

Harvesting Success Pollution Prevention For Farmers

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Introduction

- ➔ Diffuse Water Pollution
- ➔ Advice on reducing risks
- ➔ How will you benefit?
 - ➔ Business efficiency
 - ➔ Reduced business risks
 - ➔ Builds resilience
 - ➔ Improve watercourses



Top tips: Yard Drainage

- ➔ Roofing areas on yards to reduce rainwater falling on dirty yards.
- ➔ Check surface water outfalls for signs of pollution
- ➔ Checking drains are clear and running free – repair as necessary
- ➔ Grants are currently available for;
 - ➔ Roofing yards
 - ➔ Rainwater harvesting & goods
 - ➔ Yard works to reduce pollution risk

Oil Storage

- ➔ Oil must be stored in accordance with SSAFO regs (if over 1,500 litres)
- ➔ Do not site the tank near drains
- ➔ Have spill kits on hand – sand or absorbant materials
- ➔ Inspect regularly
- ➔ Keep filler hose inside bund to catch drips
- ➔ Notify EA about new, enlarge or reconstructed stores 14 days before construction

Soils & Cultivation

- ➔ Under the Farming Rules for Water, you must take all reasonable precaution to prevent agricultural diffuse pollution from:
 - ➔ Application of organic manure and manufactured fertiliser
 - ➔ Land management, cultivation practices and harvesting
- ➔ Top tips:
 - ➔ Consider doing a run-off and soil erosion risk assessment
 - ➔ Examine your soils to assess its structure and condition
 - ➔ Consider what can be done to improve issues
 - ➔ Do not travel on or cultivate land when it is wet, as this can create compaction.
- ➔ Funding is currently available to carry out a soil management plan, as well as actions to improve soil health

Pesticides

- ➔ You must be properly trained to use pesticides – refer to HSE code of practice for using plant protection products
- ➔ Top tips:
 - ➔ Check local sensitive receptors eg; watercourse, SSSIs, abstractors and fisheries
 - ➔ Check weather forecast & ensure ground conditions are suitable
 - ➔ Funding is currently available for integrated pest management plans; grants are available for pesticide handling areas and biobeds/biofilters

Water Resources

- ➔ Abstraction can be from inland freshwaters, rivers, streams, lakes and ponds. Groundwater sources such as wells, boreholes and springs
- ➔ Up to 20m³ (20,000 litres) of water each day can be taken without needing an abstraction licence.
- ➔ If you want to abstract water from the same source at multiple points, the exemption from a license only applies in the combined total does not exceed 20m³ per day.
- ➔ You must have an impoundment license if you plan on building a structure can permanently or temporarily change the water level or flow. This includes dams, weirs, fish passes, sluices or reservoir embankments amongst others.

Waste Management

- ➔ Keep waste to a minimum by preventing, reusing, recycling or recovering waste (in that order) Sort and store waste safely and securely
- ➔ Complete and keep for 2 years a waste transfer note for each load that leaves your premises.
- ➔ Check if your waste carrier is registered to carry your waste.
- ➔ Ensure that your waste is taken to an appropriately permitted site.
- ➔ Waste must be removed from your premises within three years or it is considered an illegal deposit.
- ➔ There are exemptions for some low-risk activities including treatment, storage and use of certain waste to enable recycling and reuse of these.
- ➔ You may require an Environmental Permit if you cannot comply with the limits of an exemption.

Thank You!

Further Information

Further information is available from: www.gov.uk/guidance/rules-forfarmers-and-land-managers

Catchment Sensitive Farming: www.gov.uk/csf Protecting our Water, Soil and Air (Code of Good Agricultural Practice for farmers, growers and land managers): www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-our-water-soil-and-air

General EA enquiries 03708 506 506 enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Pollution incident hotline 0800 80 70 60