



Montmorency Conservation District
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Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program

If you think the farm next door is polluting the air and water think again. Farm owners are going to great lengths to make sure that the practices on their lands are safe. The average home owner may be a bigger source of pollution if they are spraying and fertilizing without regard to the application instructions on the package.

The Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) is an innovative, proactive program that helps farms of all sizes and all commodities voluntarily prevent or minimize agricultural pollution risks.

MAEAP was developed by a coalition of agriculture farmers, commodity groups, state and federal agencies, and conservation and environmental groups. While the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) is the verifying agency, MAEAP is not a government or regulatory program, but rather a partnership effort. MAEAP teaches farmer how to identify and prevent environmental risks and work to comply with state and federal environmental regulations. Farmers who successfully complete the three phases of a MAEAP system are rewarded by becoming verified in that system.

MAEAP benefits Michigan by:

- Helping protect the Great Lakes.
- Using proven scientific standards to protect our air, water and soil.
- Maximizing natural nutrients and reducing use of fertilizers made from fossil fuels.
- Making good neighbors.
- Ensuring safe storage of fuel, fertilizer and chemicals.
- Balancing efficient production and sound environmental practices.
- Having emergency plans ready to deal with the unexpected.
- Protecting natural resources using environmentally sound practices.
- Taking care of the land while making a living for our families.

Many farms in Montmorency County are already MAEAP verified and several more are in the process. For more information on becoming MAEAP verified contact Ken Parsons, Conservationist, at 989-356-3596 Ext. 110.

The official MAEAP website:

www.maeap.org