

PennAg Industries Association

Serving Agribusiness Since 1878

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Date: September 17, 2010

To: PA Horse Industry

From: Chris Herr, Executive Vice President of PennAg Industries

RE: Regulatory Changes impacting the Horse Industry

During the September meeting of the PennAg Horse Council, the group discussed the pending changes to the PA Department of Environmental Protection manual titled "**Land Application of Manure – A supplement to Manure Management for Environmental Protection**".

The following is a brief summary of several of the proposed changes that **will** impact your horse operation. I strongly encourage you to review the manual in its entirety and provide comments to the Department of Environmental Protection.

PA DEP – Manure Management Manual

Since the early 1970's, every farm that generates and/or applies manure is required to have a manure management plan. For farms that are CAFO's (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations) and/or CAO's (Concentrated Animal Operations), an Act 38 Nutrient Management Plan covers this requirement.

All other farms must comply with the Manure Management Manual.

Several of the proposed changes that have the potential to impact the horse industry include:

- Winter Application of Manure
- Manure Stacking Areas
- Animal Concentration Areas (ACA's)
 - Bare areas that do not have direct runoff to a water body are not ACA's
- Pasture Management:
 - Pastures must be maintained with dense vegetation with minimal bare spots – 3" grass height or 80% cover.
 - Assess stocking rate if grazing within 150' of a stream – limited depending on buffer

Action Needed:

1. You can view the entire document at:
http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-80890/361-0300-002_8-4-2010.pdf
2. Deadline to submit comments is November 12. Comments should be emailed or mailed to: Steve Taglang, Division of Conservation Districts and Nutrient Management, P. O. Box 8465, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8465, staglang@state.pa.us. Comments received by facsimile will not be accepted.
3. If you have questions or would like to discuss this issue with PennAg staff, please contact Chris Herr, cherr@pennag.com or Jennifer Reed-Harry, jrharry@pennag.com or by calling the PennAg Office at (717) 651-5920.

Leading the Way

Working to create and maintain an effective, viable, and competitive environment
for Pennsylvania Agribusiness to grow and prosper.

