



Manager: Joe Kelpinski, 517-284-5608, kelpinskij@michigan.gov

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 17th 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	Key Statistics
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farmers and agri-businesses• Michigan Farm Bureau• Commodity groups• Environmental groups• Conservation Districts• Michigan residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 149 Phase I sessions presented• 1623 risk assessments completed• 4760 risk reductions implemented• 642 farm system verifications• 120 industry groups in active support

FY17 Accomplishments

- Developed and began implementation of a new reporting database that will allow better tracking of BMP implementation, allowing MAEAP to more effectively quantify Michigan agriculture's environmental efforts.
- Set a record high for new verifications with 642 completed during the year; a 3 percent increase over FY15.
- Reached 4328 verifications statewide, a 17 percent increase over FY16.

Measuring Success:

Metric	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY 17
Training Event Participation		313	317	181	202	695
Completed Risk Assessments	1,315	1,792	1,549	1,752	1,538	1623
Risk Reductions	6,302	8,429	8,861	7,893	8,885	4760
Verifications	356	530	535	623	637	642
Partner Groups				102	120	120
Sediments Stabilized (tons)	322,231	347,620	357,232	576,248	381,041	163,526
Phosphorous Contained (tons)	552,223	592,197	572,139	947,309	651,525	283,487

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 FY17 MiScorecard Performance Summary. While MAEAP is about much more than verification, this metric demonstrates the number of those reaching a performance peak. The program reached 71percent of its October 2011 to December 2020 goal of 6,000 verifications. The dashboards and scorecards can be found at www.michigan.gov/openmichigan.

FY18 Program Goals:

- Complete 650 new verifications.
- Complete 500 re-verifications.
- Implement a spatial, GIS based system to allow MAEAP technicians to better target high risk areas in watersheds as small as HUC12.
- Implement edge of field research project focused in the Western Lake Erie Basin to better help farmers implement BMP's to address water quality issues.