

Manure Stockpile Guidelines - MDA

MDA provides guidelines for the stockpiling of poultry litter prior to farm field spreading in a document entitled ***Stockpiling Guidelines: Temporary Farm Field Storage***, and it is sound advice for the temporary manure stockpiling on any farm. The document is summarized as follows:

- 1) A manure stockpile site should be pre-determined.
- 2) The amount of manure stockpiled must approximate the amount prescribed in a certified Nutrient Management Plan.
- 3) The stockpile site should not pose any undue environmental risk to water quality.
- 4) A manure stockpile, which will not be spread within 7 days should be pushed up into a peaked pile at least 8-10 feet high to shed water and crust.
- 5) The stockpile site should be sufficient in size to accommodate the amount of manure expected to accumulate prior to spreading.
- 6) The stockpile must be located:
 - a. At least 100 feet from any surface water, drainage ditch, swale, or gully;
 - b. At least 100 feet from any public road;
 - c. At least 200 feet from any residence or neighboring property;
 - d. Above the flood plane of the 25-year, 24-hour storm;
 - e. Outside natural drainage ways; and
 - f. At least 150 feet from wells, or 300 feet from a well when the well is located down gradient from the storage area.
- 7) When delivering manure to a pile, the trucks must not drive over unloaded manure or recently spread manure.
- 8) If the manure is stockpiled for 6 months or greater, an additional manure nutrient analysis should be performed prior to spread.
- 9) All of the manure must be removed from the stockpile site, and the ground scraped thoroughly clean when the spreading operation takes place.
- 10) Stockpile site must be restored to its original condition, and if necessary reseed with grass or an agronomic crop to facilitate nutrient uptake.
- 11) Subsequent stockpiling should take place at a different location on the farm.

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