BMP Implementation

- WASCOB – Barber Farm - started in summer ’03, seeding completed and growing in ’04. Reduction in sedimentation
- Pasture – Gray Farm cattle fenced out of streams
- Continuation of fertilizer reduction for corn crop at Maxwell Farms
- Gray Farm – planning continued as part of plan for the DairyKnoll Farm
Outreach 2004

- Presentation at IAGLR Conference, Univ. of Waterloo with other collaborators
- Articles for farm news, etc.
Late Summer Tour

- Farm site tour – Maxwell, Gray & Barber
- Picnic lunch and presentations
- Lake site tour – weeds, floating algae and visual differences on landscape
- Newspaper articles as follow-up
BMP Brochure

- Written as simply as possible to enhance readability
- Multiple handout opportunities
- Understandable by non-farm audience
- Single page (11 x 17)
It is a mechanism for the farming community to be proactive in watershed issues through education, implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) and by its traditional stewardship of the land being farmed.

The goal of the project is to demonstrate, through the experimental watershed approach, that implementation of BMPs in agriculturally dominated watersheds will preserve soil and reduce nutrient loss from sub-watersheds. A second goal is to evaluate the impact of implemented BMPs by measuring the impacts on the downstream lake community at the sub-watershed scale.

**Nutrient Management Planning** –

- Soil testing – inventory of what’s available in the soil. Do one-third of acreage each year.
- Manure analyses - know nutrient content and calculate quantity of nutrients produced and record applications.
- Credit nutrients from manure and crop residues.
- Calibrate fertilizer and manure spreaders annually.
- Use fertilizer applications to meet crop needs after crediting manure and recycled crop nutrients.

*In this project, over 1800 acres have been impacted by this practice.*

**Erosion Control** –

- Use minimum tillage, strip crops, contour tillage and/or terracing to reduce runoff and minimize soil loss.
- Protect areas of concentrated water flow and hydrologically sensitive areas (wetlands).
- Consider subsurface drainage (tiling) to drain away excess water and improve infiltration.
- Install Water and Sediment Control Basins (WASCOR)
In This Together

• Lots of people deserve the credit
• Changes a little at a time
• Looking for continued cooperation