

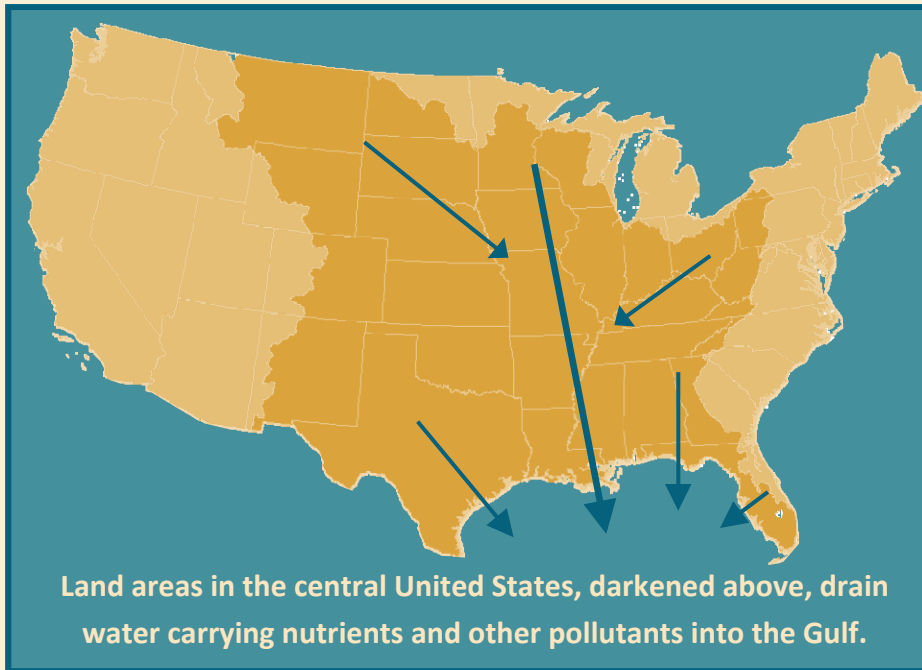
# NUTRIENT LOADING AND HYPOXIA

WWW.GULFCOASTALTRAINING.ORG



## WHY ARE NUTRIENT LOADING AND HYPOXIA IMPORTANT ISSUES IN THE GULF OF MEXICO?

Nutrient loading is the amount of nutrients, such as nitrogen, entering a body of water over time. One effect of excess nutrient loading is the development of areas of low to no oxygen, known as hypoxia. Such areas form when water has high nutrient levels. Hypoxia can force fish and other animals to move away from the area or die, which hurts Gulf fisheries and economies.



### NUTRIENTS ARE A REGIONAL PROBLEM...

Nutrients come from both urban and rural areas by traveling in rainwater and runoff through multiple river systems to the Gulf of Mexico. The vast area that drains into the Gulf (shown left) and the ocean currents that transport nutrients around the Gulf, all magnify the scale and impact of the problem. This calls for a regional approach.

***Water draining from nearly 2-million square miles of land in the central United States, including 33 river systems, carries nutrients and other pollutants into the Gulf of Mexico every day!***

## THE GULF COASTAL TRAINING PROGRAMS CAN ASSIST WITH YOUR NUTRIENT PROBLEMS :

- Best management practices to reduce nutrient loads
- Watershed planning and stormwater management
- Designs for low impact development (LID)
- Managing urban green spaces to limit fertilizer use
- Decision-support tools for nutrient management



# REGIONAL COASTAL TRAINING

WWW.GULFCOASTALTRAINING.ORG



*Providing professional training and facilitation as an essential bridge between scientists, resource managers, and decision-makers in the Gulf of Mexico Region.*



## WHAT IS THE COASTAL TRAINING PROGRAM?

The Coastal Training Program (CTP) is a trusted source for science-based training for those who make decisions about coastal resources. CTP is part of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System, which consists of 28 Reserves located in estuaries throughout the country. The five Gulf CTPs formed a regional partnership in 2008 supported by external funding to coordinate their efforts to provide training opportunities around the Gulf.



## IN FY2011 GULF TRAINING PROGRAMS:

- Trained 2,088 decision-makers
- Hosted a total of 100 events
- Provided more than 18,000 hours of training

## WORKSHOP TESTIMONIALS:

- *"One of the most on-topic, informative seminars I've been to in many years"*
- *The workshop content "challenged me to think about things I do daily"*
- *This event was "a very good use of my time"*

## THE REGIONAL COASTAL TRAINING PROGRAM CAN HELP YOU:

- **Communicate** information via existing networks.
- **Collect** input and assess decision-maker needs.
- **Host** trainings throughout the Gulf Region.
- **Assist** Gulf decision-makers with questions and identify experts.



For information about upcoming events or to contact the project partners, please visit our website:

[www.GulfCoastalTraining.org](http://www.GulfCoastalTraining.org)

