

Winter manure application and stockpiling regulations

The Iowa Legislature's recent passage of Senate File 432 is likely to have an impact on a lot of producers and their operations with new rules on manure application and storage. In particular, the law deals with the following:

- A. Winter manure applications
- B. Stockpiling solid bedded manure
- C. Constructing bedded barns and bedded manure storage structures.

If you think SF 432 will impact your operation, read further for the details on the new regulations.

A. Winter Manure Applications

Liquid Manure that is surface applied has the following standard separation distances for surfaced applied manure:

- 750 ft from someone else's residence, business, church, school, or public use area. Cemeteries are included areas unless a written waiver is obtained and kept on site (SAFO are exempt).
- 200 ft from a designated area which is a stream or creek with bed and banks, well, sinkhole, cistern, designated wetland, ag drainage well or surface intake of ag drainage well, or water source. If 50 ft of permanent vegetation is protecting the designated area then the application can be within 50 ft of the designated area except the agricultural drainage well or surface inlet of an agricultural drainage well.
- 800 feet from high quality water resources.

During the winter between – Dec 21 and April 1 – liquid manure application is prohibited from being surface applied to more than 1 in of snow unless an emergency exists. During the winter – from February 1 to April 1 – liquid manure application is prohibited when 2 in or more of frost is present, unless an emergency exists.

When an emergency exists like a broken water line or a natural disaster overfills a storage structure then the producer must:

- Notify the DNR by telephone and explain the situation.
- Amend the manure plan to designate an area with a P index in the low or very low category (less than two) for the emergency application.
- Apply to a field with the following distance requirements: Cover and block tile intakes below the application on that field for two weeks after application.

There are no additional restrictions for applying **solid bedded manure** on frozen or snow-covered ground. The separation distance requirement of 200 ft for designated areas still applies.

B. Stockpiling Solid Bedded Manure

Manure from bedded dry manure is allowed to be stockpiled for up to six months on soil except in Karst terrain or over alluvial or sand or gravel aquifers with less than 5 ft of

separation distance. In these areas where the limestone or dolomite are within 5 ft of the surface then the stockpile must be placed on 5 in of reinforced concrete.

All stockpiles must have the following separation distances:

- 1,250 ft from another person's church, school, or public use area including cemeteries, unless you receive a written waiver. Small animal feeding operations are exempt from this separation requirement (less than 500 head of feeder cattle)
- 200 ft from surface inlet
- 400 ft from a water stream or creek with bed and banks, well sinkhole, cistern, designated wetland, ag drainage well or surface intake of ag drainage well or water source.
- 800 ft from high quality water resource

Additional requirements for stockpiles include the following:

- They can't be located in a grass waterway.
- They must be on a slope of 3% or less, unless secondary containment is provided.

If the livestock operation has an NPDS permit, it shall comply with all of its provisions.

C. Constructing Bedded Barns and Bedded Manure Storage Structures

The law provides the following construction distance requirements when building a new dry bedded barn or bedded barn manure storage structure:

- Outside the one-hundred-year flood plain
- 200 ft from a water source
- 1,000 ft from a major water source
- 2,500 ft from designated wetland
- 500 ft surface intake of drainage well
- 1,000 ft from an ag drainage well, cistern of ag drainage well, or sink hole.