

Environmental Codes of Conduct for Production Agriculture

Today's consumer knows very little about agriculture; what they see is their reality of today's farming operations. Therefore, it is essential that farms make a positive first impression to visitors and people passing by the farm. We encourage all farming operations to adhere to the following practices on a daily basis.

1. Keep grass areas mowed/trimmed to avoid the appearance of overgrown weeds.
2. Maintain neat outbuildings and structures.
3. Keep debris/trash properly disposed of around the farm.
4. Maintain your road/lane to the farm/barns.
5. If you compost mortality on site, ensure that the compost is properly covered with sawdust or other appropriate material.
6. If you compost mortality on site, ensure that no leachate is seeping from the compost piles. If there is leachate, corrective measures should be implemented. Assistance and guidance is available through your local NRCS office and/or a Nutrient Management Planner.
7. When hauling manure, whether you are the hauler or a commercial manure hauler is doing it, make sure all valves are tightly closed before pulling away from the pumpout station – if manure is spilled on the ground, this is a reportable incident to DEP and your Preparedness, Prevention and Control (PPC) plan details what corrective measures to take.
8. When hauling manure, be aware of traffic on the roadways and be respectful – if possible, pull over and let the cars pass.
9. When hauling manure, it is strongly recommended to be mindful and not spread on holidays, when there are community events or at times when a farm neighbor is planning an outdoor event
10. If you have an outside storage structure, implement measures within the barn to prevent debris from entering the outside storage. Debris found in the outside storage is not viewed as manure and must be properly disposed of (Land application of debris on the crop field is not acceptable.).
11. You are encouraged to post a Agricultural Biosecurity Sign at the entrance to your property to ensure that visitors know what is expected before they enter.
12. You are encouraged to have written Agricultural Biosecurity measures in place that you can share with visitors prior to their arrival at your farm. Maintaining herd health is essential to your profitability. County, State and Federal Agency staff has been instructed to adhere to the farms Agricultural Biosecurity practices.
13. If there are herd health issues on the farm, notify all personnel who may be entering the farm (such as: feed truck deliveries, manure haulers, delivery trucks, service team, etc.).

Farm Owner/Operator/Employee

Date