

From Soils to Streams

Circle 3 items you plan to improve on your farm.
Place a star by the one you will work on first.



Sediment

Why do we care?

- Smothers aquatic habitat, eggs
- Fills downstream waterways
- Harms fish (gills, feeding, spawning)
- Carries nutrients (esp. P) and pollutants

What can we do?

- Reduce tillage
- Plant cover crops
- Use filter strips and buffer strips
- Stabilize streambanks



Pathogens

Why do we care?

- Contaminates drinking water
- Causes human/animal illness
- Closes beaches

What can we do?

- Manage manure timing, storage
- Incorporate manure
- Limit livestock access to waterways
- Manage runoff and erosion
- Follow setbacks



Nutrients

Why do we care?

- Fuels algal blooms
- Lowers oxygen (fish kills)
- Degrades drinking water

What can we do?

- Use 4Rs
- Install buffer strips
- Grow cover crops
- Incorporate nutrients
- Avoid application before rain
- Limit livestock access to waterways
- Check your septic



Chemicals

Why do we care?

- Toxic to humans and wildlife
- Contaminates drinking water
- Can move to groundwater
- Harms ecosystems

What can we do?

- Follow label
- Prevent drift
- Avoid application before rain
- Keep away from wells, streams