WLEB Nutrient Application Regulations

By: Madison Gray, Nutrient Management Specialist

With winter quickly approaching, Madison and the Williams Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD would like to remind producers and nutrient applicators of laws and regulations when applying manure or fertilizer in the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB).

After being signed into law in July 2015, the Ohio Revised Code 939.08 or commonly known as Ohio Senate Bill 1,

Prohibits **fertilizer** applications on:

* frozen or snow-covered ground
* saturated ground (top 2 inches)
* Forecast calls for a 50% chance of precipitation exceeding 1 inch in the following 12-hour period

Prohibits **manure** applications on:

* frozen or snow-covered ground
* saturated ground (top 2 inches)
* Forecast calls for a 50% chance of precipitation exceeding ½ inch in the following 24-hour period
* Applicators are responsible for checking and keeping records of rain forecasts when applying.
* Restrictions do not apply if the application is injected into the ground, is incorporated within 24 hours of surface application, or is applied to a successful growing crop.

\*\*\***Discharge or pollution into ‘Waters of the State’ will be in violation** of the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s Pollution Abatement Program, Ohio Revised Code, and Ohio Administrative Code.\*\*\*

For more information or questions and concerns about these regulations, please call the Williams SWCD office at 419-636-9395 or email Madison at mgray@defiancecounty.oh.gov.