

Label

HELP LAKE ERIE REDUCE NUTRIENT RUNOFF
SAMPLE CITY, COUNT, TOWNSHIP, VILLAGE LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION

Title

A Resolution Requesting The Ohio Department Of Agriculture To Require new and expanding Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations(CAFO) in the Maumee/ Western Lake Erie Watershed Require new and expanding CAFO's Manure To Be Treated To Human Waste/Wastewater Treatment Standards and when land applied to be limited to the same soil phosphorous as Commercial Fertilizer.

Summary

SUMMARY & BACKGROUND:

In 2019 western Lake Erie experienced a severe harmful algal bloom even though there was a huge reduction in commercial fertilizer phosphorous/nitrogen applications because about half the farmers in the Maumee watershed could not plant because of too much rain.

Lake Erie harmful algal blooms cost hundreds of millions of dollars in increased treatment and detection costs to drinking water plants and economic losses to decreased property values, closed beaches, fewer fishing and boating trips that impact many nearshore businesses.

The government framework to address the Lake Erie Harmful Algae problem is in the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement signed by the US and Canadian Agreement Annex 4 which calls for a 40% reduction in nutrients in the western basin of Lake Erie and identifies the Maumee watershed as the most significant contributor of nutrients to western Lake Erie.

Harmful algae reappeared in Lake Erie in the late 1990's. One cause is changing weather because there are more rain and wind extremes and warmer temperatures. The other change is the meat and dairy industry changed from animals in fields to confinement to be closer to markets. This change vastly reduced the number of family farms raising livestock and also changed manure management. Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO's) liquify cow and pig manure. To maximize profit, Confined Animal Feeding Operations apply manure to fields as close to the operation as possible,

While efforts for reductions from nutrient (phosphorous and nitrogen) sources: waste water, commercial fertilizer, failing septic systems, and stormwater continue excessive manure soil phosphorous land applications at confined animal feeding operations grows. Agriculture is relying on voluntary Best Management Practices for phosphorous reductions with success in reducing commercial fertilizer phosphorous use by 30-50%.

Ohio has a 40 parts per million limit for phosphorous when commercial fertilizer is applied which is determined by what is needed for crops(agronomic)/ Ohio has a 150 parts per million limit for phosphorous when manure is applied, far more than the crop needs which also increases phosphorous runoff to Lake Erie.

However, the hundreds of millions of dollars invested in agricultural practices are not showing nutrient reductions, according to former E.P.A. Director Craig Butler. Why? Because Ohio keeps adding more and more Confined Animal Feeding Operations/manure/phosphorous to the Maumee/Western Lake Erie watershed.

There has been over a 40% increase in the number of Confined Animal Feeding Operations in the Maumee/Western Lake Erie watershed which add manure and phosphorous land applied since 2005. A March 2019 report by the Environmental Working Group estimates that the number of confined animals in the Maumee Watershed has increased by 126% between 2005 and 2018, the amount of manure has increased by 41% and the amount of phosphorous by 62% for the same period.

In September 2019, the Ohio Department of Agriculture issued draft permits for four pig confined animal feeding operations that will add 28,800 more pigs manure to the Auglaize/Tiffin/Maumee watershed. NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the **Local Government Name** :

SECTION 1. That the **Local Government Name** requests that the Ohio Department of Agriculture Division of Livestock Environmental Permitting require that **new and expanding CAFO permits in the Maumee watershed** treat the manure generated at these facilities to the same standards as human sewage/wastewater treatment, and that soils where any manure is to be land applied (treated or untreated) be required meet the same phosphorous agronomic soil limits as commercial fertilizer.

SECTION 2. That the Clerk of Council will send this Resolution to Governor DeWine, the Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture and **Name state local government Senate and Legislative representatives.**

SECTION 3. That it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this **Local Government** and its committees that resulted in such formal actions, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code of Ohio and that the reading and adoption of this Resolution complies with the provisions of the **Local Government requirements.**

SECTION 4. That this Resolution shall take effect and be in force at the earliest date allowed by law.

Adopted: _____: yeas _____, nays _____.

Attest: _____
Clerk

President/Chair

Approved: _____
_____ **Local Government Signee**

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by

Local Government _____.

Attest: _____