# H2Ohio Phosphorus Reduction Impact



Soil testing:

Testing results give farmers information on where to place fertilizer, when, and how much.



## Cover crops:

When planted after the main harvest, cover crops reduce erosion, hold nutrients in the soil, and improve soil health.



### Variable-rate fertilization:

Applying specific fertilizer levels based on the need of each sub-acre. Reduces fertilizer application without risk of losing yield.



## Drainage water management:

Slowing down runoff to give phosphorus more time to settle back in the soil.



# Subsurface nutrient application:

Applying fertilizer below the surface to reduce runoff.



## Two-stage ditch construction:

Creating modified drainage ditches to slow water flow and allow the phosphorus to settle.



## **Manure incorporation:**

Mixing manure into the soil to keep it in place and prevent runoff.



#### Edge-of-field buffers:

When trees or shrubs are planted along farm fields in the right place, the plants hold on to phosphorus and prevent its release into the water.



## Conservation crop rotation:

Planting certain crops that reduce erosion and enrich the soil, thus reducing runoff and decreasing the need for fertilizer.



#### Wetlands:

Wetland vegetation and soils absorb phosphorus, slow down the movement of water, offer a natural filtering process, and allow phosphorus to settle.