McHENRY-LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



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New "Pilot" Nutrient Trading Program



On Januarv 15. 2025. area producers gathered at the McHenry County Farm Bureau to learn about a new program from speaker, Bartlett Durand, which partners agricultural producers and wastewater treatment plants to implement practices which reduce phosphorus on farm fields. The meetina hosted the was by Association of Illinois Soil & Water Conservation Districts in partnership with the McHenry-Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District, The Walton Family Foundation, McHenry

County Conservation District, and North Moraine Wastewater Reclamation District.

The North Moraine Wastewater Reclamation District (NMWRD) has entered into an agreement with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to provide funding to area producers in lieu of additional plant upgrades to remove phosphorus, thus reducing the amount of phosphorus coming into their treatment plant and is considered the "trade." Three priority areas have been identified with Priority Area 1 providing the greatest benefit or "trade" to NMWRD (see maps within this document or in person at the McHenry-Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District office).

Mr. Durand indicated that the goal of the pilot program is to create a "Farmer Led" watershed group that works together to determine which projects are implemented. Example practices include but are not limited to: Nutrient Management Planning, Cover Crops, Conservation Tillage (No-till/Strip-till), constructed wetlands, buffers, filter strips, constructed wetlands, bioreactors, and prairie plantings.

If you are interested in participating in this Farmer Led group or would like more information, please contact Spring Duffey, McHenry-Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District at (phone) 815-338-0444 ext. 3 or (email) spring.duffey@il.nacdnet.net.















