



Nutrient Management Certification Deadline Fast Approaching

The Delaware Nutrient Management Act requires individuals that apply nutrients (fertilizer or animal manures) to more than 10 acres of land, or that manage operations with more than eight thousand pounds of birds or animals, to become nutrient management certified. This certification must be completed by December 31, 2003.

Our goal is to improve water quality and reduce nutrient run off through educating nutrient handlers. The law requires farmers (of all types), golf course managers, lawn care companies and other nutrient handlers to become certified.



Certification classes like the above are scheduled through out the winter.

To become certified you must attend a series of training sessions. These sessions are offered by the University of Delaware Cooperative Extension. More information can be obtained at the following website: <http://www.rec.udel.edu/nutrient/page3.html>. To sign up for sessions please contact: Jeanie Johnson at (302)856-2585 ext. 305. Don't delay as session availability and size are limited.

For those already certified as a nutrient consultant, the Mid-Atlantic Crop Management School on November 18-20, will be offering continuing education credits for recertification.

Contents

Mandate Phase in News	2
Staff Update	2
Cafo Update	2
Nutrient Relocation Program	3
Nutrient Management Planning	3
Nutrient Management Contact Resources	4

Mandate Phase in News

The nutrient management law requires mandates to be phased in over 5 years starting in 2003. These incremented selections are randomly generated from a database of property owners. Once the landowner or operator who is responsible for nutrient handling is notified, nutrient management practices for the entire operation are triggered. These practices include the development of a plan, maintenance of records, submission of an annual report, and certification requirements.

Notices announcing the mandate occur during the summer prior to the year when the plan needs to be developed. By 2007 all nutrient handlers need to comply with program standards, regardless of notification. Public and private nutrient consultants are available to develop a nutrient plan that meets the requirements of the law.

Staff Update

After an extensive search and interview process, a suitable candidate for the Nutrient Management Coordinator was identified and an offer was made. On October 6, 2003 Chris Robinson started his work as Nutrient Management Coordinator for Delaware's Nutrient Management Program. Chris comes to us with an extensive agricultural background and education, which should prove to be a real asset to the program.

CAFO Program Update

The Delaware Nutrient Management Commission continues to forge ahead in the processes regarding the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO's). The state has until April 2004 to approve a CAFO program; CAFO standards are being developed in order to meet the federal requirements. Issues to be resolved include application set backs and manure stockpiling. Additionally, on the issue of stockpiling, a compromise on the period of time and cover issue is being studied. Once the DNMC resolves the issues, we expect to offer several workshops regarding CAFO's to solicit public input on the tentative rules and regulations. These regulations will affect approximately 50 farms throughout the state; mostly poultry.



CAFOs such as those pictured above will need a federal permit administered by the Nutrient Management Program.

Nutrient Management Relocation Program

The Nutrient Management Program has cost assistance available for the relocation of excess poultry litter from Delaware farms, to farms needing nutrients or to approved alternative projects. Reimbursement of up to \$18/ton for transportation costs is available based on the following rates:

- \$.20 per ton mile if transport distance less than 50 miles and nutrient content at least 50 lbs. P2O5 and N per ton respectfully
- \$.15 per ton mile if transport distance greater than 50 miles or nutrient content less than 50 lbs. P2O5 and N per ton respectfully
- Clean out rate of \$1.50 per ton
- Load rate of \$1.50 per ton

For fiscal 2004, applications have been approved to relocate almost 10,000 tons of poultry litter which will amount to over \$150,000 in cost assistance to farms on Delmarva, to farms off the peninsula, or to alternative uses. Since 2001, over 110,000 tons of excess poultry litter was relocated to other farms or projects in need of nutrients.



Equipment such as the above are used within the nutrient relocation program.

Applications as well as a list of broker information are available @ www.state.de.us/deptagri/nutrients/index.htm or by calling the Nutrient Management office at (302) 698-4500. Relocation applications need to be approved before hauling begins. The manure testing laboratory at the Delaware Department of Agriculture is available to test Delaware generated poultry manure.

Nutrient Management Planning

Nutrient handlers can apply for cost sharing funds up to \$5.35 (including soil sampling) per acre for three years of nutrient management planning by a private certified nutrient consultant. Farmers also have the option of having a plan done at their local conservation district. For those who have been mandated this year the nutrient management plan must be in place for the upcoming crop year. Currently, this year over 45,000 acres of nutrient management planning cost share requests have been received. Since 2001, over 320,000 acres of nutrient management plans have been written. Applications are available @ www.state.de.us/deptagri/nutrients/index.htm or by calling the Nutrient Management office at (302) 698-4500.

How to get involved and voice your opinion:

Meet and talk to commission members

Attend commission meetings; contact the Delaware Nutrient Management Program for dates and locations.

Nutrient Management Program

(302) 698 – 4500

or

1-800-282-8685

Bill Rohrer
Program Administrator

Steve Hollenbeck
Environmental Coordinator

Chris Robinson
Nutrient Management
Coordinator

Renee' Pope
Office Assistant

University Nutrient Specialists

Dr. Dave Hansen

(302) 856-7303

Dr. Gregg Binford
(302) 831-2146

County Extension Offices

Carl Davis – New Castle
(302) 831-2506

Gordon Johnson – Kent
(302) 697-4000

Derby Walker – Sussex
(302) 856 7303

Delaware Nutrient Management Commission

Name	Appointment	Contact Info.	Representation	Title
William Vanderwende	Senate	(302) 349-4423	Sussex County Dairy Producer	Chairman, Commission
Mark Adkins	Governor	(302) 732-3007	Sussex County Swine Producer	
David Baker	Senate	(302) 378-3750	New Castle County Grain Industry	Chairman, Personnel Subcommittee; DNMC Vice Chairman
Robert Baldwin	Governor	(302) 739-4411	Director, Division of Soil & Water Conservation, DNREC	
Stephen Corazza	House of Representatives	(302) 653-3583	New Castle County Poultry Producer	Chairman, Government Interaction Subcommittee
James Elliott	Governor	(302) 539-3409	Sussex County Citizens	
Carlton Fifer	Senate	(302) 697-2141	Kent County Vegetable Industry	
Tony Keen	Senate	(302) 684-3196	Nutrient Consultant	Chairman, Technology Subcommittee
Connie Larimore	House of Representative	(302) 398-8304	Kent County Poultry Producer	Chairman, Budget Subcommittee
Ed Lewandowski	House of Representatives	(302) 645-7325	Environmental Advocacy Group	Chairman, Rules & Regulations Subcommittee
Bud O'Neill	Governor	(302) 697-4659	Golf Course/Lawn Care	
Charles West II	House of Representatives	(302) 238-0137	Sussex County Poultry Producer	
Brian Schilling	House of Representatives	(302) 934-7684	Commercial Applicator	Chairman, Industry Relations
Carl Solberg	Senate	(302) 492-1225	Environmental Advocacy Group	Chairman, Program & Education Subcommittee
Richard Sterling	Governor	(302) 653-7060	Commercial Nursery Industry	
Michael T. Scuse (Ex-Officio)		(302) 698-4500	Secretary, Department of Agriculture	
John Hughes (Ex-Officio)		(302) 739-4403	Secretary, Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control	
Vincent Meconi (Ex-Officio)		(302) 577-4502	Secretary, Department of Health and Social Services	
William Rohrer, Jr. (Ex-Officio)	DNMC	(302) 698-4500	Nutrient Management Program Administrator	

Delaware
Nutrient Management Program
2320 South DuPont Hwy
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Email

nutrient.management@state.de.us

Website

www.state.de.us/deptagri

Upcoming DNMC Meetings

November 12

December 9

DDA, Dover DE

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