

REQUIREMENTS FOR HASTINGS MANAGEMENT AREA

1. Nitrogen Application Requirements

- a. Anhydrous ammonia may not be applied prior to November 1st.
 - b. A nitrification inhibitor must be applied with all anhydrous ammonia applications made between November 1st and March 1st at the manufacturer's recommended rate.
 - c. Liquid and dry nitrogen fertilizers may not be applied between September 1st and March 1st.
 - d. All pre-plant nitrogen fertilizer applied on or after March 1st at a rate greater than one-hundred (100) pounds of actual nitrogen per acre, must be applied with a nitrification inhibitor at the manufacturer's recommended rate.
 - e. Fertilizer Application Exceptions: The following fertilizer application activities are exempt from provisions A through D listed above.
 - i. The application of nitrogen fertilizer for any purpose other than fertilization for spring planted crops.
 - ii. The application of nitrogen fertilizer for spring planted small grains such as barley, oats, and rye.
 - iii. The application of nitrogen fertilizer on pastures.
 - iv. The application of a fertilizer that is not considered a "nitrogen fertilizer" as defined in Item F (below).
 - v. The spreading of manure, sewage and other by-products conducted in compliance with state laws and regulations.
 - f. Nitrogen fertilizer means a chemical compound in which the percentage of nitrogen is greater than the percentage of any other nutrient in the compound or, when applied, results in an average application rate of more than twenty five (25) pounds of nitrogen per acre over the field onto which it is being applied.
- ## 2. Soil Sampling Requirements
- At least one (1) zero to eight inch (0-8") soil sample per forty (40) acres, or portion thereof, shall be taken and tested for residual nutrients and organic matter each year and at least one (1) eight to twenty-four inch (8-24") soil sample per forty (40) acres, or portion thereof, shall be taken and tested for residual nitrogen each year

in which corn or sorghum will be grown following a non-legume crop and/or when livestock, municipal or industrial waste was applied within the last twelve (12) months.

- a. It is recommended that soil samples be collected as described in University of Nebraska NebGuide G1740.
 - b. It is recommended that a minimum of eight (8) cores be combined into one (1) sample per each forty (40) acres.
 - c. Deep soil sampling (8-24 inches) exemptions will be given for corn-soybeans rotations as referred to by University of Nebraska NebGuide G74-174-A.
- ## 3. Irrigation Scheduling Requirements
- Each operator must conduct irrigation scheduling on one irrigated field in the management area by soil moisture measurements collected with electrical resistance sensors or similar devices. Other methods may be approved by the NRD.
- ## 4. Training Requirements
- **By July 1, 2013, all operators of crop land in the designated Management Area were required to attend an NRD approved training session and be certified by the NRD (coordinated by the Little Blue NRD-see options on page 9).** If you have not attended a training session please contact the Little Blue NRD as soon as possible. NRD certification must be renewed every four (4) years. The NRD will accept certification by other NRDs. Renewal certification may be received by NRD approved methods. Approved methods may include items such as attending another training session, passing a test or completing an approved home study course.
- a. Who is required to attend
 - i. Yes – Owner/Operator
 - ii. Yes – Operator/Tenant – if decision maker
 - iii. Yes – Family Farm Operator – all who make management decisions
 - iv. Yes – Hired Hand – if he or she is responsible for making decisions about fertilizer rates and irrigation operations
 - v. Yes – Crop consultants – if serving operators and making recommendations



5. **Annual Reporting Requirement** – By April 1st of each year, each operator in the Management Area is required to report information regarding the use of best management practices. Forms will be provided by the Upper Big Blue NRD. The report must include the following information:
- The nitrogen application rate must be calculated for each field where corn is grown. Calculations shall be based on University of Nebraska recommended procedures and must account for soil analysis and all other nitrogen credits.
 - Nitrogen credits include, but are not limited to
 - Irrigation water nitrates (if known)
 - Previous crops
 - Livestock, municipal and industrial waste
 - A copy of the soil sample results must accompany the annual report.
 - Farmers are encouraged to apply no more than the amount of nitrogen fertilizer needed as determined by the University of Nebraska recommendation.
6. **Lawn Care Requirements** – **By July 1, 2012 all lawn care services that apply nitrogen fertilizer to lawns are required to complete a lawn nitrogen course recommended by the NRD every 4 years (coordinated by Hastings Utilities).**

- If you have not attended a training session please contact the Hastings Utilities as soon as possible.
- This includes operators and employees.
 - Annual reports will be required from all lawn care services on nitrogen fertilizer use.
 - Reports will be due on December 1st of each year and must include the following:
 - Total nitrogen fertilizer use within the Wellhead Protection Groundwater Management Area
 - Total number of acres or square footage nitrogen fertilizer is applied.
 - All persons who apply nitrogen fertilizer to more than one (1) acre of grass or turf in the Hastings Wellhead Protection Groundwater Management Area are required to attend a lawn nitrogen course or other approved training.** This may include web based training. Certification must be renewed every four (4) years
 - Certification must be completed within one (1) year of July 1, 2012.
 - The utilization of mulching mowers and blades are encouraged to reduce the nitrogen fertilizer use for lawns.
 - Soil sampling is encouraged before applying nitrogen fertilizer to a lawn or turf. ◆◆◆

Partnership with Purpose

Agency partners are committed to ensuring that safe and clean drinking water is protected under the Hastings Wellhead Protection Ground Water Management Area Plan. This newsletter is meant to inform operators in the Management Area on requirements and deadlines in alignment with the plan. Also included is information about best management activities that can assist you in your operation.

The Hastings Wellhead Protection Area is a partnership of caring people working for a common goal of clean and safe drinking water for the citizens of Hastings, Nebraska. We are committed and unified in our efforts to manage water as a sustainable resource.



Questions? Give us a call!

Annual Report

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