



HANDLING MANURE MANAGEMENT PLANS – LOOKING FOR A BETTER WAY

For 22 years, livestock producers, counties, DNR and the public handle, process and store about 7,000 manure management plans (MMPs) each year. Producers must deliver the MMP to each county where manure will be applied and collect a signed receipt before submitting it to DNR. Providing information to the public involves a search through thousands of paper files.

Handling paper is time consuming – for everyone. When an MMP is complete, the DNR approval process takes about five days. When an MMP is not complete, gathering the missing information can take considerable time — as producer, DNR and the county go back and forth.

In December 2016, producers, consultants, and the county and DNR staff who handle MMPs worked together to find a better way. Their solution offers optional electronic submittal of the MMP short form (used three out of four years to update the plans).



OPTIONAL: ELECTRONIC MMP SHORT FORM

Benefits to Farmers who Use an e-MMP short form

- No more driving to each county for signatures. Counties will receive the short form electronically
- Errors in data entry caught before submittal, reducing processing time, driving and compliance costs
- Calculates fees automatically
- Secure option to pay fees online
- Fee payment for more than one facility
- Once approved, DNR confirms receipt by email
- 60-day advance notice of upcoming MMP due dates
- No change in availability of personal contact information

Benefits to DNR

- Less physical file storage needed
- Frees staff time for other administrative needs
- Streamlines submittal and approval process, eliminating unnecessary steps
- Improved data quality, less time correcting errors
- Recycling some of the 50-pound cartons of paper (currently estimated at 296 cartons)
- Increased efficiency

Benefits to Counties

- Less staff time receiving and signing notifications
- Less physical file space needed
- Less staff time helping the public access records
- County receives email notification

Benefits to the Public

- Online database with MMP short form records
 - Ready access to records and reports
 - Data is quickly available
 - Less costs for travel, communication and copying
- Leaner, greener process reducing taxpayer costs and government footprint
 - Less paper coming in
 - Less paper to recycle (currently about 300 pounds per month)
 - Increased data accuracy
 - Decreased number of times each MMP is handled by producer, county and DNR
 - More transparent government

PAPER FORMS STILL AVAILABLE

Paper forms are still available and the process remains the same

- Complete form
- Obtain signature of county’s receipt
- Submit to DNR for approval

Electronic submittal is optional

LONG FORMS UNCHANGED FOR NOW

No Changes to MMP Long Forms

- Process is similar to paper short forms
- Recent soil tests, P index and RUSLE 2 results continue to be submitted

Application records and detailed changes remain on site

Electronic submittal of Long Forms could be considered in the future

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February 2017