A Farmer’s Perspective

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT & THE CHESAPEAKE BAY EXPERIENCE: ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS
These practices would be implemented even without regulation because they offer immediate economic impact to the profitability of our business.
STRUCTURAL CONSERVATION PRACTICES IMPLEMENTED

- These practices require large sums of operating capital
  - Heavy Use Area - $500,000
  - Manure Storage Facilities - $350,000

- Take time to Design, Build & Fund

- If regulations require immediate implementation (vs. a period for implementation), the financial stress will be too great for many farm families

Necessary to meet regulation
With financial assistance/incentive from NRCS, USDA, HARVEST, etc., these practices were implemented for environmental and economic benefit.
A FARMER’S PERSPECTIVE...

- Annual Cost of Regulatory Document Maintenance - $10,000

- A Cookie Cutter approach will not work
  - Not all farms can do no till…
  - Not all farms can do cover crops…
  - Options and incentives need to be available to make compliance possible across all operations

- Steady, reliable sources of funding are a must

- Education around economic benefits of conservation practices will expedite adoption
THANK YOU