



"The Great Escape"

Watercolor by Stephen Arnold - CDPHE Air Pollution Division

Environmental Agriculture Program

Newsletter Issue No. 5 - Winter 2014



Useful Links

- ▶ [Regulations](#)
- ▶ [Forms](#)
- ▶ [Contacts](#)
- ▶ [Guidance and Policies](#)

[Click here to find your local health agency](#)

Important Dates

January 27 - 29, 2015
Annual Colorado Farm Show - Greeley

February 11, 2015
Ag Program Annual Stakeholder Meeting

March 31, 2015
Annual Reports Due

Inspection Responses

Inspection Responses are due no later than 120 days after receipt of final inspection report.

Holiday Schedule

The State Offices will be closed for the following holiday:

May 25, 2015
Memorial Day

[Click here for the Technical Assistance Contact Map by county](#)

Welcome!

Welcome to the Environmental Agriculture Program's quarterly newsletter where we offer news, updates, insights and trainings. Our hope is to foster understanding and cooperation between the Ag Program and the community we serve.

News and Events

10th Annual Ag Program Stakeholder Meeting

The 10th annual Ag Program stakeholder meeting is fast approaching. The stakeholder meeting is scheduled to be held from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm on Wednesday, February 11, 2014 at the CDPHE laboratory services building:

8100 Lowry Boulevard
Denver, CO 80230
(303) 692-3090

The meeting will be held in the Main Training room. Topics of this year's annual meeting will include: regulation updates, enforcement issues, program goals and priorities, inspections, budgets and more. The meeting agenda and information on connecting via video / conference call will be emailed prior to the event.

[Map to Laboratory Services Division](#)

To RSVP to the annual meeting or to ensure you receive the pre-meeting agenda, please send an email to: chad.devolin@state.co.us.

Revised Annual Report Template

The time has come for permitted facilities to complete and submit their annual reports. In an effort to simplify the reports, the Ag Program is revising the Annual Report template. We expect to have our final revision complete and the new form uploaded to the website by February 1, 2015. After February 1, 2015 the new template will be available at:

colorado.gov/cdphe/cafos

Annual Colorado Farm Show

KEEP IN TOUCH:

Chad DeVolin
(303) 692-3520
chad_devolin@state.co.us

Thaine Kramer
(303) 692-3523
thaine.kramer@state.co.us

Mike Sherry
(303) 692-3614
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bonnie.laws@state.co.us

On the Web:

www.colorado.gov/cdphe/cafos



CDPHE on Facebook



CDPHE on Twitter



CDPHE on YouTube



The annual Colorado Farm Show will be held at the Island Grove Park in Greeley Colorado on January 27 to 29, 2015. Come see us at the show. The Ag Program will be in booth 4H E. For a daily schedule of events at this years show click the link below:

www.coloradofarmshow.com

Environmental Leadership Program

The Environmental Leadership Program (ELP) is seeking new candidates to participate in the program. ELP has 3 levels of recognition, Bronze, Silver and Gold. Last year the Leadership Program recognized four companies from the agriculture community! If you would like to learn more or have questions about the Environmental Leadership Program or please contact Lynette Myers at 303-692-3477 or via email at lynette.myers@state.co.us.

[ELP Program Website](#)

The Ag Program has Moved (slightly)

Effective October 13, 2014, the Ag Program relocated to our new offices. Although not far, we moved from one building to another, and have a new mailing address. All regular mail should now be address as follows:

Environmental Agriculture Program
Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, DEHS-A2
Denver, CO 80246-1530

All of the other contact information for the program, including email addresses and phone numbers, have not changed.

Regulatory Update

Judge rules dairy manure poses "imminent and substantial" threat

A recent Federal court decision in the state of Washington has the potential for far reaching effects throughout the agricultural community in the United States. Judge Thomas Rice of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington held that manure from several farms exposes residents of the Lower Yakima Valley to nitrate pollution. The case stems from years of efforts by Oregon environmental groups to force greater protections for groundwater and surface water supplies. The Community Association for Restoration of the Environment and the Center for Food Safety brought the case on behalf of 24,000 residents in February 2013, shortly before the U.S. EPA entered into an agreement with the farms to address the pollution. The federal judge ruled that, because the facility did not follow the terms of its Nutrient Management Plan and over applied manure to their land application sites, that the over applied manure was no longer considered "beneficial" and could now be regulated as a solid waste. This is the first time that the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act has been applied to animal waste from a farm. For more information on the court decision, you can click on the links below:

[Farms Can Be Held Liable for Pollution from Manure](#)

[Manure poses "imminent and Substantial Health Threat](#)

Please be sure your facility is following your Nutrient Management Plan!



National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) eReporting Rule

The Ag Program has participated in several national conference calls over recent weeks regarding EPA's proposed eReporting Rule. The eReporting Rule is intended to modernize the Clean Water Act's reporting requirements and in part, requires permitted facilities to submit reports like the Annual Report, electronically. EPA has extended the public comment period until January 30, 2015. For more information, please visit EPA's website clicking the link below.

[EPA's eReporting Rule](#)

If you have any questions regarding the Ag Program's submitted comments on the proposed rule, please contact Chad DeVolin at 303-692-3520.

Questions? Concerns?

Do you have an idea for a newsletter article? Do you have a complaint or questions or concerns regarding regulatory compliance, inspections, or enforcement? Please contact us at the email or phone numbers listed above and we will be glad to assist you.
