

SPREADING LOG

The Professional Nutrient Applicators Association of Wisconsin Newsletter

December 2009

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Dates for Annual Update Meeting

Mark your calendars for the PNAAW annual conference and business meeting at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells on January 25-27, 2010 (you should have already received the flyer – if not, call Kevin Erb at 920-391-4652 or visit www.wimanuremgt.org).

Level 1 training will be offered on Monday afternoon (January 25). Tuesday's educational sessions include a discussion of W soils (important for WPDES permit farms), keeping nitrogen in the field, GPS, precision ag, new tools/equipment, understanding how manure leaves the field post-application, and a regional roundtable of applicators from across the upper Midwest. Wednesday's highlights include an update on the pavement study, regulations, a seminar on calculating your costs, finding maps online, and the annual business meeting of the association.



Board Elections

Four positions on the PNAAW board of directors are available and will be filled during the annual business meeting. Board members may be an owner or employee of an active member, and a board member can serve no more than two consecutive terms. The four positions are:

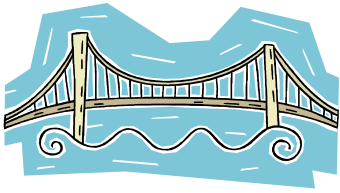
- **Three-year at large position**
(currently held by Dave Eisentraut—not eligible for re-election)
- **Three-year at large position**
(currently held by Travis Bestul—eligible, but not running)
- **Regional representative (2 year term) in the Northeast**
(currently held by Ryan DeBroux—not eligible for re-election)
- **Regional representative (2 year term) in the Central**
(currently held by Gary Halopka— not eligible for re-election)

The nominating committee is Ernie Sundstrom, Gary Halopka, and Abe Lemmenes. If you are interested in serving or nomination someone else, please contact a member of the committee.

WISDot Joins Road Weight Study

After four years of requests and discussions, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has officially become a partner in our research study looking at the impact of heavier ag equipment on rural and township roads. WI DOT joins their counterparts in MN, IA, and IL in financially supporting the research project. This action will make it much easier to begin the process of creating a uniform regional upper Midwest approach to revising road regulations in the future. We will be having an update on the second year's testing at the annual meeting in January.

Iowa Applicators Undertaking Major Bridge Weight Study



The Iowa Department of Transportation has secured funding to begin a project to look at how larger ag equipment impacts bridge strain—i.e. if the load is spread out over more girders because of the axle spacing and tire size, how does an 6,000 gallon tanker compare to a 6,000 gallon semi? The Iowa Commercial Nutrient Applicators Association is spearheading the equipment side of the project, and testing will begin in spring.

Board members and professional applicators from WI, IA, MI, OH, and PA met with the researchers earlier this fall to discuss how to shape the project and ensure that the same range of equipment tested on pavement in MN is bridge tested in Iowa. We have invited one of the researchers to present a summary of the project at the annual meeting.

PNAAW Joins Media Campaign to Get Farmers to Pump Early

In October and early November, you may have heard a series of positive radio advertisements encouraging farmers to empty their manure storage early and ensure they had enough capacity to make it through the winter. Jointly sponsored by PNAAW, the Department of Ag Trade and Consumer Protection and the WI DNR, the media campaign arose from concerns from our members that with the late corn crop and dairy economy, farmers were delaying pumping their storage. The board will evaluate the success of this approach at a future board meeting.

Iowa Certification

If you need to be certified (or recertified) in Iowa, the training will be offered in three locations in Wisconsin on January 6, 2010. The three locations are:

- Lancaster (contact Ted Bay at 608-723-2125)
- Chippewa Falls (contact Jerry Clark at 715-726-7950)
- Baraboo (contact Denise Brusveen at 608-355-3250)

Pre-registration is required by contacting the listed names/phone number corresponding with the location you wish to attend.

