

Rock River Recovery: Ag Sector Team Meeting
July 18, 9-Noon
UW Extension, Jefferson County

- Introductions
- Farmer Led Initiatives
 - o YPF, Dodge County, Farmers for Lake Country
 - o Washington & Ozaukee, fall field day with Michael Fields Ag Institute
 - o Green County, Cedar Creek Farmers
 - Initiatives and practices of farmers
 - Lack of equipment for no-till, loss of experience
 - “Precision Planting”
 - Kuhn
 - o What contributes to farmer-led groups? Review of past discussion
 - o No “one-size-fits-all”
 - o Accountability? How do farmers talk together and share ideas?
 - o Can we encourage this?
 - o Farmers influencing other farmers
 - o Peer pressure.... but not overnight
 - o How do we get more buy-on from the equipment dealers?
 - Invite dealers/manufacturers to next team meeting?
 - Challenges
 - Cost to run the equipment, people to run it
 - Demand can outpace equipment availability
 - o What would help?
 - Pulling in dealers
 - Help running EVAAL tool for counties
- Future direction of Ag Sector Team?
 - o Progress tracking (WDNR) for reporting on TMDL implementation
 - o Supporting counties and farmers
 - o Progress towards delisting, removing impairments
 - o CCA's have expressed desire/interest to be part of Ag Sector Team
- Farmers, CCA's, etc. often rely on Counties to stay up to date on meetings, etc., and bring that back to them.
- Permits – getting in the way of practices – waterways, etc.
 - o Chapter 30, wetlands – rules conflict with NPS implementation
 - o How can we streamline this, remove barriers?
 - o Permit staff to proactively work to facilitate efforts with counties
 - o Screening tool/assessment is a barrier – DNR used to provide as a service. Now it's a fee-for-service via private delineators
- Hindrances to NPS practices....remove barriers
- Under MDV – what MORE can we offer to make greater progress towards TMDL?
- What is the role of this group and is it worthwhile? **(Next meeting)**
- Is there someone who can help? UWExtension?

- MDV follow-up session/topic

Rock River Basin Soil Health/Ag Topic

- Better to just share/coordinate what everyone is doing
- Maybe let this “regional basin” workshop idea slide...

TASKS:

- Purpose/Goals of AST
 - o Why should/would CCA's want to come to the meetings?
 - o Clear goals/purpose/emphasis
 - o What is the “big ask” of the private industry?
- Follow up with UW Whitewater, Platteville classes for help with EVAAL, STEPL, etc.
- Soil Health/Conservation class engagement
 - o Chris Baxter and Sue Porter
- Identify and invite;
 - o Implement dealers
 - o CCA's
 - o NMP'ers
- Need to determine purpose – get all the counties input
 - o Updates on progress for TMDL implementation from other sectors
- Have a meeting focused on determining purpose/goals/vision
- Share original slides of “Goals & Objectives”

Benefits

- Networking and sharing of information and initiatives throughout the basin
- Get “Implementation Plan” finished

Next Meeting

- Draft minutes
- Draft agenda
- UW Extension Coordinator to facilitate
- Status update on county updates
- Point Source Update
- Early November