

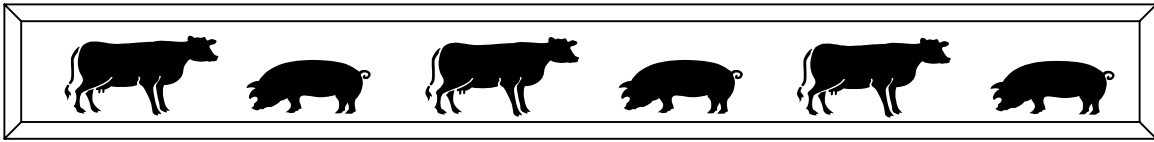


REPORTING
REQUIREMENTS
FOR
LIVESTOCK
WASTE RELEASES
IN ILLINOIS



Illinois EPA
Bureau of Water

July
1999



The Livestock Management Facilities Act requires an owner or operator of a livestock waste handling facility to report any release of 25 gallons or more of livestock waste within 24 hours after discovery of the release into the environment. This reporting requirement includes releases from livestock waste handling facilities and releases from the transportation of livestock waste.

Initial notification should be made by calling the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA). The IEMA maintains a 24-hour emergency notification line. Information to be reported includes the location, amount, apparent environmental impacts of the release, and actions taken to contain or mitigate the release.

In Illinois call (800) 782-7860.

Outside of Illinois call (217) 782-7860.

A written report to the Illinois EPA confirming the information provided by telephone is required within five days after discovery of the release. See insert for "Required Report Information Form".

Send Written Reports to:

Illinois EPA

Bureau of Water, Compliance Assurance Section

P.O. Box 19276

Springfield, IL 62794-9276

Send Faxes to: (217) 557-1407

Releases of any quantity which enter surface waters, (including releases to sinkholes, drain inlets, broken subsurface drains or other conduits to groundwater or surface water) must be reported immediately, except when immediate notification would impede the owner's or operator's efforts to correct the cause of the release or contain the livestock waste. In such cases, the report must be made as soon as possible but no later than 24 hours after discovery. In addition to the reporting requirement, the owner or operator is responsible for correcting the cause of the release as soon as possible, in order to minimize environmental damage.

The reporting requirement applies to waste storage, handling facilities, piping, pumps, and transportation equipment. Reporting is not required for releases of less than 25 gallons provided no quantity is released to waters of the state or from a controlled and recovered release during field application. A release does not include the normal application of livestock waste to cropland at established agronomic rates.

Failure to report a release could result in fines of up to \$1,000 for the first violation, \$2,500 for a second violation, and up to \$5,000 for a third or subsequent violations. Any environmental damage resulting from the release (such as a fish kill) may subject the owner or operator to additional fines and require him/her to reimburse the state for the value of the damage.

Inquiries concerning the release reporting requirements may be directed to:

Illinois EPA
Bureau of Water
Field Operations Section
(217) 782-3362.

Definitions

“Livestock Waste Handling Facility” means individually or collectively those immovable constructions or devices (except sewers) used for collecting, pumping, treating, or disposing of livestock waste or for the recovery of by-products from the livestock waste. Two or more livestock waste handling facilities under common ownership and where a minimum distance of a quarter mile does not separate the facilities shall be considered a single livestock waste handling facility.

“Livestock Waste” means livestock excreta and associated feed losses, bedding, wash waters, sprinkling waters from livestock cooling, precipitation polluted by falling on or flowing onto an animal feeding operation, and other materials polluted by livestock.

“Owner or Operator” means any person who owns, leases, controls, or supervises a livestock management or livestock waste handling facility.

“Release” means any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, or dumping of livestock waste into the environment. A release does not include the normal application of livestock waste to cropland at established agronomic rates.

What To Do In The Event Of A Livestock Waste Release

In the event of a release, a response should be swift to minimize damage as much as possible. Responses should include, but are not limited to:

Immediate Action

- ✓ Stop additional leakage
- ✓ Contain spilled waste

Within 24-hours of the release discovery

- ✓ Contact the Illinois Emergency Management Agency by calling (800) 782-7860 from within Illinois or (217) 782-7860 if you are calling from a phone located outside Illinois.

As Soon As Possible

- ✓ Begin clean-up procedures
- ✓ Notify agencies and local authorities including the local county public health department and appropriate public/private water supplies.
- ✓ Attempt application of spilled wastes on cropland
- ✓ Assess environmental impact of fish kill, surface water pollution, well or groundwater impact, and amount of waste released and for what duration.

Within 5 days of release discovery

- ✓ Submit written report to Illinois EPA.

For advice and additional technical assistance contact your local Cooperative Extension Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service or soil and water conservation district.

