Highlights: **Wednesday’s Grower Lunch Chat (June 24)**

A group of 23 joined by phone, computer, with pictures or in person to discuss **CAFO Permits**

- **John Sullivan**, Maryland Dept. of Environment (MDE), leads the Resource Management Programs of AFOs, Biosolids, Waste Diversion/Recycling, Scrap Tire Licenses, Hazardous Waste Permits, and now, CAFOs, spoke to us about:
  - MDE taking the roll of reaching out to producers
  - Contacts with MDA (MD Dept. of Agriculture) discussions were long and difficult
  - Asked if John took Garrett’s position, he answered he is responsible for several departments and in the interim, Garrett’s position
  - There were numerous drafts of CAFO within MDE, final was sent to EPA, and, with minor edits, it was deemed corrected
  - Have added a brief section regarding organic poultry
  - MDA and MDE will launch on **June 6, 2020**
  - Public Notice for 30 days
  - Will be publicized all at the same time to:
    - Newspapers around the state
    - On the MDE website
    - Mass mailings and emails to every current holder
  - **60 days to submit NOI** (Notice of Intent) and **CNMPs** (Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans)
    - When modifications are made to a CNMP – don’t want people to have to rewrite a whole new CNMP if it needs an adjustment, may just need a supplement page
    - It’ll be good forever
  - Tier II water shed defined – clean, high quality, waters that have an existing water quality that is significantly better than the minimum requirements. Tier II’s are waterways we are trying to protect.
  - Jon Moyle and Paul Chesnik supplied the following on **Tier II Waters**: [https://maryland.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=763311ce3f2b4ce5970ac592c4319935](https://maryland.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=763311ce3f2b4ce5970ac592c4319935)
  - Question about air monitoring – CAFO will not require
  - More details and clarity on July 6
  - Hold up on sending in CNMPs until we get more information on July 6
  - This should all be quicker this year with new and transfers ASAP
  - John Sullivan ended with ‘we are in constant contact with MDA and will stay in contact with them throughout the roll out’, we want ‘to get a consistent message out’
  - More information on **AELR** (Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review): [https://conduitstreet.mdcounties.org/2012/07/13/aelr-committee-hears-septics-regulations/](https://conduitstreet.mdcounties.org/2012/07/13/aelr-committee-hears-septics-regulations/)

- **Afterthoughts:**
  - Dust masks – Jennifer Timmons is awaiting approval of a Fact Sheet at UMES
  - Know the difference between a dusk mask (covering) and respirator (N95)
  - Dusk masks don’t protect you from gases, ie., ammonia
  - Keep ventilating your houses

Since rollout is on July 6, we will have a lot more CAFO discussion at our next Wednesday Zoom

**NEXT ‘CHAT’ IS WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, AT NOON**

Register at: [https://umd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUuduqoqjkpGNDno5ZLyNu-hRao7XHB1jlk](https://umd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUuduqoqjkpGNDno5ZLyNu-hRao7XHB1jlk)

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