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Legal Authority: Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Public Act 451 of 1994, Part 82 and Part 87, as amended, and Public Acts 1 and 2 of 2011, as amended

Description of the Program:

The Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) brings together training, risk assessment, technical assistance, conservation practice support, engineering, cost-share, and agency verification in an industry lead partnership dedicated to pollution prevention. This partnership of organizations is dedicated to helping Michigan's farmers protect the environment in a manner that is performance based and cost effective. It is a legislated certainty program, with incentives for farmers to become verified under the program. Now in its 15th year, the program continues to grow at an unprecedented rate, thanks to the dedication and commitment of the MAEAP partners.

- Industry and conservation district sponsored training programs provide information to farmers on environmental risks and program benefits.
- Technical assistance helps farmers evaluate their on-farm risk and develop strategies to address identified risks.
- Local, state, federal, and private resources are coordinated to support farmer implementation of conservation practices.
- Once environmental risks have been met, the producer can request third party non-regulatory verification from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- MAEAP partners include over 100 agricultural organizations, university, state and federal agencies, local government, and conservation groups. This level of industry participation is unique to Michigan.
- MAEAP also operates Clean Sweep for the disposal of unwanted pesticides, Pesticide Container Recycling, Water Monitoring, Spill Response, and programs for households and golf courses.
- MAEAP is a nationally recognized proactive environmental assurance program serving Michigan's agricultural industry.



Why It Matters:

- Michigan is surrounded by three-quarters of the world's available fresh water. It is imperative for current and future generations that the most effective water protection strategies are implemented.
- Michigan's agriculture industry has taken a lead nationally in supporting the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program, which is funded primarily by fees on pesticides and agricultural fertilizers.

Key Stakeholders

- Farmers and agri-businesses
- Michigan Farm Bureau
- Commodity groups
- Conservation districts
- Environmental groups
- Michigan residents

Key Statistics

- 104 Phase 1 sessions presented
- 1,752 risk assessments completed
- 7,893 risk reductions implemented
- 623 farm system verifications
- 102 industry groups in active support

FY15 Accomplishments

- The Michigan legislature approved a six year reauthorization of the program including a potential \$700,000 increase in funds to provide more technical assistance, research, grants, and producer education.
- Set a record high for new verifications with 623 completed during the year; a 16 percent increase over FY14.
- Reached 3,048 verifications statewide, a 26 percent increase over FY14.

Measuring Success:

Metric	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15
Training Event Participation			313	317	181
Completed Risk Assessments	779	1,315	1,792	1,549	1,752
Risk Reductions	3,742	6,302	8,429	8,861	7,893
Verifications	143	356	530	535	623
Partner Groups					102
Sediments Stabilized (tons)	204,349	322,231	347,620	357,232	576,248
Phosphorous Contained (tons)	340,451	552,223	592,197	572,139	947,309

Additional details on all metrics provided in supplemental annual reports covering: training, risk assessments, conservation practices, verifications, partnerships, Clean Sweep, Spill Response, Container Recycling, and Water Monitoring.

Dashboards and Scorecards:

- MAEAP system verifications were published on the FY15 MiScorecard Performance Summary. While MAEAP is about much more than verification, this metric demonstrates the number of those reaching a performance peak. The program passed 51 percent of its October 2011 to December 2020 goal of 6,000 verifications. For FY16, MAEAP metrics have been updated to provide a monthly update on progress toward meeting verification goals for the year. The dashboards and scorecards can be found at www.michigan.gov/openmichigan.

FY16 Program Goals:

- Complete 720 new verifications.
- Complete 125 re-verifications.
- Improve program ability to capture information on education, risk assessments, conservation plan development, and practice implementation.
- Implement a “tiered” system for MAEAP to recognize producer’s involvement in the program prior to achieving verification.