Regional Agricultural Watershed Assessment Program Initiative

Steven Wm. Taglang

April 16, 2015
• Authority
  – Federal Clean Water Act
  – Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law

• Regulatory Requirements for Agriculture
  – 1972 - Chapter 102: Erosion & Sediment Control
  – 1986 - Chapter 91: Polluted Runoff (Manure)
  – 1993 - Chapter 83: CAO – Concentrated Animal Operations (State Conservation Commission - SCC)
  – 2000 - Chapter 92: CAFO – Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations

• 2012 Report
  – 5,705 miles of streams in Pennsylvania impaired by agriculture the leading cause of pollution of streams in Pennsylvania.
2010
Revised Chapter 102:
- Added “equine activities” to definition of Ag Operation.
- BMPs must meet “T” over crop rotation.
- Defined AHUA and included requirements for minimizing runoff.
- Crop residue requirement within 100 ft. of stream

2011
- DEP revised the Manure Management Manual.
- PA Conservation Districts conducted over 14,481 farm visits and held 268 manure management training sessions.

2011 - 2014
- DEP developed numerous education and outreach materials including brochures, pamphlets, barn sheets, calendars and videos.
## Ag Operations by DEP Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th># of FARMS</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NWRO</td>
<td>8590</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCRO</td>
<td>10608</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NERO</td>
<td>5386</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWRO</td>
<td>9720</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCRO</td>
<td>21754</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERO</td>
<td>3251</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>59,309</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The “# of FARMS” is from the 2012 Census data.
Regional Ag Watershed Assessment Program Initiative

• **Soft Run – Mifflin County**
  – Started in 2012
  – Inspect All Farms
  – Focus on Water Quality Issues

• **Regional Ag Watershed Assessment Program Initiative**
  – Build from Soft Run Pilot
  – Add Financial Support for BMPs and Plans
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEP Region</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Farms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCRO</td>
<td>Kaiser Run (Upper Buffalo Creek)</td>
<td>Union</td>
<td>CWF 2.88 sq.mi.</td>
<td>~ 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NWRO</td>
<td>UNTs Kahle Lake</td>
<td>Venanago/Clarion</td>
<td>CWF 4.49 sq.mi.</td>
<td>~ 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NERO</td>
<td>Mahantango Creek (Headwaters)</td>
<td>Schuylkill</td>
<td>CWF ~ 19 sq.mi.</td>
<td>~ 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCRO</td>
<td>Beaver Run (Yellow Creek Watershed)</td>
<td>Bedford</td>
<td>HQ-CWF ~10sq. mi.</td>
<td>~ 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERO</td>
<td>UNT Tohicken</td>
<td>Bucks</td>
<td>TSF 5.1 sq.mi.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deer Run</td>
<td>Bucks</td>
<td>CWF 3.4 sq.mi.</td>
<td>~ 41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wolf Run</td>
<td>Bucks</td>
<td>CWF 1.16 sq.mi.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWRO</td>
<td>Goose Run (Plum Creek Watershed)</td>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>HQ-CWF ~3 sq. mi.</td>
<td>~ 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
— Six Regional Offices / Six Watersheds
— “Advanced Notice” of Stakeholders
— Six Grants to Conservation Districts
— 147 Farms Assessed
Regional Ag Watershed Assessment Program Initiative
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Regional Ag Watershed Assessment Program Initiative
– 147 Farms Assessed
  • 34 Farms with Significant Water Quality Concerns
– 12 Farms w/ Field Orders
– Significant Findings:
  • 45 had Manure Management Plans (31%)
  • Positive Feedback
– 2015 Watershed Effort Now Being Considered
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