Agriculture and Drinking Water, How it affects YOUR operation

presented by: Eric Fuchs
My Operation
Sheep Operation
Frequent Flooding/Droughts
Soil Degradation
Gulf Dead Zone
Comparisons
The Rise of Nonpoint & Runoff

Point Source vs. Nonpoint Source

Water Quality Impairments

2013 Nitrate Concentration Record on Raccoon and Des Moines Rivers

Raccoon River: 24 milligrams per liter (mg/L)
Des Moines River: 17.87 mg/L
Soil and Water Quality Issues
New Hampton MO

- 130 Connections
- 279 Population
- $917,000 upgrade costs
- $3286.00 Per person
- 36lbs ammonia discharge per year
1 Acre Corn Field

- 200lbs Actual Nitrogen Average per acre
- 30-50% Nitrogen efficiency
- 100-140lbs per acre lost to the environment
- 90 million acres of corn in the US
What is the Silver Bullet?

• Water
• Wildlife
• Floods/Droughts
• Health
• Carbon
Healthy Soil=Clean Water
Plant available Nitrogen, exactly what we want...right???
Reduce N losses

“Catch and Release” Nutrients
Comparisons
The Future

- More Regulations
- More Consumer Input
- Costly Upgrades
- More Expertise