

LMMMR News

News from Conservation and Water Stewardship's Livestock Section

Inside this Issue

Climate Change and
Environmental Protection -
Divisional Realignment

Winter Spreading and
Emergency Spreading Requests

Manure Application to Un-
Seeded Land

Staffing Announcement

Environmental Livestock Program
Environmental Programs and
Strategies
Manitoba Conservation and Water
Stewardship
1007 Century Street
Winnipeg, MB R3H 0W4
Ph.: 204-945-8541
Fax: 204-948-2420

Climate Change and Environmental Protection - Divisional Realignment

The division of Climate Change and Environmental Protection, within the recently merged Department of Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship underwent realignment effective April 2, 2012. The livestock program is one of the many programs carried out within this division, as it is responsible for the administration of the *Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation* (LMMMR). For our clients in the livestock industry who may have dealings with our offices, it is mainly business as usual, with a few changes to staff contacts and office locations. Please see the "Who Are You Going To Call?" section at the bottom of the newsletter for contact phone numbers.

Previously livestock industry clients would have dealt with two branches, formerly known as Environmental Services or Regional Operations. The division has now been organized into three Branches; Environmental Programs and Strategies, Environmental Compliance and Enforcement, and Environmental Approvals.

Environmental Programs and Strategies Branch replaces the former Environmental Services, and ensures an effective regulatory framework, delivers provincial programs and provides technical expertise to protect human health and Manitoba's environment. They develop policy and coordinate administration of the *Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation* (LMMMR). Livestock related services administered by this branch include the Manure Management Plan (MMP) program, Technical Review Committee representation, Source Water Monitoring (SWM) program, Monitoring Well Reporting, and regulatory interpretation. A new service is the review of emergency manure spreading requests, which used to be handled out of Regional Operations.

Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch replaces the former Environmental Operations, and carries out inspection activities, ensures regulatory compliance and responds to environmental incidents and complaints. For issues regarding specific operations, inspections and environmental emergencies, environment officers at your local Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship offices remain the primary contact.

Livestock engineering support has moved from the former Environmental Services to join engineering staff at **Environmental Approvals Branch**. Their role is to assess proposals and issue environmental approvals to ensure they do not adversely impact human health and Manitoba's environment. Under their Branch, they will continue to administer and make decisions relating to issuing permits and registration. This includes manure

storage facility permits, and pre-permit manure storage registration as part of the registration program. Effective October 1st, 2012 engineering staff have relocated their offices from 1007 Century Street to 123 Main Street, Winnipeg as they join the Environmental Approvals Branch.

Winter Spreading and Emergency Spreading Requests

Pursuant to Section 14(4) of the *Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation (LMMMR)* (M.R. 42/98), the director of Manitoba Conservation may authorize winter application of manure due to an emergency situation or extenuating circumstance. Examples may include the manure storage facility reaching its capacity or an imminent failure of a manure storage facility.

Previously, requests for authorization were handled out of the regional office under the former Environmental Operations Branch. Now, requests will be administered by the Environmental Programs and Strategies Branch in Winnipeg. Please see the "Who Are You Going to Call?" section at the end of the newsletter for contact phone numbers.

Under the new branch, the process will remain the same. To be eligible, operators or consultants must first submit a written request for approval to Environmental Programs and Strategies Branch

in Winnipeg. Our office can provide listing of the information required in the written request such as contact information, location, reasons for the emergency or extenuating circumstances, and proposed manure application details to name a few.

As of November 10, 2010 existing livestock operators ≥ 300 animal units (AU) in size were prohibited from winter application of manure. Operators over 400 AU have been prohibited from winter spreading since 2004. The last phase in date regarding winter spreading is November 10, 2013, when ALL operations regardless of size will be prohibited from winter spreading of manure. Winter is defined in the *Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation (LMMMR)* as between November 10 of one year and April 10 of the following year. It includes November 10 and April 10. Operators currently applying manure in the winter are strongly encouraged to plan for the 2013 prohibition which will apply to all operations.

Manure Application to Unseeded Land

Manure application to unseeded land prior to August 15th of each year is prohibited. If no crop has been grown or is planned to be seeded in the current year, manure application cannot commence until after August 15th. The intent of this prohibition is to ensure manure is applied close to the time of crop uptake, such as fall or the following spring. If manure is applied during the summer to unseeded land, nutrients are not being utilized by crop uptake and may be susceptible to losses to the environment. However, manure may be applied to unseeded land prior to August 15th if a crop will be seeded later that year, such as winter wheat, since crop uptake will commence much sooner than a crop seeded the following spring.

Pursuant to Section 12(1.2) of the *Livestock Manure and Mortalities Management Regulation (LMMMR)* (M.R. 42/98), the director of Manitoba Conservation may approve manure application before August 15th if the application is considered appropriate.

Clients looking to apply for approval must submit a written request to Environmental Programs and Strategies Branch. Reasons for the request may include a crop being grown in the current year, but harvested prior to August 15th, making the field available for early manure application. Early harvesting may be due to crop type, in the case of winter or early maturing crops, or favorable weather conditions that result in an earlier than usual harvest. The submission should demonstrate that the request would not result in non-compliance of the regulation. For example, all livestock operations are subject to nitrate-nitrogen limits and phosphorus thresholds.

The director will weigh the environmental considerations and may approve or decline the request. The process is administered on a case by case basis, allowing Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship to assess the unique factors of each request. For example, allowing application prior to August 15th on a field that had a crop failure, leaving high levels of unused nutrient levels in the field may not be as prudent as a field that was grown to maturity and harvested early due to the aforementioned reasons.

In addition, for those operations which file an annual MMP, a completed plan including soil test reports must also be submitted and early manure applications will correspond to the MMP for the following crop year.

Staffing Announcement

Andrea Bergman has recently joined the Environmental Programs and Strategies Branch Livestock Section team as the new Technical Review Officer.

Andrea is a graduate from the Environmental Technology program at Fanshawe College in London, Ontario and has an agricultural diploma from Kemptville College of Agricultural Technology in Kemptville, Ontario. Andrea has over eight years of progressive conservation, compliance and laboratory experience. Her last environmental placement before joining Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship was at an Environmental, Health and Safety Consulting and Training firm in Stratford, Ontario where she held the position of principal environmental consultant/trainer. Andrea has prior experience in the laboratory sector where she worked as an environmental microbiology analyst. Additionally, she has past experience working with an Ontario Conservation Authority.

Andrea is excited to be back in Manitoba and a part of the team. Andrea will be the Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship representative on the Technical Review Committee. Additionally, she will be administering the Source Water Monitoring program and the Monitoring Well and Monitoring Sump Pit program. If you have any questions about these programs, she can be contacted at (204) 619-2230.

Who are you going to call?

General Inquiries, manure management plan (including emergency spreading), and source water analysis questions should be directed to Environmental Programs and Strategies.

Engineering questions are to be directed to Environmental Approvals.

Matters regarding all other aspects of the *Livestock Manure and Mortalities Regulation* should be directed to Environmental Compliance and Enforcement.

For reporting a spill or any emergencies, call your Environmental Compliance and Enforcement contact. After hours, use the emergency response number.

Emergency Response 204-944-4888	
Environmental Programs and Strategies	General Inquiries Ph: 204-945-8541 Winnipeg Manure Management Plans Ph: 204-945-3078 Winnipeg Source Water/TRC Ph: 204-619-2230 Winnipeg
Environmental Compliance and Enforcement	Eastern Ph: 204-346-6060 Steinbach Western Ph: 204-726-6064 Brandon Ph: 204-622-2030 Dauphin Central Ph: 204-945-7100 Winnipeg Ph; 204-642-6095 Gimli Ph: 204-239-3204 Portage La Prairie
Environmental Approvals	Engineering Section Ph: 204-945-8321 Winnipeg Registration Program Ph: 204-782-3890 Winnipeg