diversified, competitive and resilient agro-ecosystems in the Upper Midwest.”**

Environmental Management System (EMS) Goals and Objectives:

Our EMS goal is to systematically identify and actively manage environmental aspects that are present at NCSCRL. It is our objective, at a minimum, to fully comply with related Federal, State and local regulations applying to these aspects.

Specific objectives are to:

- Protect the environment;
- Prevent pollution and minimize releases to the environment;
- Conserve natural resources and energy;
- Reduce, reuse and recycle solid waste;
- Reduce hazardous waste disposal quantities and costs;
- Improve interaction with environmental regulators; and
- Improve community relations.

Activities:

- Follow policies outlined in the NCSCRL Safety, Health and Environmental Management (SHEM) Program as endorsed by top management and states the Location’s commitments;
- Support the NCSCRL SHEM Committee;

- Refine existing research goals and objectives by identifying impacts, legal requirements, objectives, and continual improvements;
- Implement operations as outlined in the NSCRL SHEM Program;
- Submit unwanted and/or used hazardous materials to the University of Minnesota Department of Environmental Health and Safety (<http://www.dehs.umn.edu>);
- Utilize Engebretson Sanitary Disposal to recycle materials from NCSCRL under the Stevens County recycling program;
- Monitor and measure the status of NCSCRL SHEM Program objectives, the system, and procedures;
- Review of EMS performance by senior management.

cc:

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