

Condensed Agenda

Specific times for sessions yet to be assigned

The opening plenary session on December 9th will begin at 1:00 PM

The closing panel session on December 11th will conclude by Noon.

December 9, 2009

Plenary Session: A common need to move science to policy and solutions to reduce nutrient inputs to the Gulf

Session 1: Management Issues: Day-to-day decisions, needs, and tools

- What data/assessments/tools do managers rely upon to make decisions?
- What data/assessments/tools do they need?
- Are models providing the right information?

Session 2: Human Dimension: Social and Economic factors that influence decision making and adoption

- What kind of incentives work and why?
- What kind of policies/programs work the best?
- What are the common factors/processes among community action and local organizations that are successful in achieving nutrient reductions within a watershed?

Evening Reception and Poster Session

December 10, 2009

Session 3: Lessons Learned from Small Watershed Studies: Overview of small watershed studies that highlight successful nutrient control strategies/technologies

- Conservation technologies and existing practices
- Erosion control for phosphorus-sedimentation basins
- Stream restoration and wetland construction

Session 4: Data Availability and Gaps: Limitations of data required to quantify and understand the effects of agricultural and urban development on water quality

- Water-quality monitoring data
- Agricultural effects data
- Urban effects data

Session 5: Small and Large Scale Models: Capabilities, limitations and implications to assess the sources, transport, and export of nutrients.

- Model benefits
- Model limitations and uncertainties
- Effects of model scale and implications for decision making
- Model comparisons: data input, processes, ability to track water-quality effects of management practices

Modeling Panel: A panel of State, Federal, and University representatives will convene following the Modeling Session to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of these models and potential applications of the model results to inform nutrient management strategies.

Evening Reception and Poster Session

December 11, 2009

Breakout Discussions—small group facilitated discussions on the three themes: (1) Science-based management issues and needs; (2) Data gaps; and (3) Modeling and watershed-scale research: current capabilities, uncertainties and needs.

Closing panel—Future Needs and Directions for Nutrient Assessments, Modeling, and Policy
Closing remarks from State and Federal leaders on data gaps, capabilities of models, and future policy needs and directions to improve the implementation of nutrient management practices and land conservation in the Upper Mississippi River Basin