



## A Farmer's Perspective

**NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT & THE CHESAPEAKE BAY  
EXPERIENCE: ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

# CROPLAND CONSERVATION PRACTICES IMPLEMENTED



No Till  
Planting



Cover Crops



Crop Rotation



Plant  
Analysis, Soil  
Testing,  
Manure  
Testing

These practices would be implemented even without regulation because they offer immediate economic impact to the profitability of our business

# STRUCTURAL CONSERVATION PRACTICES IMPLEMENTED

Necessary to meet regulation



Heavy  
Use Areas



Manure  
Storage  
Facilities

- ✘ 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

# PRACTICES IMPLEMENTED WITH ASSISTANCE



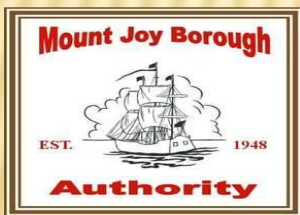
Manure Digestion & Separation



Conservation Equipment



Mortality Composting Facility



Nutrient Trading

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**