

# M.E. JOHN SEMINAR SERIES

**DATE:** Friday,  
October 9, 2009

**TIME:** 3:00-4:00 P.M.

**LOCATION:**  
215 Armsby

**October 23:**  
Donald B. Thompson  
Food Science , PSU

**November 6:**  
Janie Chermak  
Economics,  
Univ. of New Mexico

**November 13:**  
Tim Kelsey, PSU  
Jim Ladlee, PSU  
Jonathan Laughner, PSU  
Joann Kowalski, PSU  
Extension Educators

**November 27:**  
**No seminar**

**December 4:**  
TBA

**Dec. 17 or 18:**  
Tassos Haniotis,  
European  
Commission/EU



Dennis O'Grady; S.  
Nation Conservation,  
Ontario, Canada

## **SNC's Total Phosphorus**

### **Management: Conditions for Successful Cap and Trade Programs**

The South Nation River watershed has a regulated water quality trading program. Legally, waste water dischargers have a loading limit of 0 kg of phosphorus (P) into receiving waters. New wastewater systems are now choosing trading instead of traditional P removal technology, and point source dischargers are buying P credits from rural landowners, primarily farmers. These credits are generated by constructing non-point source pollution control measures, and calculating the kg of P removed by each measure. A successful trading program requires several conditions, including community agreement, legislative backing, credit and cost certainty, simplified delivery and verification, written instruments, and legal liability protection. South Nation Conservation, a community based watershed organization, is the broker handling the transactions for these P credits. The program is run by a multi-stakeholder committee, and all project field visits are done by farmers and not paid professionals. An independent evaluation showed higher opinions for the broker and regulatory agency, and most farmers were willing to, or had already, recommended the program to other farmers.