Agriculture and Water Quality

DID YOU KNOW?

It is estimated that the total cost of removing excess nitrogen from drinking water sources totals more than $4.8 Billion per year annually[1]

Agricultural activities account for nearly half of the excess nutrients in the Mississippi River[2]

As much of 25% of wells in Iowa have unsafe levels of nitrate[3]

Sources

1 Ribaudo, Delgado, Hansen, Livingston, Mosheim, and Williamson. 2011. Nitrogen in agricultural systems: Implications for conservation policy. USDA Economic Research Report No. ERR 127.

2 US Environmental Protection Agency. 2017. Hypoxia Task Force 2017 Report to Congress.

3 Tang, Shr, Lade, Keiser and Klong. 2018. The costs and benefits of nutrient reduction programs. Agricultural Policy Review (Iowa State University), Fall 2018.

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