DEH Advisory

Elements of a Manure Management Plan

When a Manure Management Plan (MMP or Plan) is required, it shall be reviewed/approved by the Department of Environmental Health (DEH) Solid Waste Program. Each Plan shall be site specific and tailored to minimize health hazards or nuisances from fly breeding, vermin harborage/propagation or offensive odors. This Plan should focus on methods of physical, biological and chemical control of flies, vermin and odor. It shall include, but not be limited to, the following elements:

1. Pens and/or stalls should be cleaned at least every two (2) days.
2. Remove stored or stockpiled manure at a frequency to break the fly cycle (at least weekly).
3. Applicant should specify an alternative method for handling manure during wet weather times of the year when equipment access may be impaired (e.g. tarping piles during heavy storm events).
4. Manure may be spread and disked (describe how done and what equipment would be used) at acceptable frequencies (at least weekly) as an alternative to removal as long as agronomic rates are met.
5. When disking is not possible (e.g. during wet weather or equipment/personnel breakdown) the manure must be removed from the site at least weekly from the time animals deposit material.
6. The spreading and disking operation should be rotated around the property and not occur consecutively in the same place (to avoid ground saturation) and is prohibited in riding arenas.
7. In lieu of removal material may be composted using approved methods that maintain proper aerobic conditions (requires Solid Waste Program notification and possible permitting).
8. If hazardous health or nuisance conditions arise from the proposed manure handling methods, other measures will be needed to mitigate the concerns or nuisances.
9. Describe measures that will be taken in the event of equipment and/or personnel breakdown (e.g. where will backup equipment be obtained and which personnel will remove/spread/disk/compost the manure weekly?)
10. Surface water intrusion should be prevented from entering pen, stall, storage/stockpile, and/or spreading/disking areas. In general, manure management shall be designed to prevent surface water contamination.
11. Submit a scale site plan showing all (on the property and within 100 feet of property line) structures, pens, stalls, corrals, arenas, roads, wells, drainage channels, ponds, lakes, and watercourses (streams, creeks, rivers etc.) and an indication of slope and direction of drainage.
12. Describe all fly and vermin control measures to be employed (pesticides, traps, fly screening, etc.)
13. DEH Vector Control approval of the MMP may be required.
14. Non-point Source Pollution Prevention Control (NPSPPC) should be consulted for wastewater run-off concerns/control.
15. County Department of Agriculture (Pesticide & Animal Control Divisions) approval may be required.