

# committed to conservation



**promote**  
sustainability



**support**  
innovation



**advocate**  
best practices



**foster**  
new uses



**strengthen**  
partnerships

Minnesota Corn Growers



Minnesota corn farmers are continuously working to improve and become better stewards of our state's natural resources while maintaining a thriving rural economy. That's why the Minnesota Corn Growers Association is committed to the following goal:



**What do we mean by sustainability?**

Minnesota Corn's approach to sustainability is made of three equally important elements, all of which relate to and influence each other.

**People** Our model of sustainability strengthens farms and rural communities while enabling a safe and healthy quality of life for all Minnesotans.

**Planet** Sustainable practices 1) responsibly manage and replenish finite resources critical to agricultural success and 2) protect and enhance the environment impacted by farming.

**Profit** Sustainability provides a fair margin of profit for farmers while delivering equitably priced goods to all.

The following pages highlight five specific initiatives that will help our corn farmers achieve the critical goal of environmental responsibility.



## Promote sustainability programs

**We encourage Minnesota's corn farmers to research, evaluate and engage in a sustainability program that best fits the needs of their farm.**

A number of programs have recently emerged to track, measure and even certify environmental stewardship. Although the programs' methods may differ, their goals are similar – to provide a roadmap for farmers that shows them where they are and how to lessen their environmental impact.





## Support innovation

**We will significantly expand our efforts to increase innovative practices.**

Minnesota Corn recently began a program designed to encourage farmers who wanted to test an innovative practice on their farm. Moving forward, we will increase our funding commitment to this program and investigate other ways to help farmers study potential real-world solutions to environmental challenges.



## Advocate best practices

**We will promote best practices for nitrogen management in Minnesota corn production.**

Every corn field in Minnesota has its unique combination of topography, soil and growing conditions. Minnesota Corn will continue to evaluate emerging technologies and practices, and urge adoption of practices that are proven to provide optimal nitrogen management for specific farming situations. We believe all Minnesota corn farmers should apply the best information available for their nitrogen management to promote sustainable production and minimize loss from their fields.



## Foster new uses

**We will identify and promote new opportunities for corn in the production of sustainable polymers, ethanol and bio-based chemicals. We will implement ethanol infrastructure, improve ethanol marketing efforts and increase utilization options.**

Minnesota has already established itself as a national leader in biofuels and bio-polymers development. We will continue to promote the advancement of, and demand for, corn and corn-based materials in sustainable polymers, ethanol and green chemistry industries.



## Strengthen partnerships

**We will commit to working collaboratively with a variety of partners to achieve success in fulfilling our vision.**

Realizing the goals of our vision will not be accomplished without the help and partnership of other people and organizations. We're committed to working with state and federal agencies; agricultural suppliers, processors and shippers; advocacy groups, and other concerned Minnesotans to achieve success. True environmental sustainability requires collaboration between all those that it touches – in other words, all of us – and we pledge to do our part to foster those relationships for the benefit of all Minnesotans.

Learn more about our organization and its commitment to environmental sustainability at [mncorn.org](http://mncorn.org).



Our website:  
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