

SPREADING LOG

The Professional Nutrient Applicators Association of Wisconsin Newsletter

January 2008

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Annual Meeting: January 29-30, 2008

The annual meeting and educational sessions for the Association will be January 29-30, 2008 at the Antigua Bay (Howard Johnson's) in Wisconsin Dells. The annual business meeting will be from 10:45 am until 12:00 pm on January 30, 2008, and will include the election of officers. A level 1 refresher (new version) will be held on January 29, 2008 from 10:00 am—2:00 pm. Other topics of interest include:

- * State Patrol Highway update
- * GPS technology to manage manure applications
- * Manure bartering between farms
- * Accessing free on-line field maps and soil surveys
- * Multi-state manure applicator discussion
- * Improving highway safety / Ag Equipment
- * Manure / Fertilizer Regulatory Update
- * How is manure really being applied?
- * Liability and manure application.

Registration forms and agendas can be found on the PNAAW website at <http://www.wimanuremgt.org/>

You may pay the \$100/firm membership fee at the time of registration or at the door. Registration fees for members is (2 days) \$115 for the first person, \$100 for each additional. Non-Member registration is \$155 for the first person and \$140 for each additional person.

Road Weight Study

The first manure tanker test runs on the sensor and instrumented road were made on December 20. More details will be available at the annual meeting about this 3 year research project to look at the impact of heavier agricultural equipment on rural and township roads. Partners include AgCo, CaseIH, Houle, Husky, John Deere, PDPW, state DOTs in IA, IL and MN, the MN Local Roads Board, Firestone, Michelin and Titan Tire, and manure applicator associations in IA, OH, MN and WI.



Level 1 Being Revised

For 2008, Wisconsin applicators will have a choice of two different tests and curriculum for level 1 certification. Member firms may use the existing (2007, Version D) or the revised (2008, Version E). The newer version (which will be the one used at the annual meeting in Wisconsin Dells) incorporates many suggestions made by applicators, including a hands on section on how to determine setbacks from streams and appropriate application rates. More information will be provided in the February newsletter.

Save Money By Turning Right?



During the level 1 training sessions over the past few years, the topic of the safest way to turn a truck or tractor into a field (right turn or left turn) has generated a lively discussion. While researching the issue for this year's training, we discovered that UPS and DHL plan their pickup and delivery routes to minimize left hand turns. FedEx has a similar strategy, but encourages drivers to make a decision based on how busy the roads are. All three companies say that right hand turns are encouraged primarily for safety, but have paid off in lower fuel costs and speeding up regular routes (each left turn may mean stopping to wait for oncoming traffic, and the additional time it takes to get a loaded truck from zero back up to highway speed).

In some cases, it may be safer and more efficient to run loaded trucks an extra mile than to lose 5 minutes waiting to make a left turn and getting back up to highway speed. Think about it.

DNR Revises Manure Guide for Wardens and First Responders

In early January, the DNR released the revised guidance for Wardens and DNR spill staff to use when dealing with a manure spill or runoff situation. There are some differences depending on how many animals the farm has. Below are the paragraphs related to our industry:

PERMIT FARMS (>1,000 Animal Units)

For Hire Manure Hauler: If a For Hire Manure Hauler is involved with a manure discharge event at a WPDES permitted facility, the hauler may also be held accountable for any actions or negligence related to the event. The available enforcement options are identified in sections 2 through 7 of this guidance. However, the WPDES permittee has the ultimate responsibility for compliance with the WPDES permit, for all notifications of releases and for subsequent clean-up and remediation.

NON-PERMIT FARMS (<1,000 Animal Units)

For Hire Manure Hauler: If a For Hire Manure Hauler is involved with a manure discharge event at non-WPDES permitted facility, the hauler can be held accountable, along with the owner or operator of the animal feeding operation, for any actions or negligence related to the event. The available enforcement options are identified sections 2 through 7 of this guidance. Both the For Hire Manure Hauler and the owner or operator of the animal feeding operation are responsible for making required notifications and for clean-up and remediation actions.

No matter what the farm size, if your firm is involved in a spill or runoff incident, taking the proper cleanup steps and reporting the incident can reduce your liability. For a full copy of the guidance document, call Kevin Erb at 920.391.4652