

Glossary

Agricultural runoff. Total loss of water from a watershed by all surface and subsurface pathways.

Confined animal feeding operation (CAFO). Operation that has more than a specified number of animals confined for a total of 45 days or more in any 12-month period.

Critical source area. Area where a source contains a high level of P to move and has a high potential for transport.

Eutrophication. Natural aging of lakes or streams caused by nutrient enrichment.

Immobilization. Formation of more stable organic P, which is resistant to breakdown.

Mineralization. Breakdown or conversion of readily available organic P to inorganic solution P.

Nonpoint source (NPS). Entry of contaminant or pollutant into a water body in a diffuse manner so there is no definite point of entry.

P Index. An index, matrix, or model that accounts for and ranks transport and source factors controlling P loss in runoff and provides a numeric representation of site vulnerability to P loss.

Soil test P. Estimated amount of plant-available soil P.

Source management. Minimizing the P buildup in the soil above levels sufficient for optimum crop growth by controlling the quantity of P in manure and the amount of P that is applied in a localized area.

Transport management. Efforts to control P movement from soils to sensitive locations, such as bodies of freshwater.