



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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Study shows new recovery rate of containers in Iowa

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DES MOINES -- A new Waste Characterization Study completed by the Iowa DNR has determined the recovery rate for containers covered under the bottle deposit law is 71 percent, down from 86 percent in 2007. The decrease in the recovery rate is consistent with other states that also have a bottle bill.

The DNR works with contractors every five years to complete a Waste Characterization Study to determine what types of solid waste is landfilled in Iowa. Through that study, along with beverage sales data from the Container Recycling Institute, the DNR is able to determine the recovery rate for the state.

The following is a breakdown for recovery rate by container type. The three percentages averaged together make up the recovery rate percentage.

- Aluminum = 69 percent
- Plastic = 60 percent
- Glass = 83 percent

A Waste Characterization Study samples solid waste and the quantities of recyclable materials taken to landfills. The study provides percentages of the overall waste stream for more than 60 categories of solid waste being disposed of. Those percentages are then multiplied by the total tons of solid waste disposed of in all Iowa landfills for that year to come up with tonnage data for the different categories of solid waste (e.g. paper, cardboard, plastic, organics, etc.).

Iowa DNR rolls out the eMMP at Pork Congress -- a new way to file manure management plans online

MEDIA CONTACT: Ted Petersen at 515-725-0274 or Ted.Petersen@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES—It's been more than a year since DNR partnered with groups to develop a better way for farmers to file annual manure management plan updates.

The Iowa DNR introduces the project at Pork Congress, Jan. 24 and 25, in Des Moines. Attend an educational seminar at noon on Jan. 25 or stop by the DNR's booth, number 1511, to learn more.

Called the eMMP, the online application will go live early in March when DNR sends letters to livestock and poultry producers who must file annual updates to their MMPs.

Farmers and consultants can save time, effort and mileage by filing the required plans from their home, office or smart phone—instead of driving to each county office where manure will be applied. If everyone uses it, DNR estimates the online solution will save driving at least 178,000 miles per year.

Participating farmers and consultants will receive emailed reminders 60 days before the plans are due. Then they can file and pay fees for multiple plans at one time.

The eMMP frees up county staff from signing each of the 7,000-plus plans, signing corrections to those plans and storing the paper forms. Instead, counties will receive an email when plans are completed. Filing online will reduce the number of file cabinets needed to store paper records in county and DNR offices.

"It took a group effort and was sometimes challenging to meet the needs of producers, their consultants, 99 counties and the folks at DNR who process these plans," said Ted Petersen, DNR coordinator of the project. "Not everyone got exactly what they wanted, but the final product will benefit everyone."

The process is relatively simple: producers must use their secure DNR-issued PIN number to log in to a State of Iowa account, fill out the annual MMP short form online, and choose one of several options to pay annual compliance fees.

The public will continue to have access to information about the status of individual plans, statewide or county-by-county. Producers who prefer paper forms will still have that option.

For more information, see www.iowadnr.gov/emmp. While visiting the DNR's eMMP web page, subscribe to AFO eNews, a newsletter for livestock and poultry animal feeding operations, and sign up for a Feb. 28 in-depth "how-to" webinar, "Save Time and Money—File your MMP Online."

Manure management plans are required of confinement site (totally roofed) facilities with more than 500 animal units or 1,250 finishing hogs. Farmers use the MMP to plan the amount of manure that can be land applied based on nitrogen and phosphorus needs of the upcoming crop.

Every four years, producers are required to test soils for nutrient levels and update their complete MMPs. Three out of four years, they can file a simplified annual MMP short form. Starting in March, they can file the annual short form electronically.

DNR enforcement actions

MEDIA CONTACT: Ed Tormey, DNR, at 515-725-8373 or Ed.Tormey@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES – DNR staff work with individuals, businesses and communities to help them protect our natural resources by complying with state and federal laws. This approach is very effective. In the few cases where compliance cannot be achieved, the DNR issues enforcement actions. The following list summarizes recent enforcement actions. Find the entire, original orders on DNR's website at www.iowadnr.gov/EnforcementActions.

Consent Orders

A consent order is issued as an alternative to issuing an administrative order. A consent order indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

Des Moines County

Ag Air, LLC

Comply with all laws and rules regarding the application of pesticides and pay \$3,500 (fish restitution and investigative costs).

Palo Alto County

Jay Clasing

Comply with all laws and rules regarding the burning and disposal of solid wastes and pay a penalty of \$2,000 for past violations

Plymouth County

Wells Enterprises, Inc.

Prohibition against unlawfully discharging a pollutant to any water of the state, pay \$4,500 penalty and fish restitution and investigative costs of \$980.

Washington County

Walker Brothers Livestock, Corp., Harry Walker and Grant Walker

Prohibit future unlawful discharges of effluent and pay \$10,000 penalty. Should the facility be operated in the future, responsible parties shall immediately comply with all laws and rules pertaining to animal confinement truck wash facilities.

Winneshiek County

Walker Brothers Livestock, Corp., Harry Walker and Grant Walker

Submit Minor Source Emission Inventory to DNR and pay \$2,500 penalty.