



From the Fields to the Great Lakes

A team approach to increase conservation practice implementation and MAEAP verifications on farms in the Western Lake Erie Watershed Basin

Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program

An innovative proactive environmental assurance program that helps farms of all sizes and commodities to prevent or minimize agricultural pollution risks, ensuring that farmers are engaging in cost effective pollution prevention practices and working to comply with state and federal environmental regulations.



Lake Erie is the smallest of the Great Lakes (116 cubic miles) and is exposed to the greatest effects from urbanization and agriculture. Considered the Walleye Capital of the World with a multi - billion dollar tourism industry.



Conservation District MAEAP technicians and partners networked with farmers at a WLEB / MAEAP and Conservation Practices Conference at Lake Erie to share information and work together to address issues.





Participants board trawlers for an experiential cruise during the MAEAP and Conservation Practices Conference at Stone Lab in Lake Erie.

Learning the science behind the Harmful Algae Blooms and the need for increased Conservation Practices that protect water resources instills a greater understanding of the issues and a greater commitment to Conservation on the farm.

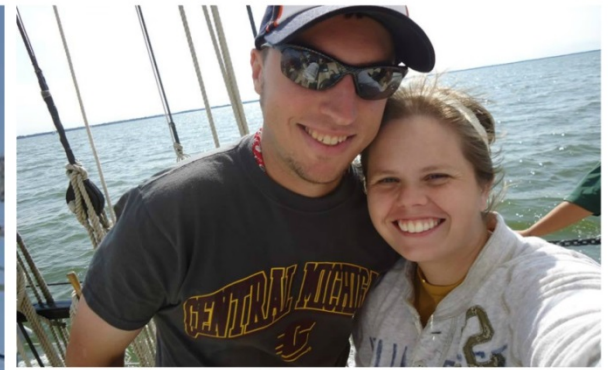


Engaging producers with Science and Creativity / learning about invasive species / nitrogen and phosphorus inputs / conservation practices and the Mayflies value to fisheries



“After seeing what is happening with Harmful Algae Blooms in Lake Erie I have committed to change my phosphorus management. 2014 will see spring phosphorus applications with light incorporation” Gary Service, Clinton, MI





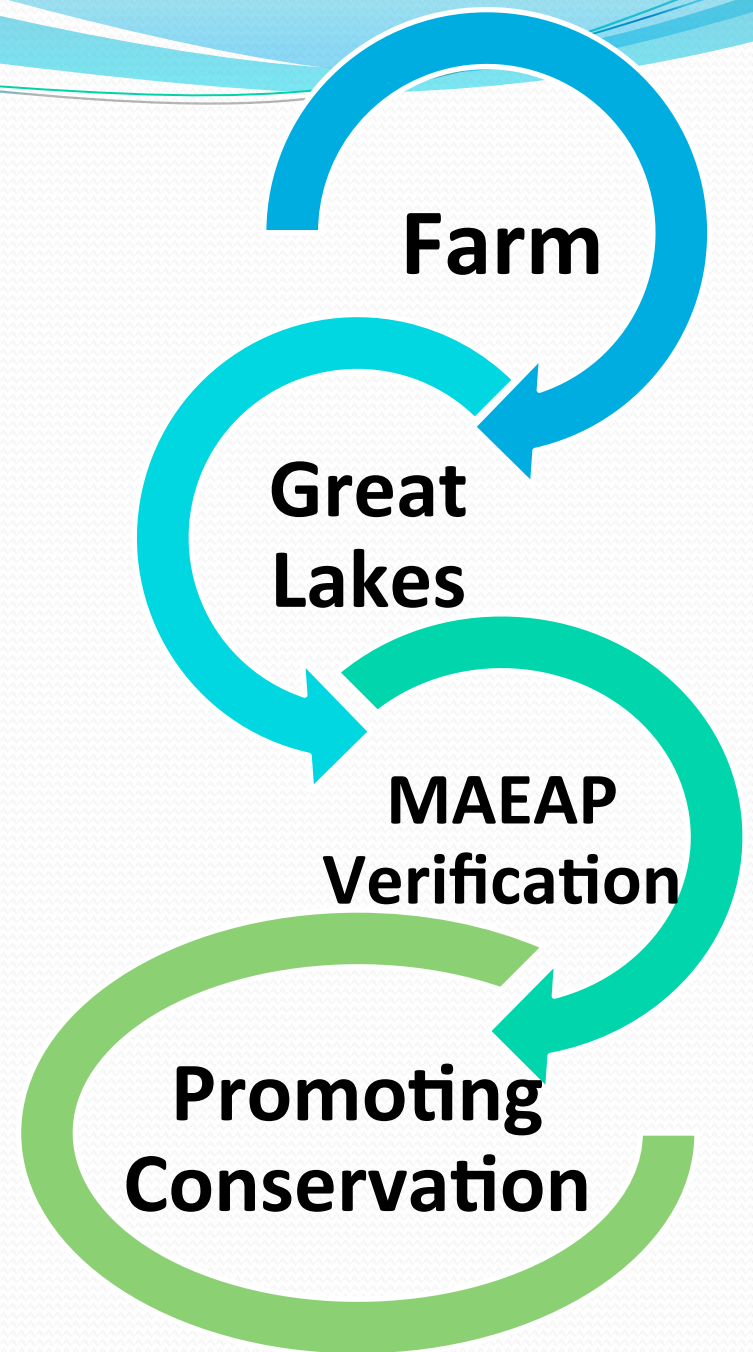
Agricultural Leaders can participate in a one of a kind MAEAP and Conservation Programs Water Quality Workshop in Partnership with Baysails Appledore Tallship.

“The Great Lakes are a treasure and we all need to do our part to protect them”. Blaine Baker Bakerlad Dairy Clayton, MI



Recap

- MAEAP Technicians added to Western Lake Erie Basin Team
- Baysails Appledore Tallship
- MAEAP & Conservation Practices Conference at Stone Lab
- MAEAP Verified Farms and more Conservation on the Ground



Going forward to increase conservation on the Land that protects our Great Lakes



Marion Farms Proud to be MAEAP verified took a MAEAP Banner to the Big Mac Bridge tractor crossing parade!





Carpenter Farms



Iott Farms



Ted Mason Farm



Calby & Lindsay Garrison Farm

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