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STEVENS COUNTY
MINNESOTA

**Environmental Services
& Planning & Zoning
Office**

400 Colorado Avenue
Suite 306
Morris, MN 56267
320-208-6558
320-589-2036 fax

Bill Kleindl

Stevens County
Feedlot Officer

billkleindl@co.stevens.mn.us

County Website:

www.co.stevens.mn.us



Minnesota Pollution
Control Agency

Scott Schroeder

Minnesota Pollution
Control Agency Contact
218-846-8134

MPCA Website:

[https://www.pca.state.mn.us/
s/quick-links/feedlot-
program](https://www.pca.state.mn.us/quick-links/feedlot-program)

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Stevens County 2016 Feedlot Newsletter

Manure Application and Record Keeping

Keeping records of certain manure application practices is required for all feedlot facilities with 100 or more animal units, even when a manure management plan is not required. Forms and spreadsheets for keeping required records are available from our office or at:

<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/quick-links/feedlot-nutrient-and-manure-management>

Good records are important to account for second-year nitrogen from manure applications. Records also allow better estimates to be made of total manure nutrients generated at the farm, thus aiding in future planning efforts.

Manure application records must be kept for the most recent three years, except that records must be kept for six years at NPDES permitted feedlots and when manure is applied at any site within 300 feet of lakes, streams, intermittent streams, drainage ditches that are not protected by berms, or DNR protected wetlands. The required record-keeping elements for other sizes of feedlots are also available from our office.

Where ownership of manure is transferred for application to fields not owned or leased by the feedlot owner, the manager of the cropland where manure is applied and the feedlot owner must keep records where the manure is produced.

Commercial applicators spreading manure onto land not owned or leased by the owner of the feedlot from which the manure is produced shall also keep a copy of the records. A copy must be submitted to the owner of the animal feedlot or the manure storage area from which the manure is produced, not later than 60 days following land application.

If you have any questions about whether you need to keep records of your manure application or what information is required for your livestock operation, just call my office for more information.

Manure Land Application in Winter Requires Extra Care

Farmers who spread manure during winter must ensure that it doesn't run off with rapid snowmelt flowing to ditches, streams and other waters. Manure-contaminated runoff not only threatens water quality, it reduces the value of manure as a crop nutrient. Minnesota rules require a 300-foot setback for surface waters and open tile intakes for all manure spread onto frozen or snow-covered soil. Steps to prevent manure runoff:

- Avoid steeper slopes by choosing the flattest field or flattest parts of fields with less than 6% slope for solid manure, 2% for liquid manure.
- Chose fields that contain the most crop residue (greater than 30%). Tillage along contours creates furrows to help capture any potential runoff.
- Do not apply non-incorporated manure within 300 feet of surface waters. If possible apply at even greater setback distances.
- Avoid flood or floodway zones.
- Avoid applying to fields where the furrows are full of ice and snow.
- Keep application rate low enough to avoid runoff or ponding during application.

For more information, see the MPCA factsheet: Managing Manure and Land Application During Adverse Weather Conditions at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/wq-f8-46.pdf>

If an Accident or Spill Happens



Take immediate action to reduce environmental impact:

- Create temporary berms to stop discharge
- Temporarily plug culverts & drain tile intakes to prevent manure inflow
- Soak up liquid with absorbent material, such as hay, straw, cornstalks or wood shavings
- Must report incident to Minnesota Duty Officer by calling 800-422-0798

Did you know....

Manure from all manure storage areas of more than 100 animal units must be tested for nitrogen & phosphorus content at a minimum of once every four years.

Exception: Test once per year for at least three years if manure is from a 300 or more animal unit storage and then every four years.

For more information go to: www.pca.state.mn.us/quick-links/feedlot-nutrient-and-manure-management

Soil Testing...

For land receiving manure from feedlots with 300 or more animal units, soil samples must be taken from the upper 6 inches once every 4 years. These samples must be tested for phosphorus using the Bray P1 or the Olsen test.

Feedlot Rule Requirements for Stockpiling Manure

Every year I seem to get complaints about stockpiling of manure and thought I should remind producers of the Feedlot Rule requirements again. Stockpiling is a common method of storing solid manure until it can be applied to cropland as fertilizer. The Minnesota Feedlot Rules Chapter 7020.2125 requires certain guidelines for stockpiling manure. They must be located, constructed and operated so that manure-contaminated runoff from the site does not discharge to waters of the state. Only solid manure can be stockpiled outside a barn or feedlot. The Feedlot Rules identify two types of stockpiling methods. Short-term and permanent stockpiles.

Short-term stockpiling of manure can only be stockpiled for up to one year of the date when it was initially established. A vegetative cover must be established for at least one full growing season prior to reuse. Owners need to maintain manure records that include: 1) location of the stockpile, 2) date which the stockpile was established, 3) volume of manure stockpiled, 4) nutrient analysis of the manure, and 5) when manure was land applied.

Permanent stockpiles are sites where manure is piled for more than one year or the same site is used year after year. These sites are required to be permitted and designed following Minnesota Rules 7020.2125, Subp. 4.

Please use the table below to ensure compliance when stockpiling your manure. I also ask you consider your neighbors when selecting a site and try not to pile near their house or at the end of their driveway. This usually will cause a complaint.

Short-Term Manure Stockpile Requirements

| Sensitive Feature | Requirement |
|---|---|
| Rock outcropping; Open tile intakes; Uncultivated wetland & other waters of the state; Sinkhole; Drainage Ditch; Road Right of Way; Rock quarries, Sand, Gravel Pit & other extractive uses | Setback of 300 ft of flow distance & at least 50 ft horizontal distance |
| Private well | Setback of 100 ft ¹ |
| Protected lake, pond, or flowage (shoreland) | Setback of 1000 ft |
| Protected creek, river, or intermittent stream or landward of floodplain (shoreland) | Setback of 300 ft |
| Drain tile with less than 3 ft of soil cover | Setback of 100 ft |
| Community water supply wells serving schools and licensed day-care centers | Setback of 1000 ft if vulnerable or 200 ft if not vulnerable |

¹ Setback increases to 200 ft if the well has less than 50 ft of watertight casing and is not cased through a confining layer at least 10 ft thick

Other Restrictions

- Stockpile must not exceed the agronomic needs of the crops on 320 acres
- Stockpile must be removed one year from the date it was established
- Must have vegetated cover or cropping history for at least one full growing season prior to re-use of the site *except if stockpiled for less than 10 consecutive days and no more than 6 times per year or within open lots with less than 100 animal units*
- Maintain 2 ft separation from the base of the stockpile to the seasonal high water table
- Stockpile must have at least 3 to 1 side slopes or 15% dry matter
- Soil texture to a depth of 5 ft below the stockpile must be no coarser than a sandy loam
- If on land with 2-6% slopes clean water diversions and erosion control practices must be used
- Stockpiling is prohibited on slopes greater than 6%