

GFS Priorities for 2017

Nutrient Management

We support initiatives to educate agriculture and public official leaders on GFS's commitment to nutrient stewardship and will protect farm customer's profitability from unreasonable nutrient policies and regulations.

Efforts to advance nutrient management techniques should include GFS participation in programs advocating voluntary, science based conservation initiatives for policy. Program examples include the Chesapeake 4R Alliance, USDA Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), 4R Coordinators, promote science as a policy foundation and work with NRCS nutrient sub committees, Farm Bureaus, and natural resource interests.

We support revising the fertilizer data inputs for the 2016 Chesapeake Bay Program to more accurately reflect agricultural practices.

Water Quality

Water quality programs should be focused on the need for consistency, transparency, and science. These programs and efforts should strive to minimize the environmental impact by optimizing harvest yields and maximizing nutrient utilization. Voluntary programs featuring incentives have the greatest proven participation.

Air Quality

We support service on advisory committees like the USDA Ag Air Quality Task Force that is focused on Green House Gas Emissions.

Infrastructure

Support modernization of U.S. transportation infrastructure to enhance U.S. agriculture's global competitiveness.

- Allow increases in truck weights to current pilot program levels.
- Improve Philadelphia Port access through dredging projects.
- Retain the Hours of Service provisions for the 34-hour restart rules allowing flexibility.