

Special Issue: Great Lakes Basin Program 2004 Annual Report



Thomas E. Huntley, Chair
Great Lakes Commission

Welcome to the annual report of the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. This long-running program is an important partnership among USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, USEPA, the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Great Lakes Commission. Donated in 1991 and authorized in the 2002 Farm Bill, the Basin Program helps meet several of the regional priorities identified by Commissioners at our Annual Meeting in October 2004.

The Great Lakes Basin Program convenes multiple interests to address the important regional issue of erosion and sedimentation through a Task Force comprised of representatives of the eight Great Lakes states, the program's federal partners, and other regional interests. Through the Basin Program's mandate for information/education and technology transfer, it also provides an important research coordination and development function in the sedimentation area.

The Great Lakes Commission's membership values the Great Lakes Basin Program partnership, which spans local, state and federal levels of government. It is a partnership that results in measurable improvements to the natural resources of the Great Lakes basin. Not only is environmental quality improved, but the program's objectives help advance the sustainable use of our agricultural resources. This is an outstanding example of a program that addresses the goals of the Great Lakes Commission's *Strategic Plan* and those embodied in the *Great Lakes Basin Compact*.

Thomas E. Huntley, Ph.D., Chair
Great Lakes Commission

Report of the Chair, Great Lakes Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Task Force

It was my pleasure to serve again as Chair of the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Task Force in 2004. The Task Force oversees the program and ensures that goals and objectives are met. Task Force members include representatives from the eight Great Lakes states, the partner agencies, and other federal and regional interests.

In 2004 the Task Force faced many of the challenges shared by other regional entities. Because most Task Force members are state agency personnel, restricted travel budgets prevented us from meeting in-person. However, that did not keep us from conducting Basin Program business.

As an ongoing responsibility, Task Force members reviewed and approved interim and final project reports assuring that projects address the local soil erosion issues identified in the original proposal. In addition, we convened by teleconference several times to review Basin Program progress and activities including the review and approval of the 2004 Request For Proposal (RFP) packet. The Task Force agreed to continue both the small-scale and large-scale programs designated in 2003, with projects targeted at \$30,000 and \$100,000 respectively.

The 2004 RFP identified four specific areas of program interest. These were agricultural/rural conservation treatment; urban erosion control; forest, logging and road maintenance; and shoreline/stream-bank stabilization. In addition, the RFP encouraged proposals addressing two emerging issues: a watershed approach to bio-restoration of stream/shoreline



Jim Bredin, Chair
Great Lakes Soil Erosion &
Sedimentation Task Force

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Reports

2004 Information/Education and Technical Transfer

One of the more important elements of the Great Lakes Basin Program is the mandate to provide information/education and technical transfer opportunities. This information is generally based on Basin

Program projects as well as other soil erosion and sedimentation projects from the region. Great Lakes Commission staff working on the Basin Program use a variety of mechanisms, including meetings and workshops, the Web, brochures and newsletters to carry out this function.

Commission staff continued to meet with organizations to promote the Basin Program. In February, staff members met with groups from the Traverse City,

Michigan area. During the RFP period, the staff also met with several potential grantees. Staff members attended regional meetings in Ohio, Indiana and Wisconsin to promote the program. In addition, they made site visits to Basin Program projects in progress, which gave them an opportunity to discuss future project ideas with current grantees.

Changes to the Basin Program's on-line capabilities in 2004 included a new on-line application process that allowed automatic transfer of applicant data into a database that expedited the review and notification process. Based on feed-back and lessons learned, staff are revising the application system and developing an on-line reporting component for 2005.

Basin Program staff developed two full color brochures. The first, in partnership with Michigan Sea Grant, depicts land uses subject to erosion and best management practices that can be used to reduce damages. The second brochure is an update of an original publication about the Basin Program.

Program year 2004 marked the fifth year of publication for *Keeping it on the Land*, the regional soil erosion newsletter. It is circulated to approximately 2,300 recipients and is a valuable tool for communicating information developed under the program.

For more information, please contact me at 734-971-9135; garyo@glc.org.



Gary Overmier
Project Manager, Great Lakes Commission

Task Force report (continued from page one)

erosion, and non-regulated stormwater management.

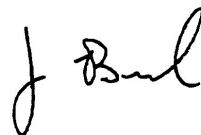
Although Congressional appropriations were late in 2004, the program eventually received a \$2.5 million appropriation. Staff sent the RFP to more than 1,200 potential applicants including state agencies, tribal governments, municipalities, soil and water conservation districts, drain commissioners, watershed councils, resource conservation and development area councils, colleges and universities, and conservation and environmental groups.

The Commission received 111 proposals totaling over \$4.8 million in requests. Ultimately, the Task Force selected 38 small scale and 10 large scale projects for support, totaling \$1.9 million.

In addition to supporting demonstration, technical assistance and information/education projects, Basin Program resources enable Great Lakes Commission staff to gather technical information on projects to help evaluate soil erosion and sedimentation problems, demonstrate best management practices, and educate the public about the impact of erosion and the solutions available to control it.

Results from over 11 years and close to 300 projects funded by the Basin Program are reported in this document. Additional information on individual projects is also available at the Basin Program website: www.glc.org/basin.

For further information on the activities of the Task Force, please contact me at 517-335-4232 or bredinj@michigan.gov.

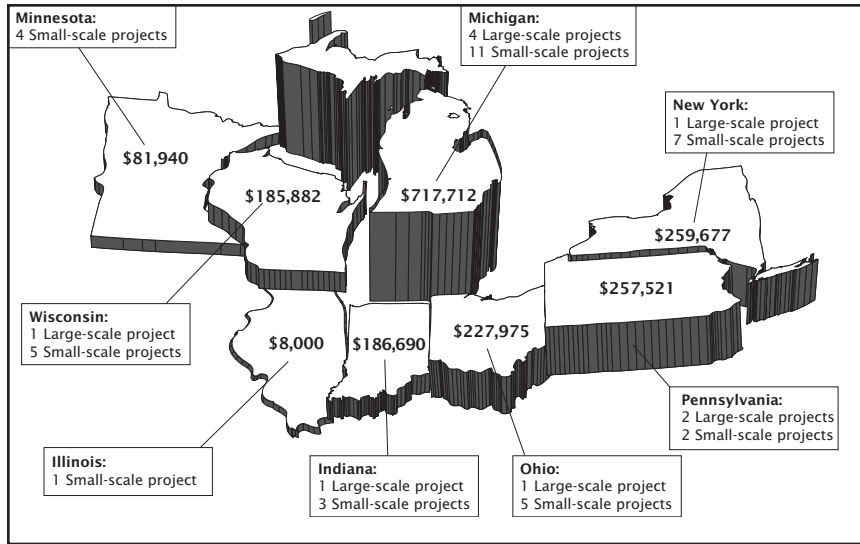


Jim Bredin. Chair
Great Lakes Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Task Force



Gary Overmier, Project Manager
Great Lakes Commission

2004 Funding and projects by state



For a list of all new 2004 projects, please see Keeping it on the Land v.6, n.2 (July 2004) at www.glc.org/basin/pubs/keeping/pdf/0602.pdf.

For state-by-state totals of all Great Lakes Basin Program grant funding over the lifetime of the program (1991-present), see page 6.

Program Benefits, 1991-2004*

	1991-1998	1999-2004
Soil	480,449 tons saved**	309,501 tons
Phosphorus	648,037 pounds saved **	1,554,616 pounds
Nitrogen	699,552 pounds saved**	461,671 pounds
Leveraged Funds	\$1.6 million (state and local match)	\$2.06 million (state and local match)
Acreage	111,700 + acres protected	9,874 acres
Audience	*** Direct - 7,963 *** Indirect - 987,104	42,915 1,139,926

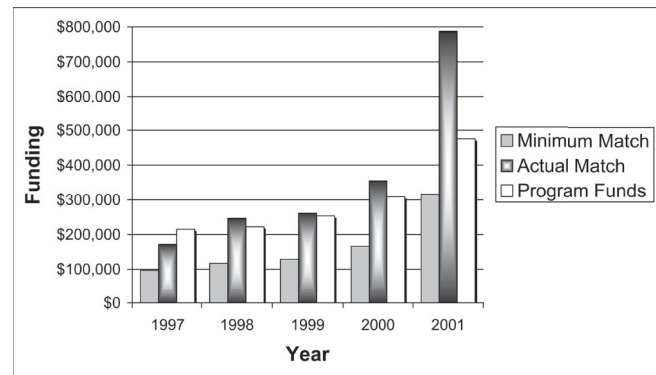
*Totals are for all projects completed at the end of the project year, September 30, 2004.

** Reductions from pre-project levels

***Audiences are reached directly via workshops, field trips, project tours, curriculum, presentations and other activities where a one-on-one connection with project information is established. Indirect activities include mass media stories, newsletters, information signage and other similar activities.

Five-year overview of leveraged funds

Another indicator of the Basin Program's success is the contribution made to projects from local, state and private funds. The program requires that a minimum of 25 percent of total project costs be met by nonfederal matching funds. Over the latest five years for which all projects are complete, more than \$3.8 million in Basin Program and match funds have been spent on projects, with Basin Program funds of \$1.45 million leveraging an additional \$1.8 million, 22 percent more than the minimum requirement.



Great Lakes Basin Program: Active Projects 2004



Project Year 2001

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| <p>1 Applying Natural Restoration Techniques to Slope Restoration; \$25,000; Minnesota Erosion Control Association, St. Paul, MN</p> <p>2 Residue Management and Erosion Control Demonstration Project; \$25,000; Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments, Toledo, OH</p> <p>3 Design and Performance of Rootwads in Streambank Restoration; \$23,479; Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA</p> | <p>8 Using “Soft” Engineering To Control Erosion On The Lower Boardman; \$20,686; Grand Traverse Conservation District, Traverse City, MI</p> <p>9 White River’s Burying Ground Point Sedi-ment Control at Hilt’s Landing; \$25,000; Muskegon Conservation District, Muskegon, MI</p> <p>10 Lincoln Park Miller Creek Bed Restoration Project; \$24,000; City of Duluth; Duluth, MN</p> <p>11 Low Impact Development Demonstration Project; \$46,229; Lake Superior Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Duluth, MN</p> |
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Project Year 2002

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>4 Farmer-to-Farmer Buffer Strip Initiative; \$18,750; St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative, Ft. Wayne, IN</p> <p>5 Building Detroit’s Capacity to Implement Soft Engineering; \$25,000; Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority, Detroit, MI</p> <p>6 Kalamazoo River Watershed Erosion/Sedimentation Control Project; \$23,746; Calhoun Conservation District; Marshall, MI</p> <p>7 Macomb Buffer Initiative; \$15,500; Macomb Conservation District, Richmond, MI</p> | <p>12 Low-Cost Shoreline Erosion Control Demonstration Project; \$3,771; Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources, Duluth, MN</p> <p>13 Assessment of Modeling Tools & Data Needs for Developing Sediment Portion of TMDL Plan for Mixed Land Use Watershed; \$25,028; SUNY College at Buffalo, NY</p> <p>14 Erie County Phase II Storm Water Education Program; \$18,000; Erie Co. Department of Environment and Planning - Division of Environmental Compliance, Buffalo, NY</p> |
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Continued on page 5

Active Projects

- 15 **Prescribed Grazing Management Project**; \$24,976; Seneca Trail Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc., Ellicottville, NY
- 16 **Roadway Stormwater Management & Training Program Development**; \$36,050; Monroe County Health Department for the Monroe Co. Stormwater Coalition, Rochester, NY
- 17 **Stabilizing High, Steep Stream Banks: A Natural Approach**; \$24,200; Schuyler Co. Conservation District, Montour Falls, NY
- 18 **Partnership Implementation of NPDES Phase II Minimum Control Measures**; \$14,747; Geauga Conservation District; Burton, OH
- 19 **Rockin' and Rollin': School & Community NE Ohio Watershed Investigations**; \$6,500; James H. Porter Center for Science and Mathematics; Painesville, OH
- 20 **Streamside Landowner Fact Sheets**; \$22,500; Cuyahoga Conservation District; Valley View, OH
- 21 **Western Lake Erie Sediment Reduction & Environmental Restoration Project**; \$200,000.00; Ohio Division of Soil & Water Conservation, ODNR, Columbus, OH
- 22 **Green Roofs Can Detain and Remove Pollutants from Stormwater Runoff**; \$16,563; Department of Horticulture, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA
- 23 **Lake Erie Cliff Erosion Prevention Demonstration Project**; \$25,000; Erie-Western Pennsylvania Port Authority, Erie, PA
- 24 **LaCount Parkway Stream Corridor Restoration Demonstration Project**; \$25,000; City of Green Bay, Green Bay, WI
- 25 **Plum Creek Erosion Control and Sediment Reduction Project**; \$25,000; Brown County Land Conservation Department, Green Bay, WI
- 30 **Turkey Creek Corridor Enhancement Project**; \$28,215; Lake County Parks Department - Planning Division, Crown Point, IN
- 31 **Berry Lake Inlet Watershed Soil Erosion/Sediment Control Project**; \$23,528; Hillsdale Conservation District, Jonesville, MI
- 32 **Big Sable River Road Crossing Improvement Project**; \$88,900; Mason-Lake Conservation District; Scottville, MI
- 33 **Eastern Alger County Watershed Erosion Control Project**; \$27,025; Alger Conservation District, Munising, MI
- 34 **Erosion Control for Construction Sites - Education Program**; \$7,910; St. Joseph County Conservation District, Centreville, MI
- 35 **Galbraith Drain Stream & Floodplain Restoration Project**; \$100,000; St. Clair County Drain Commissioner, St. Clair Twp., MI
- 36 **Kid's Creek Buffalo Pasture Restoration Project**; \$99,150; The Watershed Center, Traverse City, MI
- 37 **Lake Erie Watersheds Riparian Corridor Improvement Project**; \$97,627; Wayne County Department of Environment, Detroit, MI
- 38 **Promoting Private Land Protection in the Saginaw Bay Watershed**; \$19,507; Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy, Bay City, MI
- 39 **Red Cedar River Urban Buffer Project**; \$22,800; Ingham Conservation District, Mason, MI
- 40 **Reducing Soil Erosion and Runoff From Livestock Farms with a Modified No-Till System**; \$28,938; Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- 41 **SESC Procedures for Drain Commissioners**; \$30,000; Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners, St. Johns, MI
- 42 **Shiawassee River Conservation Tillage Project**; \$32,114; The Nature Conservancy, Lansing, MI
- 43 **Enhancing the Lower St. Louis River**; \$26,822; St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee, Duluth, MN
- 44 **Portable Logging Bridges**; \$29,500; Logging Educational & Resource Center, Britt, MN
- 45 **Cazenovia Creek Streambank Stabilization - Joint Board 27L**; \$15,000; Erie County Conservation District, East Aurora, NY
- 46 **Dutch Hollow Brook Streambank Stabilization Project**; \$28,485; Cayuga County Conservation District, Auburn, NY
- 47 **Identification of Unstable Reaches & Stream Channel Design Parameter Calculations in a**

Project Year 2003

- 26 **Bull Creek Restoration and Stabilization**; \$100,000; Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, Libertyville, IL
- 27 **Construction of Vegetated Settling Ponds to Reduce Sediment Loading & Non-point Source Pollution in Lake Michigan**; \$33,550; Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, IL
- 28 **Promoting Naturalized Drainage Channel Design**; \$27,176; The Nature Conservancy, Indianapolis, IN
- 29 **Shooter Ditch Sedimentation Project**; \$64,425; Coffee Creek Watershed Conservancy, Inc., Chesterton, IN

Continued on page 6

Active Projects

Project Year 2003 *(cont'd from page 5)*

- Human-Impacted Watershed**; \$26,052; Research Foundation of SUNY/Buffalo State College, Buffalo, NY
- 48 **Improving Water Quality Through Erosion & Stormwater Education**; \$20,225; Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board, Syracuse, NY
- 49 **Models Linking Sediment Concentrations & Benthic Macroinvertebrate Assemblages: Addressing a critical gap in the development of sediment TMDLs**; \$30,610; College at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY
- 50 **Phase I & II NPDES Construction Inspection Program**; \$30,000; Monroe Co. Conservation District, Rochester, NY
- 51 **Phase II Initiative in the Seneca & Keuka Lake Watersheds**; \$30,000; Yates County Conservation District, Penn Yan, NY
- 52 **Remediation of the Limestone Creek Landslide, Madison County, NY**; \$100,000; Madison County Planning Department, Wampsville, NY
- 53 **Seneca Lake Watershed Forestland BMP Outreach Project**; \$13,000; Finger Lakes RC&D Council, Inc., Bath, NY
- 54 **Upper Cattaraugus Creek Demonstration Project**; \$100,000; Seneca Trail RC&D Council, Inc., Ellicottville, NY
- 55 **Ottawa River Watershed Sediment Control Demonstration Project**; \$100,000; Ottawa River Coalition, Lima, OH
- 56 **Primary Headwater Stream Initiative**; \$29,803; Lake County Conservation District, Painesville, OH
- 57 **Reducing Soil & Nutrient Loss By Cutting Nitrogen Rates**; \$29,500; Conservation Action Project, Napoleon, OH
- 58 **Restoring Portage River Oxbow & Floodplain Connections**; \$100,000; Wood County Conservation District, Bowling Green, OH
- 59 **Streamside Vegetation for Education**; \$30,000; Ohio Lake Management Society, Kent, OH
- 60 **Keeping Scott Run in Daylight**; \$30,000; Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Presque Isle State Park, Erie, PA
- 61 **Bender Park Slope Stabilization Demonstration Project**; \$100,000; Milwaukee County Parks Department, Wauwatosa, WI
- 62 **Fish Habitat Restoration by Buffer Strip Installation**; \$28,989; Outagamie County Land Conservation Department, Appleton, WI
- 63 **Forest Roads and Stream Crossing Workshop**; \$22,800; Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, Madison, WI
- 64 **Lake Michigan Shoreline Restoration**; \$29,500; Glacierland RC&D Inc., Green Bay, WI
- 65 **Rain Garden Demonstration**; \$29,531; Wastewater Division, Public Works Department, City of Superior, Superior, WI
- 66 **Root River Stream Shoreland Project**; \$30,000; City of Racine, Racine, WI
- 67 **Wisconsin BMPs for Water Quality Educational Program**; \$27,500; Forest Industry Safety & Training Alliance, Rhinelander, WI

Cumulative Summary of Basin Program Projects by State, 1991-2004

TOTAL GRANTS OVER 14 YEARS, 1991-2004

State	Number of Grants	Total Funding
Illinois	7	\$ 263,900
Indiana	20	\$ 499,709
Michigan	93	\$4,201,580 ¹
Minnesota	34	\$ 749,535
New York	60	\$1,577,873
Ohio	39	\$1,194,170
Pennsylvania	20	\$ 580,861
Wisconsin	32	\$ 816,667 ²
TOTAL	307	\$9,884,295

While competition for Basin Program funds is intense, the program has successfully supported projects in every Great Lakes state over its 14-year history.

¹ Includes three \$600,000 appropriations (FY 91-93) to the MI DNR for the Saginaw Bay Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program.

² Includes a grant of \$21,368 to the National Association of Conservation Districts for seven soil erosion workshops in the Great Lakes Basin

2004 Regional Coordination

Great Lakes Committee: New leadership, continuing efforts

The Great Lakes Committee of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) is a special advisory committee that represents the 209 conservation districts in the Great Lakes basin.

Each Great Lake state association of conservation districts appoints a delegate to the committee, and representatives of national and regional agencies serve as advisors.



Thomas Huntley, Chair of the Great Lakes Commission, addresses the NACD Great Lakes meeting in Duluth, November 2004

The Committee addresses unmet needs in regional soil conservation and water quality policy and acts as an information conduit from the national and regional levels to state associations and district offices. We also convey local concerns to regional and federal agencies with mandates in water quality, soil erosion and sediment control, as well

as to members of Congress.

The Great Lakes Committee is funded through partnership arrangements and benefits from staff support for some of its information/education and coordination activities from the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.

In 2004, we met three times. In March, the Committee co-hosted a sediment reduction workshop with the Great Lakes Commission and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Ann Arbor, Michigan. In June, the Committee met at U.S. EPA Region 5 Headquarters in Chicago, Illinois. November found the Committee in Duluth, Minnesota. Once again, this year was transitional for the Committee with new members being appointed for Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois. (Committee membership can be viewed at our new website: www.gl.nacdnet.org.) At each meeting in 2004 the Committee made significant progress implementing our business plan developed in March 2003.

An important Committee concern has been to develop a stable funding source for its activities. In addition to support through the Great Lakes Basin Program, we have worked hard on securing support from NACD. I'm pleased to report that the NACD Board has pledged

to continue providing staff and travel resources for the Committee's chairman. This is an important contribution toward implementing our goals. Additionally, each state association provides travel support for its representative. In an effort to firm up NACD and partner commitment to the Committee, we also reached out to additional partners in 2004. New and/or re-affirmed partnerships include American Farmland Trust, the Nature Conservancy, the Conservation Technology Information Center and USDA's Forest Service.

The Committee identified sediment control, specifically a target 40 percent reduction of a 2003 baseline by 2013, as its most important natural resource goal. We co-hosted a workshop titled *Sediment Reduction in the Great Lakes Basin: A Strategic View*. One of the workshop findings was to convene a technical task force to provide advice on how to establish a baseline and set sub-basin or watershed reduction goals contributing toward a larger goal. The Committee received a Great Lakes Basin Program grant to convene a technical task force and contracted with the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts to carry out much of the work. We're looking forward to results in 2005.

Other Committee priorities addressed this year included education work with districts to familiarize them with Great Lakes restoration strategies and opportunities to become involved in related projects. We also explored ways that districts in urban areas can support local land use decision makers on issues related to stormwater, wetland and urban forests.

All-in-all, 2004 was a busy year and, as we look forward to 2005, it promises to be just as busy and successful! Please contact me at sfhoese@aol.com or 952-675-2223 if you have any questions about the Committee or its activities.

*Scott Hoese, Chair
Great Lakes Committee
National Association of Conservation Districts*

Of Interest ...

Workshops and Conferences

If you have an item for the next quarter, please contact **Jennifer Read** at 734-971-9135 or jread@glc.org

January 9-12

Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Annual Meeting

Location: Indianapolis, Indiana
Contact: Dean Farr
Phone: 317- 692-7419
E-mail: dean-farr@iaswcd.org

6-7

NACD North Central Regional Meeting

Location: Chicago, Illinois
Contact: Christa Jones
Phone: 317-738-3849

February 5-9

NACD 59th Annual Meeting: Leading Today for a Brighter Tomorrow

Location: Atlanta, Georgia
Contact: Krysta Hardin
Phone: 202-547-6223
E-mail: 2005@nacdnet.org

20-24

International Erosion Control Association's 36th Annual Conference and Expo

Location: Dallas, Texas
Phone: 970-879-3010
E-mail: ecinfo@ieca.org

Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control

Now accepting proposals for 2005 grants!

Funding is available for demonstration, program development and information/education projects. Visit the Great Lakes Basin Program's website to see the Request for Proposals, download materials, and apply online at www.glc.org/basin. The application deadline is March 1, 2005.

No Internet access? Call the Great Lakes Commission at 734-971-9135 or write to the address below to receive instructions and information by mail!

March 2

Great Lakes Day 2005

Location: Washington, D.C.
Contact: Jon MacDonagh-Dumler
Phone: 734-971-9135
E-mail: jonmacd@glc.org

3

Third Conference on Watershed Management to Meet Water Quality Standards and Emerging Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)

Location: Atlanta, Georgia
Contact: American Society of Agricultural Engineers Meetings and Conference Department
Phone: 800-371-2723
Web: www.asae.org/meetings/TMDL2005



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