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## *Twin Lakes Environmental Services, LLC*

### Important Updates

- ◆ It is very important we have your updated contact information. Please be sure to shoot our office an email or give us a call to assure we have all your updated contact info including an email address.
- ◆ If using water from a pond— a meter must be put on line to assure you are not using 25,000 gallons a day or you will be required to obtain a water permit.
- ◆ Follow up with neighbors to assure if Commercial Nutrient Statement is signed and note if nutrients side dressed after manure and if crop rotations are changing.
- ◆ Mark your calendar for 2017 Pork Congress in Des Moines on *Wednesday, January 25th, 9am - 5pm & Thursday, January 26th, 9am - 4pm*— we always look forward to catching up with our clients

### What Does the Future of Manure Application Look Like?

By Nancy Trapolino, Puck Custom Enterprises

Innovation is at the heart of our company. We want to make things better, and we know you do too. (That's why you work with Becky). More importantly though, it has offered us a better quality of life -- for everyone involved in animal agriculture.

Treating manure as a natural fertilizer, a locally renewable nutrient source, rather than a waste, is a game-changer for animal agriculture. Dad always says, "You've paid for that nutrient as feed. If it's not walking on the truck, it's in the pit."

If you're thinking about the future of your farm, and a long-term sustainable plan for your manure, we invite you to call, or join us at PCE Pump School. We have many new solutions and practices to discuss with you. Classes are free, and held monthly during non-application months. We spend the first day discussing dragline fundamentals, the how and why. The second day is a management class focusing on how to get the most profitability out of a system. The class is suited for people curious to learn more, as well as seasoned operators.

Animal agriculture is growing in Iowa! The demand for service providers is growing too. Owning and operating a dragline application company is hard work, but it can be a profitable and sustainable business. Give us a call to discuss, or stop by to see us in Manning.

PCE Pump School [www.PuckEnterprises.com](http://www.PuckEnterprises.com)



## Services we offer at T.L.E.S:

Manure Management Plan (MMP) development to include RUSLE2 and Phosphorus Index

Nutrient Management Plans (NMP) to meet EPA CAFO regulations

Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMP) to meet NRCS EQIP requirements

Online record keeping system:  
[www.realtimeag.com](http://www.realtimeag.com)

Pre site consultations and mapping

New Construction

Expansion

Construction site pre-inspections

Matrix calculations

NPDES/Storm Water Permits

DNR site inspections

Manure Application Records

DNR required monitoring

Other services as may be required or requested

### Confinement Site Applicators

Farmers who have over 500 animal units in a confinement and apply their own manure need to be certified as a Confinement Site Manure Applicator.

We also need to assure that whomever is hauling your manure, if you hire it done, has their certification updated. The certification fee for confinement site manure applicators is \$100 paid once every three years. To schedule a training session, contact your county Extension & Outreach office. <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/content/county-offices>

### Dry Manure

Applicators who work with mostly dry or solid manure may want to schedule a training session with your local extension office also. These workshops are focused on application of poultry, cattle, or hog manure in a dry or solid form. They are open to both confinement and commercial applicators.

The workshops are free to attend and open to all. Applicators will be required to submit certification forms and fees to the Iowa DNR to meet manure applicator certification requirements before March 1 to avoid a late fee.

### Site Inspections



The IDNR does not accept this type of fan transition on confinement buildings.

The DNR will not accept plastic or sheet metal transitions. Must be of stainless steel, heavy gauge transition & bolted to wall with sealant.



The use of anything other than attached concrete pump outs used for ventilation will need additional review from IDNR.



## **Things to consider before starting a construction project:**

- ◇ How will you own the barn/land
- ◇ What type of structure are you wishing to build?
- ◇ What are barn dimensions
- ◇ Where will barn be located (Section, Twp, Range)
- ◇ Will barn lay east to west or north to south
- ◇ How many head will the building hold
- ◇ What phase of animals will you grow
- ◇ Will it be wet/dry feeders or dry feeders
- ◇ Have you discussed your project with neighbors/family/integrators?
- ◇ Have a consultant prepare an Alluvial/Karst & 6000 ft siting map to see if your ground will work for the proposed site
- ◇ Who will fill out the stormwater journal?
- ◇ Who calls the DNR prior to initial concrete pour?
- ◇ All acres to be included in plan must be soil sampled on 10 acre grids or less & never more than 4 years old.
- ◇ We will need field names (field names need to be consistent throughout whole plan) & crop rotations.
- ◇ If you do not own/farm field we need manure agreements from landowner & commercial nutrient statement from farmer.

Based on the above information as well as the crop rotations, your consultant should be able to tell you how many acres you will need for your manure management plan.

## **Who will build your barn?**

When you speak with contractors about building this barn(s) for your family, things you need to consider as you speak with them:

- ◇ Who is responsible for stuck trucks?
- ◇ Compare and double check rebar specs?
- ◇ Length of project?
- ◇ What are all of the variable expenses, known and unknown?
- ◇ Will the contractor manage the variable expenses even though they are not part of the contract?
- ◇ Is the framing engineered and inspected?
- ◇ What is the manufacturer and the contractor warranty?
- ◇ How will the service work be handled and what are the rates after the warranty is up?
- ◇ Is the proper builders risk insurance in place?
- ◇ Does the contractor have the appropriate insurance and work comp at the time of construction?
- ◇ Will there be lien waivers?
- ◇ What is the snow load of the trusses?
- ◇ Who will be the supervisor and how often will they be on site?
- ◇ Who is responsible for unloading material?
- ◇ Will there need to be temporary power?
- ◇ Does the contractor have access to standby generators?
- ◇ What kind of parts inventory does the contractor have?
- ◇ How much water volume is needed for the barn?
- ◇ Who will fill out the stormwater journal?
- ◇ Who is going to call the DNR before pouring the floor?

## A Letter From our State Representative Mike Sexton

Becky asked me to write a few thoughts on the upcoming Legislative session for her newsletter.

Here are few of my thoughts. Many of you have been asking about section 179, which is the coupling of Iowa depreciation schedule with the federal code. I hope this is one of the first things we do when we get back to work. Although the Governor told us to not count on it this year. I think there will be overwhelming support in the House and Senate and he will be forced to agree with us. It is very important to do coupling so we can help farmers and small businesses grow their operations. I worked on this issue very hard last session and will again if I need to.

There has been a ton of talk about wanting to go in and change the Matrix. I just do not look for that to be high on the radar for most politicians. The Republicans believe in less government, less taxes, and less regulations- so I just do not look for much happening in increasing or adjusting current regulations.

On the issue of water quality, the budget is going to be just as tight or even tighter than last year so there is not going to be any money left over to do water quality. Here is what I have been saying on this issue. I would like someone to tell me what the end of the water quality battle looks like? How do we know when we have achieved the optimum water quality? Up to this point no one has been able to answer that question for me.

I'm not going to throw millions of taxpayers' dollars away to a problem that we have no idea of knowing if we are winning or losing- or more importantly, if we can ever achieve the elusive end goal.

We gavel in on January 9<sup>th</sup> and will work for 110 days. We start the week on Monday at 1:00 pm and usually get done sometime in the afternoon on Thursday. We do not work on Friday. I was elected to a leadership position in the House in November. So, I will be working very closely with the Speaker this session. This will be very important as we work on legislation that affects agriculture.

I write a weekly newsletter that gets emailed out every Thursday during session. I'm not a lawyer so I try to use every day common language to explain what is happening at the Capitol. Many people have commented how much they have learned from my newsletter. If you would like to subscribe to it just send an email to me at [mike.sexton@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:mike.sexton@legis.iowa.gov) and just say, you would like to receive the Minute with Mike Newsletter. I try to keep it short and most of the time I get very open about my feelings. You can always unsubscribe to it at any time if you do not find it beneficial. You have my email now so please feel free to reach out to me anytime on issues that you need help with. Please remember I not only represent the citizens of my district but all of Iowa.



Sexton defending agriculture on the house floor.

## **DNR Notes:**

The DNR encourages all producers to contact the appropriate DNR field office as soon as possible if a problem arises so that the field office may assist with taking all reasonable steps to handle the situation. Finally, producers should notify neighbors that they will be applying manure and work with them to minimize any negative impacts. The critical message to neighbors is that applying on frozen/snow-covered ground is the last resort and that their understanding in an emergency situation is appreciated.

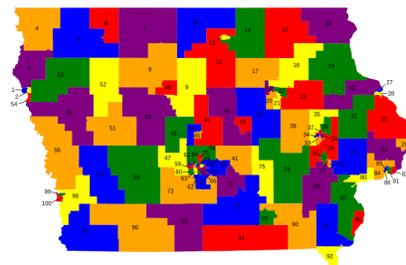
## **Office Updates:**

### **Everything takes time but we must also insure consistency.**

In order to institute a bit more security in our office, we will be instituting a process of having our clients sign off to approve paperwork to assure everything is being approved by our clients before we incur any additional time/expense in moving forward on planning processes. We believe this will help keep our costs down and time down on projects. For example, each time we change a new site name/ownership that is additional time we must charge for. We know each client wants their work done yesterday, yet every time you make a change, it changes paperwork and we **MUST** be consistent.

## **Manure application requirements for frozen/snow-covered ground include:**

- ◇ All manure must be applied so as not to cause water pollution.
- ◇ All manure that is NOT injected/ incorporated on same date must be applied at least 200' away from creek, well, or other water body/source and 800' away from high quality water resource.
- ◇ If a confinement has a MMP, liquid manure cannot be applied within 750' of a neighbor's residence, business, church, school, or public area unless the manure is injected/ incorporated within 24 hours or unless there is a waiver signed.
- ◇ If a confinement operation has a MMP, all manure must be applied in compliance with the MMP.
- ◇ DNR says that with the weather we have had this year there is no excuses as to why manure has to be applied on frozen/snow covered ground. Manure cannot be hauled on snow covered ground from Dec. 21– April 1 and on frozen ground from Feb. 1– April 1.



## Crop Rotations - - - They Matter!

Please review your plan regularly, especially every planting season. It is imperative that we have the correct crop rotations on file and marked in your MMP. You will not be in compliance if your crop rotations do not match your MMP and you could receive a notice of violation from the DNR.

Quick note: just a reminder that crop rotations, field practices, and manure analysis all play a part



in your spreading rates—so please make sure you are making us aware of all changes you make in these areas of farming.

### TWIN LAKES ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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## Manure Application & Real Time Ag

When applying manure, please be sure you are applying to fields that have been properly added to your manure management plan; especially if you are a client on Real Time Ag. If on Real Time Ag, spreading records cannot be added to the website unless that field is actually a part of your plan. Your manure applicators rely on you as to what fields they can apply to. If they looked at your plan and found these acres were not actually a part of your plan, they would not be able to apply. As you know, it is not hard to add acres to your plan, but we need you to provide that information to us. We are currently receiving calls from manure applicators about fields they applied to but which are not a part of your plan. We can't fix what you don't provide to us.

Once again, Real Time Ag is designed to make sure that what is in the MMP is also what is happening on your farm. If farms are not there or your crop rotations are not correct then manure applications cannot be entered.

### Fun Fact to think about:

Approximately 25% of state fields are covered with livestock manure, the remaining 75% are covered with commercial nutrients. **Still think livestock are to blame for water quality issues?**

We're on the web!  
[www.twinlakesenviro.com](http://www.twinlakesenviro.com)

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