



AGRICULTURAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 26, 2011

10:00 AM

MACC Office

301 Douglas Avenue, Holland

Agenda

Policy Board

Rosemary Ervine, Chair
Blaine Koops
Hannes Meyers, Jr.
Pankaj Rajadhyaksha
William Vanderbilt
Howard Baumann, Jr.
Joseph Baumann
Thomas Bird
Terry M. Burns
Kurt Dykstra
Terry Hofmeyer
Lester Hoogland
John Kleinheksel
Dal McBurrows
Al Myaard
Terry Nienhuis
Keith Potter
Amanda Price
Russ Te Slaa
Todd Wolters

Executive Committee

I. INITIAL RESULTS OF SEDIMENT SAMPLING STUDY

The MACC has been working with Hope College to monitor the levels of suspended sediment (during rain events) at 43 locations throughout the watershed. Dr. Graham Peaslee from Hope College will present the results from the first two rain events of the sampling season (rain events that occurred in mid-March.)

II. QUICK UPDATE ON GEOMORPHOLOGY ANALYSIS

In 2010 FTCH conducted an in depth geomorphology analysis of 3 tributaries of the Macatawa River: Noordeloos Creek, South Branch Macatawa, and North Branch Macatawa (also called the Tulip Intercounty Drain). The geomorphology analysis identified unstable sections of streams throughout the watershed. Recently, FTCH updated the study to include all areas of the watershed. A map of the results will be presented.

III. IDENTIFYING CRITICAL AGRICULTURAL AREAS

Mary will briefly review where we are at in the watershed planning process. Next step in the process is to identify critical urban areas in the watershed and critical agricultural areas in the watershed. Once we have these areas identified we can work on proposing appropriate BMPs.

IV. PROVIDE INPUT ON PLANS TO HOLD A FARMER EVENT THIS SUMMER

V. CONSIDER AN INFORMATION AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

*One of the most important components of a watershed management plan is developing an **information and education strategy**. We need to develop a strategy to not only inform and educate the community on watershed issues but more importantly, inspire behavior changes! We need your agricultural expertise to help craft messages that are relevant to row crop farmers, livestock farmers, blueberry farmers, absentee landowners etc etc*

VI. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, July 28, 2011 at 10:00am