

# KY NUTRIENT NEWS

## Hypoxia Task Force Comes to Kentucky

The Coordinating Committee of the Hypoxia Task Force convened in Lexington on May 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> to learn about Kentucky's unique landscape and nutrient progress. The Kentucky Division of Water facilitated visits to Lexington's Town Branch, the Blue Grass Stockyards, Georgetown's Royal Spring, and the Alumni Drive stormwater project at the University of Kentucky. Participants heard from the City of Lexington, Kentucky Cattlemen's Association, Blue Grass Stockyards, the University of Kentucky, and DOW staff about Kentucky's unique water resources, industry, stormwater investments, and ways Kentuckians work together to mitigate excess nutrient loss. Thanks to everyone involved in making this a successful event!



Blue Grass Stockyards Visit



Alumni Drive Stormwater Demonstration

## UPDATES

- A combined nutrients workgroup presentation on the 2024 Flow Normalized Nutrient Loads in Kentucky Study is scheduled for *October 8<sup>th</sup>* virtually on Teams. If you are interested in participating, please contact Josiah Frey ([josiah.frey@ky.gov](mailto:josiah.frey@ky.gov)).
- DOW released an [Agriculture Success Stories](#) StoryMap highlighting farms adopting innovative practices to prevent soil erosion and protect water quality. If you know of a farm that deserves to be highlighted, contact Paulette Akers ([paulette.akers@ky.gov](mailto:paulette.akers@ky.gov)).
- DOW added a Spanish language edition of the digitized Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control manual accessible on EEC's [website](#).
- DOW released a new [houseboat pumpout webpage](#) to connect houseboat owners with pumpout facilities and resources.
- The September edition of Tennessee's Nutrient Reduction Taskforce Newsletter is available [online](#).

## EVENTS & RESOURCES

- DOW hosted a wastewater optimization training on the Bio-TIGER model with Dr. Larry Moore in July. No-cost individual site recommendations with this model are available for facilities permitted for 1 MGD or higher, and group training on optimization for operators will be available in 2025. Contact Paulette Akers ([paulette.akers@ky.gov](mailto:paulette.akers@ky.gov)) to schedule a site visit or learn more about training opportunities.
- DOW released August's [Water Resource Report](#), which provides snapshot analysis of Kentucky's precipitation, drought, streamflow, and water storage.
- EPA's SepticSmart Week ran from *September 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>*, resulting in free resources to assist with septic system maintenance at <https://www.epa.gov/septic/septicsmart-week>.
- With the arrival of fall, lawncare fertilizer materials are available including digital and printed door hangers at [eec.ky.gov/nutrientreduction](http://eec.ky.gov/nutrientreduction) or by contacting Josiah Frey ([josiah.frey@ky.gov](mailto:josiah.frey@ky.gov)) or Paulette Akers ([paulette.akers@ky.gov](mailto:paulette.akers@ky.gov)).
- The Kentucky Governor's Conference on Energy and Environment will be held *October 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>* in Lexington. To learn more, visit <https://eec.ky.gov/Pages/Governor's-Conference.aspx>

## RESEARCH & NEWS LINKS

- [Gulf of Mexico 'dead zone' larger than average, scientists find | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(noaa.gov\)](#)
- [American Farmland Trust Releases Bi-Lingual Land Transfer Training Curriculum: A Toolkit to Support Farm and Ranch Transfers - American Farmland Trust](#)
- [Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force Newsletter, July 2024 \(epa.gov\)](#)
- [National Lakes Assessment: The Fourth Collaborative Survey of the Lakes of the United States Report | US EPA](#)
- [September 2024 ENSO update: binge watch | NOAA Climate.gov](#)

## Water Conservation & Protection Spotlight

During September DOW is highlighting water ways to both conserve water use (<https://bit.ly/H2OHEROES>) and prevent contamination of drinking water sources. Take the pledge to be a "Water Hero" and learn ways to improve water efficiency (<https://bit.ly/KYWATERHERO>). Source Water Protection Week runs *September 29<sup>th</sup>-October 5<sup>th</sup>* (<https://bit.ly/SWPWeek>). DOW and partners will be providing resources to raise awareness about source water protection.

