

Nutrient Management: An Agricultural Update



Indiana Agriculture Regulatory Structure



- Enhance the success of the agriculture industry
- Protect consumers of food products
- Ensure the utmost protection of the environment and public health



Indiana State Department of Agriculture



- ISDA supports growth in Indiana agriculture by
 - serving as an advocate at the local, state and federal level
 - defining and nurturing economic opportunity in the food, fuel and fiber sectors
 - enhancing the stewardship of natural resources on agricultural land



ISDA Environmental Stewardship



- **Indiana Conservation Partnership**
 - Improve the quality of Indiana's streams, rivers and lakes
 - Protect our drinking water
 - Increase soil quality to boost food and fiber production
- <http://www.in.gov/isda/icpreports/>



ISDA Technical Assistance



- Resource specialists work through regional Conservation Implementation Teams to help land users assess specific soil and water resource problems and apply appropriate solutions
- Services available to agricultural land users include:
 - Provide up-to-date information to create or revise conservation management plans
 - Achieve soil and water quality objectives
 - Help landowners identify specific conservation practices
 - Supervise installation and maintenance of selected conservation practices

Fertilizer Material Use, Distribution and Recordkeeping Rule



- Ensure fertilizer materials are distributed and used effectively and safely:
 - as plant nutrients
 - in a manner that protects water quality
- Developed in cooperation with the Office of the Indiana State Chemist and IDEM



Fertilizer Use Rule Applicability



- Applies to any person that uses or distributes fertilizer material for the purposes of producing an agricultural crop
- Exception for any person who uses or distributes less than ten (10) cubic yards or four thousand (4,000) gallons of fertilizer material in a calendar year
- CFO/CAFO: Compliance with the more specific provision will satisfy the similar requirement of this rule

Fertilizer Material



- Any substance containing nitrogen, phosphate, potash, or any recognized plant nutrient that
 - is used for the plant nutrient content
 - has nutrient value in promoting plant growth
- The term includes unmanipulated animal and vegetable manures



Application



- A person applying fertilizer material for the purposes of producing an agricultural crop shall
 - develop a fertilizer application plan prior to application
 - apply fertilizer material in accordance with the fertilizer application plan for the target application site
 - not apply fertilizer material directly to surface water
 - not apply fertilizer material to saturated ground
 - not apply fertilizer material from a public road

Application of Unmanipulated Organic Fertilizer



- **Setbacks**
- **Highly erodible land**
- **Frozen or snow covered ground**
- **Monitoring**



Staging of Inorganic Fertilizer



- **Setback of 300 feet from surface waters, drainage inlets or water wells**
- **Fertilizer cannot be staged in standing water, a waterway, or a floodway**
- **If staged for more than 72 hours the fertilizer must be covered with a tarpaulin or other suitable covering**
- **Must be applied to a target field within thirty (30) days**

Staging of Organic Fertilizer



- **Setback of 300 feet from surface waters, drainage inlets or water wells**
 - unless there is a cover or gradient barrier that contains or directs any organic fertilizer away from these features
- **Cannot be staged in**
 - standing water, a waterway, or a floodway
 - an area with a slope greater than six percent (6%) unless run-on and runoff are controlled
- **If staged for more than seventy-two (72) hours, the fertilizer must be protected by a cover or gradient barrier**
- **Applied within ninety (90) days**
- **Setbacks from property lines, public roads and residential buildings**

Recordkeeping



- **Distribution records**
- **Application records**
- **Kept and maintained for 2 years**
- **Available for inspection or copying within 30 days of written or oral request by state chemist**



Effective Date



- Full compliance by Feb 16, 2013



Nutrient Reduction Strategy Update



- ISDA is Indiana's representative on the Hypoxia Task Force
- ISDA is working with IDEM and stakeholder groups on their portions of the strategy
- The strategy is comprehensive, looking at both point and nonpoint sources of nutrients
- Indiana's Strategy will be submitted to EPA in the 4th Quarter of 2013

Nutrient Reduction Strategy Update



- **Strategy will include components such as:**
 - *Analytical tools* to prioritize watersheds
 - *Regulations* addressing nutrient reduction
 - *Grants and Conservation Programs* to address nutrient challenges, such as IDEM 319 and Clean Water Indiana. This will also include participation in innovative programs such as the Ohio River Basin Water Quality Trading Program to capture additional private-sector funds for conservation practices.
 - Nutrient reductions achieved through *adaptive management programs* such as the Indiana On Farm Network, which provides participating farmers with in depth Nitrogen analysis on their own farms.
 - *Indiana Soil Health Strategy*, which is a unified strategy of several ag organizations to address nutrient management

Indiana Nutrient Reduction Strategy Reporting Mechanism



- **Nutrient Reduction Strategy Clearinghouse**
 - All members have access to SharePoint where conservation practices and outreach activities are registered
 - SharePoint links these practices and outreach activities to priority watersheds
 - Information in the clearinghouse is publicly accessible through the state strategy's website
 - Members will be expanded beyond traditional IN Conservation Partnership to capture more projects

Indiana Nutrient Reduction Strategy



- **Indiana Conservation Partnership (ICP) Website**
- **Annual Conferences**
 - **IN Association of SWCDs, Livestock Forum**
- **News Releases to Ag and Mainstream Media**
- **Annual Reports**
 - **Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative, On Farm Network, CREP, Healthy Rivers Initiative, Tillage Transect , 319**

Questions?



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