

## *NPDES Renewal Information*

As an NPDES permit holder, your permit will expire within the next year or so, depending on the type of permit you hold. All General Permits will expire March 31, 2013 and Individual Permits expire five years from issuance. Expired Permits will require a "Permit Renewal" application and an updated Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) at least 6 months prior to expiration, or no later than October 1, 2012.

The Permit Renewal process entails renewing the permit paperwork, updating the site plan if changes were made, and revising the NMP. With the approval of the revised Title 130 Regulations, revising the NMP

will be a fairly substantial undertaking as the rules have changed, and so does the contents of your NMP. Settje Agri-Services has written several of these revised plans and have received approval from NDEQ and NRCS to ensure meeting the requirements of the revised regulations. Because of the quantity of permits that will expire on the same day, the NDEQ has allowed us to prepare and submit Permit Renewals ahead of the deadline, starting immediately as we have only 11 months to prepare and submit such renewal. We urge you to call us today and schedule your permit renewal to ensure timely submission.

## *CAP 102 Program—NMP Funding Assistance*

The NRCS has a new funding opportunity for NMPs through EQIP called the (CAP) 102. This program is specifically designed to fund the development of NMPs for those that are renewing their NPDES permit.

Facilities renewing their NPDES permit are eligible to receive payment of \$6,375 for a "Full" NMP plan. Existing operations are also eligible for an additional \$750 for record keeping assistance. These plans need to be prepared by a certified CAP Technical Service Provider (TSP). **Nick Maaske in our office is a certified TSP.**

To sign up for this funding, producers need to make application for CAP 102 at their local NRCS office at any time **and designate Nick Maaske as your TSP.** Funds are limited at this time of year so the sooner you can go in and sign up the better. Then give us a call and schedule your permit renewal process. If you have questions, contact Nick at our office.



### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ NPDES Renewal Info
- ◆ CAP 102 Program
- ◆ SPCC Plan Deadline Extension
- ◆ Proposed Changes to P-Index
- ◆ Fall Soil Sampling

## ***Deadline Extension for SPCC Plans***

The EPA has recently extended the deadline to submit an SPCC (spill prevention, control, and countermeasures) plan until **May 10, 2013**. If you already have an SPCC plan, maintain it and update it as specified in the plan. If you do not, you must prepare one or have one prepared for you **and have it implemented by May 10, 2013**. Here are your options. If your facility has a total oil/fuel storage capacity **between 1,320 gallons and 10,000 gallons** in above ground storage capacity, and have not had a spill history, you may prepare and certify your own plan or hire someone to prepare it for you. Settje Agri-Services and Engineering can prepare one for you or you can find this template and information on EPA's website and complete one yourself.

If you have **more than 10,000 gallons** of oil/fuel storage at your facility, your plan will need to be developed and certified by a Professional Engineer. Please give us a call at (402) 783-2100 if you would like to visit about preparing a plan for your facility.

## ***Proposed Changes to Phosphorus Risk Index***

Recently, UNL has proposed changes to the Phosphorous Index currently required by your CNMP. These changes will make fields rate higher on the P-index scale. A higher rating will prohibit application to certain fields and reduce the amount of manure that can be applied to other fields. The initial UNL research appears to be based on limited research and smaller test plots. A larger study needs to be conducted taking into account different soil types, tillage practices, crop rotation, slopes and distance to surface water.

**Soil P test results alone** have a low correlation to actual P loss from fields. Suggested shallower sampling depth (2 inches) penalizes no till practices as phosphorus is more likely to build up in the top of the soil profile. As well, shallower sampling depth is cumbersome and impractical as it does not coincide with traditional agronomic soil sampling test depths. Nebraska Cattlemen, with technical help from SASE, is organizing a strong effort to have UNL and NDEQ reconsider these proposed changes. We sincerely appreciate NC's efforts on this matter.

## ***Fall Soil Sampling***



We are currently taking new bookings for Fall 2011 soil sampling. Any field that has manure or effluent applied to it needs to have a shallow and deep soil sample taken and analyzed for nitrogen and phosphorus content prior to application. For anyone who had SASE develop your NMP (nutrient management plan), a shallow sample is 0-8 inches and a deep sample is 8-24 inches. Both depths need to be analyzed in order to stay in compliance with your NMP and the NDEQ.

If you would like Settje Agri-Services and Engineering to soil sample your fields, contact Nick in our office today and set up a plan to get all your fields in compliance.

**Come and tailgate with Settje Agri-Services and Engineering Inc. at the remaining home game for the Huskers!**

**Friday November 25th  
Game starts at 11AM  
We will be there before and after the game!  
(Call the office for location)**

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*For the past fourteen years, Settje Agri-Services and Engineering, Inc. has been the leader in the Midwest for livestock facility engineering, design, permitting, construction management and compliance.*

*Our team consists of 12 full-time employees, consisting of professional engineers, project managers, agronomists, nutrient management planners, groundwater monitoring specialists and compliance specialists.*

*Our company has production agriculture roots with more than 160 years of combined engineering, agronomy, and regulatory compliance experience.*