The Wisconsin regulations that impact state-permitted livestock operations (WPDES) were approved by the Legislature last month, and will go into effect next month (May, 2007). Some provisions are immediate, others have specific deadlines, while others will be implemented when the farm renews their DNR permit. DNR permits are required for ALL farms with more than 1,000 animal units AND those farms under that size with a direct discharge to surface or ground water. These changes impact ~160 farms in WI.

Primary Changes to WPDES Permits—Existing*

- Manure application is prohibited on fields where the soils are saturated.
- Manure can not be applied on areas of a field with less than 24 inches of soil (over bedrock or the top of the water table). On soils with less than 5 feet of soil over fractured bedrock, no application on frozen ground or when snow is present.
- Manure can not be applied within 100 feet of a private well or 1,000 feet of a community well (as defined by NR 811).
- Liquid manure application is prohibited in February and March.
- Manure can not be applied when snow is actively melting.
- If manure is applied within 25 feet of surface water, a set of conservation practices must be implemented.

Primary Changes to WPDES Permits—New/Renewed/Modified*

- Solid manure application is prohibited in February and March if the soil is frozen and more than 1 inch of snow is present (effective 1/1/08).
- Every farm must have (by 2010) a minimum of 6 months of manure storage.

More details on the changes will be provided to all of Wisconsin’s applicators later this summer. Questions should be directed to the DNR regional animal waste contacts or Tom Bauman: (608) 266-9993, e-mail: thomas.bauman@dnr.state.wi.us.
Road Study Update

- Primary PNAAW contacts for the project are Chris Lindstrom (Practical Applications, Druanid) 715.279.5550 and Kevin Erb (920.391.4652)
- A subcommittee is being formed to select equipment and configurations to be run later this summer on the test track. Forward suggestions to Chris and/or Kevin
- AgCo/AgChem is a new partner in the project, committing $5,000 and the use of 4 applicators.

New/Renewing Members

Since the last newsletter, the Association would like to recognize those firms who have joined or renewed their membership in the association. These include:

Full Members:
- Halopka Sales, Dorchester
- J&S Slurry, LaValle
- Krause Custom Forage, Elkhart Lake
- Lemmenes Custom, Waupun
- Manure LLC, Fox Lake
- Neumann Agriprises, Whiteland
- Phil's Pumping and Fab, Chilton
- Superior Manure, Independence

Associate Members:
- C & S Enterprises
- Hydro Engineering

Septage/other waste in Manure Pits

More than 15% of the manure pits in some counties are being used for non-manure wastes. A few quick FYIs:
- Only septage and food-related industrial wastes are allowed. Municipal septage is not permissible.
- DNR must pre-approve the farmer’s pit
- Maximum of 10% of pumped volume or 25,000 gallons, whichever is less.
- Must be noted on nutrient management plan.

Annual Dues Due

Association dues for 2007 are $100.00 for active applicators and $50.00 for associate members. Checks should be made out to PNAAW and mailed to Denise Schank, PNAAW, W26724 Cty X, Independence WI 54746.

Grants available for business development

For Wisconsin entrepreneurs eager to start a business or develop a growth plan for their existing businesses, assistance is just a mouse click away. Grants from the Wisconsin Entrepreneurs' Network (WEN), part of the University of Wisconsin-Extension Entrepreneurship and Economic Development division (formerly known as the Business and Manufacturing Extension), can be used to develop a plan for business creation or growth and to employ the professional services necessary to apply for federal funding.

Early Planning Grants

The Early Planning Grant (EPG) program provides funds to entrepreneurs and small businesses so they can hire consultants to evaluate the feasibility of a proposed start-up or expansion. In addition to grant information, applicants can also find business advisors and consultants listed on the WEN Web site.

Technology Assistance Grants

WEN also administers the Technology Assistance Grant (TAG) program to assist small high-technology businesses in their efforts to obtain seed, early-stage or research-and-development funding. These would include efforts to find alternative treatment systems for manure.

Up to $3,000 is available under each program.

For more information: www.wenportal.org; Wisconsin Business AnswerLine, (800) 940-7232

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