



Before you start: *Preparing to do your Animal Waste Management Plan*

There are a number of things that you should do before you start completing your plan.

- ✓ First, you should soil test any fields on your farm where you plan to spread manure.
- ✓ Second, sample the nutrient content of the manure in your manure storage. This program will automatically determine an estimate of manure nutrient content (N, P2O5, and K2O). However, this is determined by published values from a book. An accurate representative value of the manure on your farm will be better.
- ✓ It will be helpful to determine the slope of your fields. A short fact sheet describing how to estimate slope is under resources.
- ✓ Prepare a farm map.
- ✓ Please determine how many animals you have and how much they weigh.
- ✓ Estimate the amount and type of bedding you use.
- ✓ Find phone and address of your local Public Health officials.

All the fact sheets described below are in the Before You Start folder.

Benefits of Having Soil Tested

To apply optimum levels of manure or chemical fertilizers to your soil, it is necessary to know the existing pH and the availability of essential plant nutrients in the soil.

Remember: Excess manure or chemical fertilizers or limestone can be as detrimental to plant growth as deficiencies of these nutrients.

The appropriate application of manure is not only agronomically desirable but is also **economically prudent**. Don't buy fertilizers that your soil doesn't need; invest in those nutrients that will bring about a growth/yield response.

Soil testing is an environmentally responsible practice. The improper application of fertilizer or other nutrient sources can lead to nitrate or phosphorus contamination of our water resources. By applying the most appropriate kind and amount of fertilizer at the proper time, you can ensure that you are "feeding" your plant-life and not polluting our environment. The Rutgers University Soil Testing Laboratory has a helpful website that will help you get started in testing your soils: <http://njaes.rutgers.edu/soiltestinglab/>.

(Please copy this into your internet browser). The two fact sheets about Soil Testing should also be useful:

- ✓ Soil Sampling Instructions - Field crops, Commercial Vegetables, and Fruits. This fact sheet comes from the Rutgers University Soil Testing Laboratory.
- ✓ Soil Testing Fact Sheet. A good overview.

Manure testing is also suggested. The Manure Sampling and Analysis fact sheet comes from the Rutgers University Soil Testing Laboratory and gives a very good overview of how to take manure samples for analysis.

Determining field slope. Probably the simplest way to determine slope is to contact your local Soil Conservation District office and see if they can print out a map of your farm. They can also help you determine the slope in individuals. You can do this on your own by going to this website and finding your farm:

<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/> (Please copy this into your internet browser).

- ✓ The fact sheet, Determining Slopes, presents some other techniques for slope determination.

Making a farm map. It will be helpful for you to draw a map of your farm that includes barnyard sketches for buildings, storages, streams, fences, etc. And also a map of fields that are included in the management unit. By management unit, I mean fields that animal use for exercise or grazing, or where manure is spread. Also please include streams, waterways, wetlands, etc. The simplest way is probably to get your local soil Conservation district to assist you in printing out a map for your farm. You can use the web survey described above: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/> (Please copy this into your internet browser).

In the Before You Start folder there is a fact sheet that include a hand-drawn barnyard map, a hand-drawn farm map, and blank copies for drawing your own.

Animal Units. Please determine before beginning how many animals you have on your farm, what species and what weight. This information will be useful as we calculate animal units, farm animal density, and manure production.

Bedding use. Please estimate before you start how much bedding, amount and type, you use on a regular basis.

Public Health. This emergency contact information is useful so you can contact for assistance in case of an emergency. County contacts are listed below.

All of the fact sheets on this page can be accessed from the Before You Start File on the CD or if you are working online.

Public Health Officers

Atlantic County
Department Of Human Services
Division Of Public Health
Hammonton Human Services Building
310 Bellevue Avenue
Hammonton, NJ,08037
(T)609 645 5935 (F) 609-645-5931

Bergen County
Health Department
327 East Ridgewood Avenue, Paramus, NJ
07652-4895
(T) 201-634-2600 (F) 201-986-1068
Healthdept@Co.Bergen.NJ.Us

Burlington County
Raphael Meadow Health Center
15 Pioneer Blvd
Westampton, NJ 08060
(T) 609-265-5548 (F) 609-265-3152
Bchd@Co.Burlington.NJ.Us

Camden County
Department Of Health And Human Services
Dipiero Center
Lakeland Road
Blackwood, NJ 08012-0088
(T) 856-374-6000 Or 1-800-999-9045

Cape May County
Public Health Coordinator
4 Moore Road – Dn 601
Cape May Courthouse, NJ
(T) 609-465-1187 (F) 609- 465-3933
Thomas@Co.Cape-May.NJ.Us

Cumberland County
Public Health Department
790 E. Commerce Street
Bridgeton, NJ 08302
(T) 856-453-2150 (F) 856-53-0338
Essex County Health Officer
115 Clifton Avenue
Newark, NJ 07103
(T) 973-497-9407 (F) 973-497-9401

Gloucester County Offices At East Holly
Division Of Health
204 East Holly Ave.
Sewell, NJ 08080
(T) 856-218-4101 (F) 218-4109

Hudson County
Department Of Health & Human Services
Meadowview Campus
595 County Road
Secaucus, NJ 07094
(T) 201-271-4310 (F) 201-271-4357

Hunterdon County Department of Health
Route 12 County Complex, Building #1
Po Box 2900
Flemington, NJ 08822-2900
(T) 908-788-1351 (F) 908-782-7510

Mercer County Department Of Health
County Administration Building
640 South Broad Street
Annex 223 & 224
Trenton, NJ 08650
(T) 609-278-7165

County Of Middlesex
Public Health Department
Middlesex County Administration Building,
5th Floor
John F. Kennedy Square
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
(T) 732-745-3100 (F) 732-745-2568

Monmouth County Health Department
3435 Highway 9 North
Freehold, New Jersey
(732) 431-7456

Morris County Board Of Chosen
Freeholders
Morris County Admin & Records Building
P.O. Box 900
Morristown, NJ 07963-0900
(T) 973-631-5484

Ocean County Health Department
175 Sunset Avenue - Po Box 2191
Toms River, N.J. 08754
(T) 732-341-9700 Or 1-800-342-9738
(F) 732-341-4467

Passaic County Health Department
311 Pennsylvania Avenue
Paterson, NJ 07503
(T) 973-881- 4396 (F) 973-225- 0222

Salem County Health Department
98 Market Street
Salem, New Jersey 08098
(T) 856-935-7510
(Toll Free From Eastern Salem County:
358-3857) (F) 856-935-8483

Somerset County DOH
County Admin. Bldg.
20 Grove Street
PO Box 3000
Somerville, NJ 08876-1262
(t) 908-231-7155 (f) 908-704-804

Sussex County
Dept of Environ & Public Health Srvc
One Spring Street
Newton, N.J. 07860
(T) 973-579-0370 (F) 973-579-0399
Health@Sussex.NJ.Us

Union County Administration Building
10 Elizabethtown Plaza
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07207
County Switchboard 908-527-4000
Toll Free Information 877-424-1234