

LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Brown County

Agriculture and Extension Service Center
1150 Bellevue Street
Green Bay, WI 54302
Phone: (920) 391-4620 Fax: (920) 391-4617
www.co.brown.wi.us/land_conservation/

BILL HAFS
COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST

6-23-05

Dave Bougie
DNR Regional Animal Waste Specialist
PO Box 10448
2984 Shawano Avenue
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54307-0448

Dear Dave,

The Brown County Land Conservation Committee at their regularly scheduled monthly meeting on June 22, 2005 reviewed the recommendations of the Brown County Animal Waste/ Groundwater task force and directed me to obtain approval from DNR pursuant to NR 151.096 to amend the Brown County Animal Waste Management Ordinance Chapter 26 of the Brown County Code of Ordinances.

The proposed amendment would require all Brown County landowners who land apply animal waste during winter to obtain a **Winter Spreading Plan** from Brown County Land Conservation Department.

Proposed winter spreading plan provisions:

1. Winter is defined as December 1 – April 15.
2. LCD approved nutrient management hazard maps will specifically identify fields where animal waste can be safely applied and rates of application.
3. No winter spreading allowed in shallow bedrock areas without LCD approved nutrient management hazard maps.
4. No winter spreading allowed in impaired waters without LCD approved nutrient management hazard maps.
5. Livestock operations with existing manure storage must store animal waste during winter or obtain stacking permit or LCD approved nutrient management hazard maps.
6. Winter stacking permits issued by LCD must conform to NRCS standard 313.
7. All crop producers and livestock producers that apply animal waste or other nutrients to crop fields shall have a nutrient management plan (NR151.07).
8. Livestock operations without adequate manure storage (minimum 6 months) that winter apply animal waste need to do one of the following options: (a) expand existing animal waste storage (permits required) (b) get stacking permit or (c) acquire LCD approved nutrient management hazard maps.

9. The area within 50 feet of a potable drinking water well shall not receive mechanical applications of manure.
10. Areas contributing runoff within 200 feet upslope of direct conduits to groundwater such as a well, sinkhole, fractured bedrock at the surface, tile inlet, or nonmetallic mine unless the nutrients are effectively incorporated within 72 hours.
11. All streams must have an adequate buffer strip in accordance with Brown County Agriculture Shoreland Management Ordinance, Chapter 10 Brown County Code.
12. All old unused wells must be properly abandoned immediately.

A number of factors justify the need for the proposed Winter Spreading Plan provisions to be approved for Brown County:

- Increased livestock numbers.
- Reduced cropland acres for land application caused by urban sprawl.
- Town human population increases.
- High concentration of Karst features in Brown County
- Recent well contaminations as a result of winter spreading of animal waste.
- The potential health impacts of animal waste in private wells.
- High number of old, unused wells that provide potential conduit of animal waste to groundwater.
- High number of impaired waters in Brown County.
- Surface water Phosphorus levels and resulting algae growth in Green Bay.

I have attached current livestock estimates for Brown County and will forward you supporting documentation that was reviewed by the Brown County Animal Waste/ Groundwater task force including their recommendations to the Land Conservation Committee.

Regards,



Bill Hafs

Brown County Land Conservation Department

1150 Bellevue Street

Green Bay, Wisconsin 54302

Phone 920-391-4633

hafs_bc@co.brown.wi.us

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Brown County Livestock Estimates (6/2005)

- 300 – 350 livestock operations in Brown County.
- 104,000 cows (41,000 milk cows).
- 150,000 – 170,000 acres of cropland in Brown County, approximately 100,000 -115,000 acres available for land application of animal waste.
- 100 livestock operations are estimated to spread animal waste in winter currently.
- Estimated 250 animal waste storage facilities in Brown County. 200 of 250 animal waste storage facilities are permits through Brown County Animal Waste Management Ordinance.
- Estimated that 150 animal waste storage facilities have been funded by state or federal cost share (as condition of funding requires storage over winter).
- 10 WPDES permits (greater than 1000 animal units)