

## Karen Sheehan

The GWMA report is focused too much on dairy and not enough on the rest of agriculture including hops, mint, row crops, tree fruit, grapes, etc. Dairy farmers are the only part of agriculture that is required to take annual soil samples and have a written nutrient management plan plus have inspections. The rest of agriculture can farm as they please with no oversight or required plans. Dairy is already the most regulated for nutrients. Manure is referred to as waste rather than the valuable organic product that it is with nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and many other micro nutrients. Manure should not be mentioned as waste in the GWMA report. Septic systems should be looked into more closely with both proper maintenance and also density of septic systems. There is also a legacy issue with nitrates in this area that needs more attention. The whole GWMA area needs to work together and look hard at all areas if they expect to lower the nitrates in our groundwater. Voluntary and education is the best way to fix this problem.