

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS On Poultry Farms

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION

Wednesday's Grower Lunch Break (August 19, 2020)

After technical difficulties were worked out, Jon Moyle asked how we prepared for recent weather conditions of high winds and stormy weather.

Conclusion was, we can prepare for some things, and some we cannot prepare for.

Make sure generator is working and have fuel on hand

- Know how much fuel you use on a regular basis
- Make sure you know how much fuel your generator is pulling when it's low
- If power goes out, would you have generator fuel to run for a few days?
- 275 gallon tank will be mostly gone if you have to run for 24 hours
- Have everything to change oil and have extra fuel

Insurance

- Have insurance agent's telephone number in your cell phone contacts
- Make sure you know what your insurance covers
- Know where your policy is and your policy number (could put with agent's contact info in phone)

Family

- Have a list of emergency contacts:
 - ✓ Utility providers Maryland or Delaware Emergency Management
 - ✓ Doctors' phone numbers Hospital phone number and directions to
 - ✓ MDA and MDE extensions Police
- Designate a meeting spot for family members and PRACTICE how to get out and to that spot Especially those with children
- Medications – list of and know where they are
- Regular food and shelter plans in case of disaster: water, food, batteries, flash lights, etc.

AFO

- It's the **operators' responsibility** in the event of a discharge to contact MDE as soon as possible within 24 hours and follow up in writing with what caused the discharge.
- Discharge example would be ponding in a compost shed and manure or waste water making its way into State waters. Say the roof blew off of a manure building, if runoff is believed to make it to a State waterway, MDE should definitely be made aware asap.
- AFO permit is to 'protect' grower – if you call MDE, they will help – they have 24 hour coverage on phone lines.
- MDE, MDA, and UMD Extension will get all correct information out with a checklist

Fire

- Georgie Cartanza, Univ. of Delaware Cooperative Extension Agent, was windrowing in her chicken house when the tractor caught fire! After shutting off the engine, she called the fire dept., and reached for her fire extinguisher. The cause was a bird's nest behind the engine block. Even though fire dept. reached her quickly, she still had a 2" hole in house metal roofing. The extinguisher and FD saved her chicken house!

- A **fire extinguisher in each chicken house** is a good idea, checking them once a year to make sure they are up-to-date
- Georgie also had a power transformer hit and had to run her generator
 - She opened (removed) louvers on shed so there was no restriction of air flow
 - Ten hours on generator used 1/3 tank of fuel
 - What it costs in fuel is worth it to save the flock
 - Turn off the electric and propane
 - “Gotta be prepared the best you can be!”

Biosecurity – the social distancing of poultry!

LOOK FOR:

A [Grower Lunch Break Quick Survey](#) to be sent out. Should take less than two minutes and would help future programming. Please fill out and submit at your earliest convenience. Let us know if you do not receive by last week in August.

JOIN US:

[Grower Lunch Break on Wednesday, noon, September 2](#) - Brad Belo of Impact Poultry Products will be talking and answering questions about:

Bacteria Litter Amendment IMPACT-P (NA) – “The Litter Vaccine”



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