Agricultural Environmental Management

Cayuga Lake Watershed
Manure nutrients fertilize the crops.
Protect and enhance the environment and the viability of agriculture in New York State.

www.agriculture.ny.gov/soilwater/aem
# AEM 5-Tier Approach

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<tr>
<th>AEM Tier</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>NRCS 9 Step Process</th>
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| Tier 1 – Inventory (Questionnaire) | Basic farm info and interests | 1. ID Issues & Opps  
2. Determine Objectives  
3. Inventory Resources  
4. Analyze Resource Data  
5. Formulate Alternatives  
6. Evaluate Alternatives  
7. Make Decisions |
| Tier 2 – Assessment (“Tier 2 Worksheets”) | Identify existing stewardship, resource concerns, and opportunities |  
8. Implementation  
9. Evaluation |
| Tier 3 – Planning | Develop conservation plans | |
| Tier 4 – Implementation | Implement conservation practices based on the plans | |
| Tier 5 – Evaluation | Evaluate plans, practices, and programs | |
## AEM Tier 2 Assessment Worksheets

### Core
- Watershed Site Evaluation
- Agriculture & the Community
- Soil Management
- Manure & Fertilizer Mgmt
- Manure & Fertilizer Storage
- Waste Disposal
- Pesticide Use
- Pesticide Storage, Mix & Load
- Farmstead Water Supply
- Stream & Floodplain Mgmt.
- Petroleum & Oil Product Storage
- Forest Management
- Irrigation Water Management

### Livestock
- Livestock Heavy Use Areas
- Silage Storage
- Process Wash Water
- Management of Feed Nutrients
- Water-Bourne Pathogens
- Pasture Management
- Livestock Odor Management

**plus** GHG Mitigation Opportunities

#### Equine

#### Greenhouse

#### Vineyard (www.vinebalance.com)

#### Fruits & Vegetables

#### Long Island
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Many NRCS Standards are used in AEM Tier 3 Plans

www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg

- Nutrient Management (NY590)
- Cover Crop (NY340)
- Conservation Tillage Practices
- Buffer Practices
- Conservation Crop Rotation (NY328)
- Grassed Waterway (NY412)
- Water & Sediment Control Basin (NY638)
- Manure Storage Facility (NY313)
- Manure Transfer (NY634)
- Compost Facility (NY317)
- Heavy Use Area Protection (NY561)
- Vegetated Treatment Area (NY635)
- Prescribed Grazing (NY528) and more
# Ag Best Management Practice Systems

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<tr>
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<td>Petroleum and Oil Products Storage System</td>
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<td>Composting System – Animal</td>
<td>Prescribed Rotational Grazing System</td>
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<td>Erosion Control System – Structural</td>
<td>Process Wash Water Management System</td>
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<td>Feed Management System</td>
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<td>Integrated Pest Management System</td>
<td>Silage Leachate Control and Treatment System</td>
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<td>Irrigation Water Management System</td>
<td>Soil Conservation System – Cultural</td>
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<td>Livestock Heavy Use Area Runoff Management System</td>
<td>Stream Corridor and Shoreline Management System</td>
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<td>Manure and Agricultural Waste Treatment System</td>
<td>Waste Storage and Transfer System</td>
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Funding Programs to Help Advance AEM on Farms

- Locally-led and sponsored by your Soil & Water Conservation District
  - AEM Base Program
  - Agricultural Non-Point Source Pollution Abatement and Control Program (AgNPS)
  - Climate Resilient Farming (CRF)
  - CAFO Waste Storage and Transfer System Program
  - Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
  - State Aid to Districts

- Other Programs from NYSDEC, USDA-NRCS, USDA-FSA, Cornell, USEPA, and others....

+ Significant, on-going investment by farmers.
Farmstead Facilities Plan and Practices

Waste Storage and Transfer System
Waste Storage Facility Standard (NY313), Waste Transfer Standard (NY634), etc.
Silage Process Water Control and Treatment System
Waste Transfer Standard (NRCS 634), Vegetated Treatment Area (NRCS 635), etc.
Livestock Heavy Use Area Runoff Management System

Heavy Use Area Protection (NRCS 561) integrated with Prescribed Grazing (NRCS 528), Roof Runoff Structure (NRCS 558), etc.
Multiple Barrier Approach

Nutrient Management Systems
Conservation Tillage Practices, Strip Cropping (NRCS 585), Grassed Waterway (NRCS 412), Filter Strip (NRCS 393s), Cover Crop (NRCS 340), Nutrient Management (NRCS 590), Buffer Practices, etc.
Manure nutrients fertilize the crops
Agricultural Environmental Management

Protecting and enhancing the environment and the viability of agriculture in New York State.

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NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee

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