



The Barnyard Buzz

2023 Carver County Dairy & Beef Expo

The University of Minnesota Extension and the Carver County Dairy Core Team are pleased to present the 31st Annual Carver County Dairy and Beef Expo. This event will be held on Monday February 20, 2023 at Central High School in Norwood Young America, Minnesota from 9:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. This is currently scheduled as an in-person event.

New this year, we have decided to make this an agricultural trade show and education event, with a beef tract, dairy tract, and a crops tract, during the educational breakout sessions. We will also open the tradeshow to additional agricultural industries. This is your opportunity to interact with farmers, students, and ag professionals.

The Dairy and Beef Expo will be advertised in state-wide and regional publications, social media outlets, radio stations and various websites to build on the 300+ people historically in attendance. We will continue to build our agriculture-based mailing list.

Stay up to date with the most current information about the Dairy Expo, by visiting <https://z.umn.edu/2023DairyExpo>.

Please contact Colleen Carlson or Rita Yetzer for further information:

Colleen Carlson, Extension Educator
traxl042@umn.edu
(507) 521-3640

Rita Yetzer, Administrative Staff
ryetzer@co.carver.mn.us
(952) 466-5313

2023 Carver County Feedlot Producer Workshop

Carver County will be hosting a Feedlot Producer Workshop Meeting on February 14, 2023. Presenters will include; Carver County Environmental Services, Carver County SWCD, University of Minnesota, Extension, MPCA, and the NRCS. Stay tuned for more details in the coming months.



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Special Waste Collections

Saturday, May 20, 2023

8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Carver County Public Works
11360 US Hwy 212
Cologne, MN 55322

Saturday, September 16, 2023

8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Hollywood Township Public Works
3480 Co Rd 21
Hollywood Township

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Spring 2023 HHW Collection will be held at the Watertown Township Shed. Stay tuned for more information on the 2023 collection time and date.

Watertown Township Shed
3580 County Road 10 N
Watertown, MN 55388

For more information, please contact our office or visit our website:

Carver County Environmental Services

Phone: 952-361-1800
www.recyclecarver.org

Financial and Technical Assistance Programs Available through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is a federal agency that strives to improve natural resource conservation on private lands to ensure the long-term sustainability of American agriculture.

There are a variety of ways that NRCS can assist agricultural producers. One way is through providing Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA). The objective of this program is to provide producers with tools and information needed to meet the conservation goals of their operation. To obtain CTA, a conservation planner will meet with the producer to determine what the goals of the operation are and evaluate the current conditions of resources on the property. From there, the planner will suggest conservation practices that will assist in achieving the desired goals. The producer can then decide if they would like to implement any of the suggested practices. If they do want to take steps forward, that information will be utilized to develop a conservation plan, which will act as a roadmap to implementing the desired practices.

There are also financial assistance programs available to aid in installing conservation practices. Two of our most popular programs are the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). Through EQIP eligible participants are given financial and technical assistance to address environmental resource concerns on their land. This could include installing waste storage facilities to control wastewater and feedlot runoff and allow for more flexibility when it comes to waste utilization. On the other end of the spectrum, if there are waste storage facilities that are no longer needed, assistance is available for waste facility closures. Other popular practices include grazing management, composting facilities, cover crops, reduced/no-till, and structural practices to address erosion concerns. The list of available practices is quite extensive. If interested in learning which practices are available in Minnesota, stop at your local NRCS office or check out the state's webpage: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/minnesota>

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) is another financial assistance program available to producers. This program helps landowners maintain existing conservation practices already being applied, while encouraging them to make further conservation improvements. An example of this would be following a nutrient management plan, while further improving conservation efforts through precision application of nutrients. It may be that a grazing plan is already being implemented, but the producer would like to enhance conservation efforts by following an intensive rotational system.

Applications for both EQIP and CSP are accepted anytime throughout the year, however there are specific batching periods where applications are evaluated for funding. The deadline for 2023 CSP applications is set for February 10, 2023. The application deadline for 2023 EQIP sign-up 2 will be announced in the coming months.

If interested in finding out more about the USDA and NRCS programs, please reach out! I can be reached at 612-607-0211 or email katelyn.mattila@usda.gov.



Conservation Concerns Tool

Learn about different types of conservation issues that might impact the productivity or natural resources on your farm by exploring the topics below:

1. Soil
2. Water
3. Plants
4. Animals
5. Energy
6. Air

Visit www.farmers.gov and search "Conservation Concerns Tool" to identify and receive assistance with conservation issues.



Manure Application
Minimum Setbacks Near Waters

Physical Features	Surface Spread or Winter Application	Incorporation within 24 hours
Lakes*	300 feet	25 feet
Rivers or Streams*	300 feet	25 feet
Wetlands*	300 feet	25 feet
Drainage Ditches*	300 feet	25 feet
Open Tile Intakes	300 feet	0 feet
Mines and Quarries	50 feet	50 feet
Floodplain	Prohibited	Prohibited
Wells** (public)	300 feet	300 feet
Wells** (private)	100 feet	100 feet

*Non-winter setbacks may be reduced from 300' to either 100' (lakes and perennial streams) or 50' (wetlands, drainage ditches, and intermittent streams) if permanent vegetative buffers of at least 100' or 50' wide are planted along the waters.

** Sensitive water-supply well setbacks must be twice the indicated distance.

The "4Rs" for Manure Application

When it comes to fertilizer, everyone promotes the "4Rs" for nutrient stewardship - the Right Source, Right Rate, Right Time, and Right Place. These also apply to manure! Proper manure management will help you get the most fertilizer value for next year's crops and avoid runoff and leaching that could pollute waters.

Manure Management in the Winter

While some feedlot producers may need to land apply manure in the winter, it's certainly not the ideal time of year, as the ground is frozen and runoff conditions exist with snow melt. Winter manure application can lead to surface and ground water contamination.

If manure application in the winter is unavoidable, please be sure to follow the best management practices listed below:

- Avoid steep slopes and apply on fields with less than 6 percent slope for solid manure and 2 percent slope for liquid manure.
- Stay 300 feet away from sensitive features, such as surface waters, wells, open tile intakes, and mines or quarries.
- Perform tillage along contours to create furrows that capture any potential runoff.
- Avoid flood or floodway zones.
- Minimize application rate to avoid runoff or ponding during application.



Spill Response

Fall is a busy time of year for farmers, as crops are harvested and producers want to apply manure before the ground is frozen. Please be sure to follow the recommendations below if a spill occurs.

What to do if you have a spill

- Tend to all injuries.
- Plug culverts and tile inlets where manure could enter.
- Contain the spill by creating berms to stop the manure flow.
- Contact the Minnesota Duty Officer (1-800-422-0798) with the following information:
 - The location, date, and time of spill.
 - Type and approximate amount of material spilled.
 - Which local officials have been notified.
- Contact your County Feedlot Officer or the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.
- Recover pooled manure and solids. Get a pump truck if necessary.
- Scrape large accumulations and leave vegetation if possible.
- If manure is spilled on the road, recover what is possible and scrape or sweep the remaining manure off the road.
- Work areas of bare soils and re-seed.

Feedlot Recordkeeping Requirements



Certified Manure Testing Labs

Ag Resource Consulting Inc
Albany, MN
(320) 845-6321

Agvise Laboratories
Benson, MN
(320) 843-4109

International Ag Labs Inc
Fairmont, MN
(507) 235-6909

Minnesota DHIA Laboratories
Sauk Centre, MN
(320) 352-2028

Minnesota Valley Testing Labs Inc
New Ulm, MN
(507) 766-3319



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msteele@co.carver.mn.us



As mentioned in the previous newsletter, inadequate recordkeeping has continued to be an issue and the most common violation identified in 2022. In addition, Environmental Services has found that producers may require assistance with determining application rates and properly obtaining a manure sample for analysis.

Producers that operate feedlots with 100 animal units or more contributing to manure storage are required to sample and test manure at least once every four years. There are several certified manure testing laboratories in Minnesota. Please contact one of the certified laboratories listed and they will assist you in providing the results of your sample. Knowing the nutrient levels in manure that you apply is paramount in determining application rates and meeting the requirements of Minn. Rules Chapter 7020.2225, Subp. 2.

In addition to having manure analyses on file, Minnesota Rules Chapter 7020.2225, requires sites with 100 animal units or more that retain some manure ownership to have adequate land application records on file. Sites with 300 animal units or more must have a manure management plan and/or adequate transferred manure land application records available if some or all manure ownership is transferred.

Maintaining these records aides' producers in applying the proper amount of fertilizer onto cropland and decreases the likelihood of Nitrogen and Phosphorus overapplication. Please have these records accessible for inspections if they are a requirement for your facility.

How to take a manure sample

Liquid samples can be taken by dipping a plastic cup or small can attached to a pole, and solid samples can be taken with a pitchfork, shovel, or plastic glove. You will need a clean 5 gallon bucket for mixing sub-samples, as well as a sample bottle/container from the lab. After mixing many sub-samples in the bucket, transfer a smaller sample to the lab bottle/ container.

Manure Spreader Calibration

Step 1

Solid Manure

- Weight the spreader both empty and full.
- Subtract the empty weight from the full weight to determine the tons of manure per load.

Liquid Manure

- Determine 1000's of gallons per load (multiply tank volume by 90%)

Step 2

- Calculate how many acres are covered by one load - multiply the distance traveled by the width of the spread.

Example: 1000 ft traveled x 20 ft spread = 20,000 sq ft = 0.46 acres per load.

Solid Manure: 5 tons per load/0.46 acres covered per load = 11 tons/acre

Liquid Manure: 4,000 gal per load/0.46 acres covered per load = 8,700 gal/acre

Alternative Step 2

- Calculate how many loads it takes to cover a field when going at a known tractor speed.

Example: Solid Manure: 20 loads x 5 tons per load = 100 tons applied

100 tons applied/10 acres covered = 10 tons/acre

Liquid Manure: 25 loads x 5,000 gal per load = 125,000 gal applied

SWCD Cover Crop and Soil Health Program

Managing for soil health is one of the most effective ways for farmers to increase crop productivity and profitability while improving the environment. Positive results are often realized within the first year, and last well into the future.

Continuous row crop production and repeated tillage damages soil structure, leaving soils vulnerable to erosion, reduces the soils water holding capacity, and decreasing soil organic matter.

The use of cover crops can help protect soil that has been exposed to erosion after harvesting corn silage, soybeans, or other low residue crops. Cover crops also provide multiple benefits beyond soil conservation. A vigorously growing cover crop can tie up nutrients until the following cash crop can utilize them and can also provide quality forage for grazing or haying. Repeated use of cover crops can further improve soil structure substantially if tillage is reduced.

It's not difficult to improve soil health and through the creation of the Soil Health Cost Share Program, the Carver Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) is willing to help. Financial assistance is available for implementation of soil health practices through this program, which include incentive payments and cost-sharing for approved practices.

To learn more about soil health and the financial assistance available provided by the program, please contact the SWCD office at 952-466-5230.



Minnesota Waste Pesticide Disposal Program

Pesticides assist in controlling, killing, or preventing pests in farm fields, homes, and backyards. Once pesticides become unusable or not needed, they have the potential of posing danger to humans, animals, or the environment if not properly managed. It is important to securely store pesticides until they are permanently disposed of. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has implemented a program to collect and dispose of waste pesticides from users since 1990.

The MDA has partnered with counties to administer the program. If you have any unwanted pesticides that you would like to dispose of, please contact the Carver County Environmental Center by calling 952-361-1835.

Carver County Environmental Center
116 Peavey Circle
Chaska, MN 55318



MDA Pesticide Disposal Program

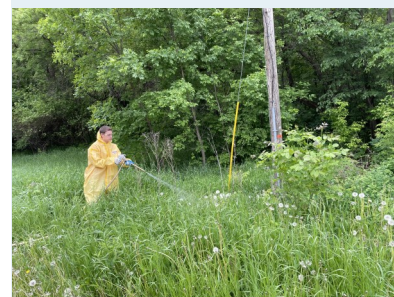
Acceptable Items Include:

- Herbicides
- Insecticides
- Fungicides
- Rodenticides
- Avicides
- Weed & feed products
- Containers that have lost their labels but are suspected pesticides

Unacceptable Items for Disposal:

- Pesticide and fertilizer rinsates
- Crop oils
- Adjuvants, wetters, drift retardants
- Fertilizers
- Empty pesticide containers
- Foam/dye markers
- Treated seed
- Animal pharmaceuticals
- Contaminated wood, concrete, soil, or fabric

For more information on the program, visit www.mda.state.mn.us and search "Pesticides".



Carver County Feedlot Management Ordinance

Carver County Ag Plastic Recycling

The Carver County Agricultural Plastic Recycling Program resulted in 22,280 lbs. of plastics being recycled in 2022.

Acceptable Items:

- Agriculture and grain bags
- Boat film
- Greenhouse film and covers
- Hockey rink liners
- Stretch wrap

Unacceptable items:

- Twine
- Bale wrap and net wrap
- Woven grain bags or covers,
- Scrim
- Plastic containers
- Dirt, rocks, leaves, or tires

Stay tuned for collection dates in 2023. If you have any questions or if you need a starter pack, please contact Matt Steele:

Matt Steele, Carver County Feedlot Officer
(952) 361-1808
msteele@co.carver.mn.us



Mission Statement

*"The Carver County
Environmental Services*

*Department is committed to protecting
the environment through public service,
education, and innovation."*

The MPCA is a sponsoring agency with a grant supporting a portion of the delegated Carver County feedlot program. Carver County does not claim that MPCA endorses its products or services.

The Carver County Feedlot Management Ordinance regulates animal feedlots and livestock wastes in Carver County. The purpose is to maintain and improve the County's agricultural economy and community, and to ensure that animal feedlots and animal wastes are properly managed to protect public health and natural resources.

Carver County recently updated the County Feedlot Management Ordinance to better align with Minnesota Rules Chapter 7020, Animal Feedlots. Below is a summary of the major changes made to the County Feedlot Management Ordinance:

Major Changes:

Adoptions from Minnesota Rules Chapter 7020:

- Numerous definitions were added, and the definition of a "New Animal Feedlot" has been modified.
- A permit section identifying Construction Short-Form Permits and Interim Permits.
- A feedlot registration section identifying registration requirements.
- Technical requirements and setbacks for short-term manure stockpiles to sensitive features, road ditches, and water wells.
- Setback requirements for new and existing feedlots from lakes, rivers, and streams.
- Location requirements for new and existing feedlots in the shoreland district or floodplain.
- Manure application requirements and setbacks.
- Animal feedlot or manure storage area closure requirements.

Repeals from Chapter 54: Feedlot Management:

- Section § 54.33 Education, of the Carver County Code.
- Section § 54.62 Steel Manure Holding Tanks, of the Carver County Code.

Setback requirements from Chapter 54: Feedlot Management:

- Manure stockpile setbacks has been increased from 200 feet to 300 feet from residences, churches, schools, regional parks, cemeteries, non-agricultural commercial activities, and restaurants.

The updated feedlot ordinance was approved by the Planning Commission on June 21st, 2022 and adopted by the County Board on July 19th, 2022. Any questions about the amendment can be sent to msteele@co.carver.mn.us.

To view the updated Feedlot Management Ordinance, visit www.co.carver.mn.us and search "County Code".

