Consultants Working Together to Impact Agency Rules

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Overview

- 1987  WAPAC is organized
- 1992  NRCS Nutrient Management Standard is developed for WI
- 1993  WAPAC is at the table along with:
  - UW Extension
  - Industry representatives
  - Farm Groups
  - Agency Staff
What Happened

- Reviewed the product
- Created Solutions
- Participated in the implementation strategy
NRCS 590 Version 2.0 1996

- Federal Agency – NRCS
  - Uses document as guidance for practice

- State Agencies
  - Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
  - Wisconsin Department of Ag
  - **Incorporate document into state code to regulate nonpoint source pollution**
1997 ... Let’s Have a Party!!

- UW Extension Service
- Wisconsin Land Conservation Departments
- Farm Bureau
- UW System Faculty
- Trout Unlimited
- DNR
- DATCP
- NRCS
- Midwest Environmental Advocates
- Various concerned parties
- DBA
- Attorneys
“Eighty percent of success is showing up.”

— Woody Allen
WAPAC’s Role

- Co-Chaired revisions of the 1997 standard
- Co-Chaired revisions of the 2005 standard
  - Had 2 representatives at the table – and made sure someone was always present
CAFO Regulations

- The Good:
  - Single Agency handles the entire process

- The Not So Good:
  - Single Agency handles the entire process
Recent Activities

- **WAPAC engages with Ag Coalition**
  - Monthly meetings to discuss regulatory matters of the agriculture community

- **WAPAC - Nutrient Management Planning Ad hoc Committee Position Statement**
Our Process

- Committee developed Position Statement
- Identified problems/concerns with the current status of Nutrient Management
- Requested meetings with Agency Administration
- Participated in correcting identified problems
Progression

• Engaging our Membership
  • New members/consultants at the table
  • Formal process can intimidate many consultants
  • Training and Development
Questions to Consultants

- Who is in a better position to address non-point pollution than the independent consultant and our farm clients?

- Do you want to lead or be lead in this process?