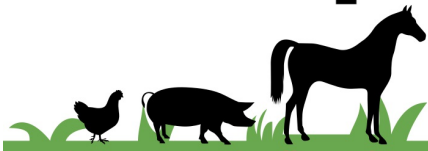


# Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs)

## Proposed Rule Summary Factsheet



**\*AAP Water Quality Rules  
Currently in Effect until RAP  
Adoption**

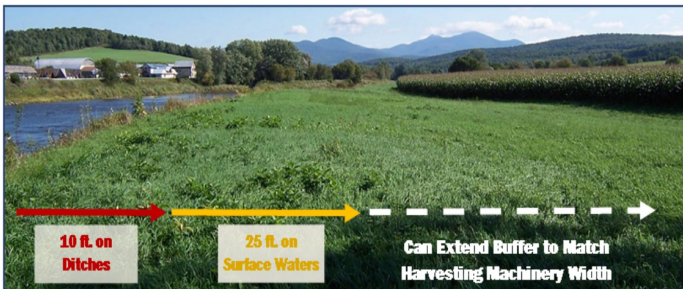
[www.Agriculture.Vermont.gov/water-quality/regulations/rap](http://www.Agriculture.Vermont.gov/water-quality/regulations/rap)

Updated May 16, 2016



### VEGETATED BUFFER WIDTHS

### MANURE & AG WASTE APPLICATION STANDARDS



- **Ditches shall be buffered 10 feet**
- **Surface Waters shall be buffered 25 feet**
  - Includes Surface Inlets
  - May Include Some Ditches (Based on 590 requirements)
- **10% or greater slope Annual Crop fields shall be buffered 100 feet**
- Harvesting of vegetated buffers are allowed
- No spreading manure or wastes in the vegetated buffers
- Fertilizer or compost may be used per Nutrient Management Plan recommendations to establish or maintain buffer
- \*Site specific variances are possible as approved by Secretary

#### No Application of Manure or Ag Waste within:

- 10' of a ditch
- 25' of a surface water or surface inlet
- 100' of surface water on a 10%+ average slope Annual Crop field
- 100' of a private well
- 200' of a public water supply

#### Manure or Ag Waste shall not be applied to fields that:

- Exceed 10% average slope, while growing Annual Crops, WITHOUT having a 100' vegetated buffer around surface waters
- Are saturated with water
- Are frozen and/or snow covered
- On exposed bedrock

### FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT: REQUIREMENTS FOR FREQUENTLY FLOODED SOILS

#### COVER CROPS



Annual croplands subject to flooding with frequently flooded soils are required to have cover crops planted (Broadcast by October 1st; Drilled by October 15th)

#### MANURE SPREADING



Manure shall not be spread on Annual Croplands subject to flooding with frequently flooded soils from October 15 to April 15 without an approved spreading exemption

To learn more about the Proposed Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs), visit: [www.Agriculture.Vermont.gov/water-quality/regulations/rap](http://www.Agriculture.Vermont.gov/water-quality/regulations/rap)



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### NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING =



**Soil Tests**



**Manure Analysis**



**Crop Rotations  
and Yields**

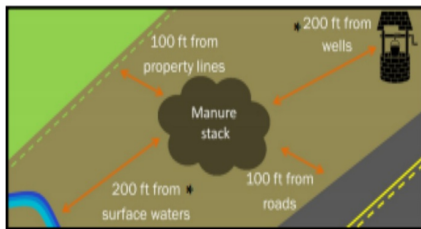


**Environmental  
Factors and  
Erosion Potential**



**Manure & Fertilizer  
Application Rates  
and Records**

All Large, Medium, and Certified Small Farm Operations shall develop and implement a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) that meets USDA NRCS Practice Code Standard (590). All other Small Farms are required to have soil tests, nutrient application rates based on soil tests & manure spreading records.



#### MANURE STACKING



#### LIVESTOCK EXCLUSION FROM SURFACE WATER



#### WINTER SPREADING BANS

Manure is prohibited to be stacked in a floodway or in an area subject to flooding.

#### Manure stacking must meet the following setbacks:

- 100' from property lines
- 200' from surface waters
- 200' from public or private water supplies
- 100' from ditches or other conveyances

\*Site specific variances as authorized by Secretary

#### In Production Areas - Livestock will have no access to surface water except:

- At defined crossings or watering areas
- Where prescribed rotational grazing plans exist and are approved by Secretary
  - Min. 3" vegetated growth in grazed area

#### Pastures Outside of Production Areas- Livestock will have no access to surface water when:

- Erosion of unstable surface water banks is present
- The Secretary designates areas of actual or potential threat

#### No Manure or Ag Waste application between December 15th & April 1st.

Depending on winter weather conditions, the Secretary may prohibit application of manure to land between:

- December 1st and 15th
- April 1st and 30th

#### No Manure or Ag Waste application on floodplain fields between October 15th & April 15th

\*Exemptions available based on plan approval by Secretary

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