



The Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program helps farmers evaluate their entire operation and truly make sustainable management decisions that balance society's needs, the environment, and economics. MAEAP analyzes the whole farm for environmental protection (rather than individual parts) and can be used on all types of farms in Michigan. Its successful public/private partnership, with over 50 partners, has set MAEAP apart from other programs. MAEAP has increased the trust between farmers and local and state technicians to implement long-term management and conservation practices, and to seek third party verification by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. MAEAP is honored statewide as a valuable program and has been recognized nationally as one of the top 150 conservation programs in the United States.

MAEAP MAKES MICHIGAN MONEY

- MAEAP is a cost-effective investment for all of Michigan with more than a \$360 return for every \$1 of state tax dollars invested.
- Annually, Michigan farmers invest more than \$1.2M on practice implementation in working toward MAEAP verification.





PROMOTING RESPONSIBILITY AMONG FARMERS

- To date, nearly 10,000 Michigan farms have started the verification process.
- Nearly 1,000 Michigan farms have become MAEAP verified or requested verification.

INFLUENCING MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

- MAEAP has helped beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers to incorporate the environment in management decisions that will last a lifetime.
- Michigan businesses have lauded MAEAP as the premier environmental program that impacts not only Michigan's natural resources, but also all management decisions on the farm.

PROACTIVELY EDUCATING FARMERS

- Annually more than 7,000 Michigan farmers attend educational sessions geared toward environmental stewardship and MAEAP verification.

VALUING A HEALTHY, CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

- In 2009, verified farms have kept 10,253 ten-yard dump trucks of soil from reaching streams and lakes.
- Phosphorus reduction through MAEAP is more than 184,000 pounds PER YEAR...enough to grow 118,000,000 pounds of algae in lakes and streams.