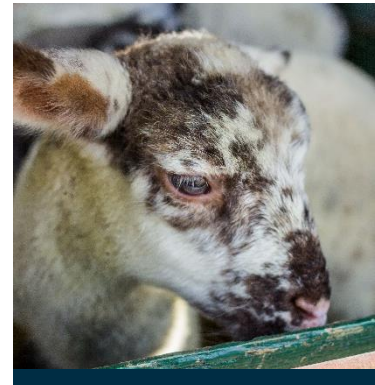




Joint Committee Meeting: Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture and Rural Development and Natural Resources and Agriculture Standing Committee

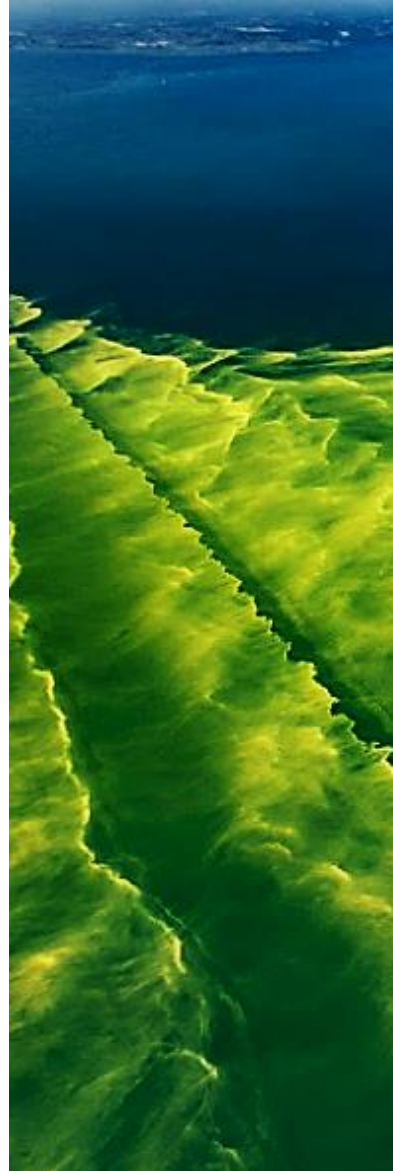


Gary McDowell
Department Director

Sylvia Renteria
Director of Finance and Budget

What is Phosphorus?

- Phosphorus is a nutrient that stimulates plant growth
- Can be found in soil, animal manure, fertilizers, etc.
- Excessive phosphorus leads to algal blooms



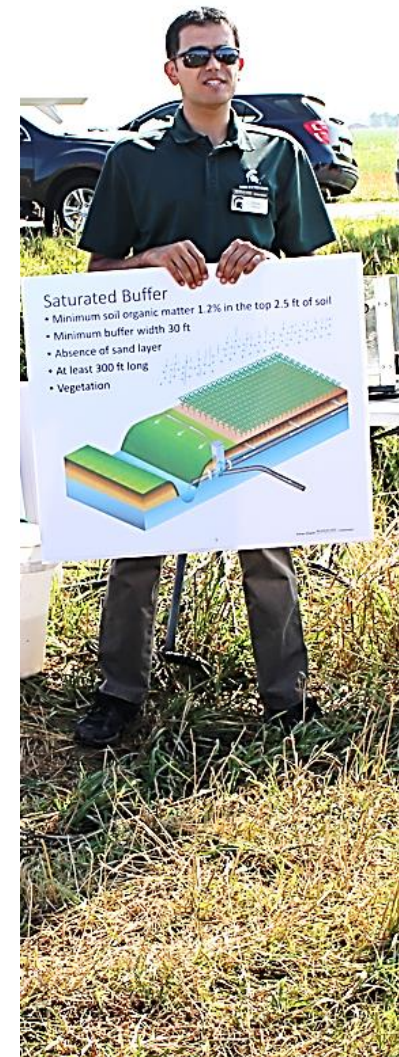
Phosphorus in Western Lake Erie Basin

- Two major sources for phosphorus pollution:
 - Point sources like wastewater treatment plant discharges
 - Non-point sources like agricultural runoff
- Goal is to reduce phosphorus entering Lake Erie by 40% by 2025
- Need to address differently going forward



New Pilot Program

- Agricultural nutrient best management voluntary practices program
- Investment of \$25.0 million in one-time general funds
- Focus on phosphorus reductions and water quality improvements



Cost Categories

- Implementation of priority practices
- Technical support
- Soil and water quality testing
- Education outreach and training



Going Forward

- Continue to build strategic plan
- Annual reporting to the legislature
- Collaboration with partners to reach goals



Questions?



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