Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program

MAEAP

This Farm is Environmentally Verified

www.maeap.org
Importance Locally
What is MAEAP?

- MAEAP is a
  - Voluntary
  - Proactive
  - Customized
  - Cost-effective

Means of implementing pollution prevention practices and compliance with environmental regulations.
Regulatory discretion

RUP Credits
- Initial Assessment, Verification, and Repeat Assessment and Re-verification.
Steps to MAEAP Verification

MAEAP: Three-System/Three-Phase Program

PHASE 1
Education
- Livestock System
- Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan
- Progressive Planning
- Cropping System
- Crop A System and Greenhouse A System
- Farmstead System
- Farm A System and Greenhouse A System

PHASE 2
On-Farm Risk Assessment

PHASE 3
Third-Party Verification

Look for this symbol and discover your connection to local farmers.

What does MAEAP Verification mean?
Farmers displaying the MAEAP logo are actively sustaining the landscapes that surround us — the water we drink, the air we breathe, and the lakes and streams we recreate in — while producing top-quality Michigan-grown agricultural products.

MAEAP Verification assures farmers they are truly doing the right things for the land they live by preserving it directly for future generations.

When you purchase food from a MAEAP Verified farm, you are demonstrating your support for local farmers who voluntarily adopt environmentally sound growing practices.

So leave an eye out for the MAEAP logo and join your local farmers in doing your part to treat lightly upon our land and water.

Learn more: Explore Northwest Michigan

The Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program is an initiative of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and is administered locally by the Grand Traverse Conservation District.
### Risk Assessment Example

#### Pesticide Storage and Handling (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk question</th>
<th>Low risk – 3 (recommended)</th>
<th>Medium risk – 2 (potential hazard)</th>
<th>High risk – 1 (significant hazard)</th>
<th>Your risk</th>
<th>Records or evidence for MAEAP verification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.05 What design features does the pesticide storage have to contain spills and leaks?</td>
<td>Impermeable floor surface does not allow spills to soak into soil. Curb installed on floor to contain leaks and spills or individual package containment.</td>
<td>Impermeable floor surface without curb.</td>
<td>Permeable floor surface (wood, gravel or dirt floor) or impermeable floor with cracks. Spills could contaminate soil. Drain in the floor that discharges to the environment.</td>
<td>Adequate secondary containment for pesticide storage.</td>
<td>Adequate secondary containment for pesticide storage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.06 What type of pesticide storage shelving is used?</td>
<td>Metal or plastic shelving with shelf lips to prevent containers from falling. And, Dry formulation are stored on upper shelves and liquids in lower shelves.</td>
<td>Metal or plastic shelves without lips. Or, Wood shelves, covered with epoxy paint or plastic liner.</td>
<td>Barn wood shelving without lips. Or, No shelves – pesticide containers are on the floor, where they may be damaged.</td>
<td>Adequate pesticide storage security.</td>
<td>Adequate pesticide storage security.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.07 What level of security is provided for the pesticide storage?</td>
<td>Fenced or locked area, secure from unauthorized access. Storage separate from all other activities.</td>
<td>Storage open to activities that could damage containers or spill chemicals.</td>
<td>Open access to pesticide storage could result in theft, vandalism, and injury to children, pets or wildlife.</td>
<td>Adequate pesticide storage security.</td>
<td>Adequate pesticide storage security.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.08 What signage is posted on the storage facility?</td>
<td>A highly visible, weatherproof sign indicates that pesticides are stored there. A “No Smoking” sign is also posted.</td>
<td>Pesticide storage sign is posted, but “No Smoking” is not posted.</td>
<td>The pesticide storage has no signs.</td>
<td>Pesticide storage signage present.</td>
<td>Pesticide storage signage present.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.09 What kind of spill kit is available at the pesticide storage?</td>
<td>A complete spill kit is immediately available. A fire extinguisher approved for chemical fires is easily accessible and usable.</td>
<td>Spill kit is immediately available, but no fire extinguisher.</td>
<td>A spill kit is not available. A fire extinguisher is not available.</td>
<td>Spill kit with fire extinguisher present at pesticide storage.</td>
<td>Spill kit with fire extinguisher present at pesticide storage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.10 What total quantities of pesticides are stored on the farm?</td>
<td>No pesticides stored at any time, or only seasonal use storage.</td>
<td>1 gallon to 10 pounds of each pesticide in long-term storage.</td>
<td>More than 55 gallons or more than 550 pounds of each pesticide in long-term storage.</td>
<td>Adequate pesticide storage security.</td>
<td>Adequate pesticide storage security.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Producers who store certain bulk pesticides in containers that exceed 10 gallons or 100 pounds capacity may be subject to additional regulations.

A boxed risk level indicates the level required for MAEAP environmental assurance verification. Bold print indicates a violation of state or federal regulation. Blue print (bold italic) indicates conformance with Right-to-Farm guidelines.
Steps to MAEAP Verification

- When ready, farmer contacts MAEAP Technician and MDARD to schedule a farm visit for MAEAP Verification.

- Verified farms are required to go through a review by MDARD every three years to ensure continued compliance with MAEAP standards as well as Right to Farm and State & Federal Laws.
Grower Efforts

- **Soil Testing**
  - Customized Nutrient Plans
  - Covering 212,822 acres

- **Equipment Calibration**
  - Banded Applications
  - Variable Rate Technology
Grower Efforts

- **Emergency planning**
  - Plan of action in the event of a spill
  - Protect your local firefighters

- **Farmstead Site Reviews**
  - Identify Potential Risks
Grower Efforts

- Secondary Containment
  - All scales
Farmers who have achieved MAEAP verification have worked with a technician from their local Conservation District to:

• Review all of the management practices of their farm.

• Gain improved access to technical assistance

• Voluntarily adopt environmentally sound management practices.
Environmental Outcomes

- **Sediment Reduction**
  - 322,231 tons or 28,642 dump trucks

- **Phosphorus Reduction**
  - 261 tons or 138,056 tons of algae

- **Nitrogen Reduction**
  - 641 tons or 45,515 tons of algae
Marketing Opportunities With MAEAP

- Beneficial for farm markets and direct customer sales.
- Displaying the MAEAP logo is a sign of integrity.
- Consumers are seeking healthy and fresh local food.
- Verification in two systems allows for usage of the MAEAP logo on farm marketing/promotional materials.
- Allows consumers to identify good stewards of the land.
- Consumer awareness and demand.
- Statewide and national recognition (MAEAP educational winery tours).
Community Awareness
American Waste Container Recycling

- No fee: “Farm*A*Syst”
- Take back anytime
- Triple-rinsed, no labels
Farmability

• FarmAbility Program
  • Partnership with GTRLC & MSU
  • Simplified PA 116
  • 10 year, temporary Conservation Easement
  • Modest incentives
  • Resources for Estate, Succession, & Business Planning
  • Assistance for Food Safety/MAEAP
  • 5,000 Acre Goal

  • Whitewater
  • Elk Rapids

  • Milton
  • Torch Lake
More Info

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