House Ag Appropriations Subcommittee
Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program
Agriculture & Rural Development
February 25, 2014
MAEAP History

- **1998** – Industry vision
- **December 7, 2000** – First Partnership Agreement Signed
- **2002** - First Livestock Verification
- **2003** - First Farmstead Verification
- **2005** - First Cropping Verification
- **March 2011** - MAEAP Legislation
To develop and implement a proactive environmental assurance program that targets all size Michigan farms and all commodities, ensuring that farmers are engaging in cost effective pollution prevention practices and working to comply with state and federal environmental regulations.
Partners and Supporters

and growing…
How Does MAEAP Work?

- Education
- On Farm Risk Assessment
- Third Party Verification
- MAEAP Verified
What Does MAEAP Do?
ASyts & Emergency Tube
MAEAP – A National Model

Partners – National Exposure
NASCA – MAEAP Template
NACD – National Focus in National Webinar
USEPA Region VIII – State AgDirector’s
Why Do Farmers Participate?

- Environmental Concern
- Legislated Incentives
- Liabilities/Ins $ Reduction
- Follow State & Federal laws
- Improved Management
- RUP Credits
- Conformance with RTF GAAMPs

- Peace of mind/Right Thing to do
- Ahead of Curve
- Good Neighbor
- GAP Audit Assistance
- Marketing Opportunity
- Learn & Improve
- Access to Cost Share & Incentive Payments
What Does MAEAP Address?

- Pesticide & Fertilizer Storage and Use
- Fuel Storage
- Well Safety
- Soil & Wind Erosion & Sensitive Areas
- Water Resources
- All Related RTF GAAMP’s & Environmental Laws
- And more…

**MAEAP Facts**

Phosphorus & Nitrogen reduced on MAEAP farms could have grown enough algae to cover over 3/4 of Houghton Lake at approx. 1/4” in depth. (Houghton Lake is Michigan’s largest inland lake.)
Environmental Gains

- Currently over 10,000 farms participating with nearly 2,000 verifications.
- Sediment delivery reduced – over 347,000 tons in 2013 or 30,900 - 10 yard dump trucks.
- Verified nutrient management plans in place on over half a million acres of Michigan farmland.
- Phosphorus delivery to surface water reduced over 592,000# in 2013, enough to grow 148,049 tons of algae.
- Nitrogen delivery to surface and ground water reduced over 1,353,000# in 2013, enough to grow 48,049 tons of algae.
MAEAP Stewardship Practices

- Almost 729,000 acres receiving pesticides have approved pest management plans.
- Almost 13,100 acres of filter strips have been installed.
- Almost 2,300 gullies have been stabilized, improving water quality.
- Annually, over $1.2 million is spent for practice implementation by farmers working toward MAEAP verification.
PA 1 & 2, 2011

MAEAP codified in law
- Standards, Advisory Council, Ag Commission Role, Regional Assurance Teams, MOU with MDEQ & more.

Incentives in law
- Accidental discharge – No fines & penalties. (responsibility for notification/resource damage).
- TMDL- Farms verified in all applicable systems considered as meeting all required practices.
- Verified farms following standards & receiving defined rainfall with discharge considered nonpoint source discharge. Corrective action to avoid future discharge.
New Verification Growth

Cumulative New Verifications by System

- Livestock
- Farmstead
- Cropping

Years: 2002 to 2013

Values: 0 to 800
FY2014 MAEAP REVENUE

$5.7 Million

$4.4 Million Groundwater/Freshwater Fund

$1.3 Million General Fund
FY2014 MAEAP Spending

$2.4 M – MDARD (17 FTEs)

$3.3 M - Grants to Conservation Districts
(55 local FTEs- CTAI, SWAT, MAEAP)

$1.7 M – Leveraged Funds to Conservation Districts (8.5 FTEs plus cost share)

Of the $5 M to Conservation Districts $633,500 is allocated for general Conservation District costs
Michigan Farmers are Proud to be MAEAP Verified!
Questions?

Visit us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/mimaeap

www.maeap.org
www.michigan.gov/maeap
Why MAEAP Model in WLEB?

- Strategic
- Innovative
- Collaborative
- Leverages Funds & Resources

WLEB partnerships through MAEAP
- Farmers
- Industry Groups
- Conservation Districts
- Agencies
- Universities
Western Lake Erie Priority Area
Joint Project With NRCS-OH
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
EQIP Non-Point Source
Leveraging Funds & Resources
Benefits and Impacts

- More collaboration
- More opportunities for funding
- WLEB water quality Impact
- More benefits for the Future

FY 11-13 Impacts for 43 MAEAP Verifications in WLEB

- Sediment reduction = 38,503 tons
- Phosphorus reduction = 63,479 lbs enough to grow 31.7 M lbs algae
- Nitrogen reduction = 141,043 lbs enough to grow 10.0 M lbs algae