



Temporary Manure Storage

From the November 16, 2015 issue of Agri-News

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Temporary storage is a regulated management option that allows a producer to store manure in the field for a short period of time without requiring permits or additional testing.

"Temporary sites offer a number of advantages. Operators can avoid spreading on snow and frozen ground, can compost the manure, and can minimize the impact on road infrastructure," says Chris Ullman, CFO (confined feeding operation) extension specialist, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Red Deer. "However, they are often misunderstood by the public. That's why it's important to carefully consider where to locate temporary storage."

Ullman says while the *Agricultural Operation Practices Acts and Regulations* (AOPA) does not require operators to register or permit a site, it does limit the length of time a location can be used, and includes setbacks operators must abide by. As well, run-off from the site must not leave the property or otherwise create an "inappropriate disturbance."

"In addition to the regulatory requirements, consider how your site and moving to that site will impact the community," says Ullmann. "For transport to the site, review the safety and lighting of your equipment and avoid manure spills."

"As well, choose the site in advance with awareness of regulated setbacks, the presence of sensitive environmental receptors (like spring run-off patterns) and safety issues, like the line of sight at an intersection, and public perception issues such as proximity to public gathering places or community centres."

For more information on AOPA, manure management factsheets or specifics about the applicable regulations, contact the Ag-Info Centre at 310-FARM (3276) and ask to speak to a CFO extension specialist. To register a complaint about manure handling or an improperly placed storage, contact the 24 hour response line at 1-866-383-6722.

Contact:
 Ag-Info Centre
 310-FARM (3276)

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