# The Nutrient Management Act and its Application Nutrient Management Act, 2002 (NMA) and O. Reg. 267/03, as amended by O. Reg. 394/07

Peter Doris, OMAFRA, Environmental Specialist

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# FARMS PHASED-IN (NO CONSTRUCTION)

- Previously phased-in\*, or
- Expanding ≥ 300 Nutrient Units (NU), but no building permit required by law.

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# **FARMS PHASED-IN (WITH CONSTRUCTION)**

- > 5 NU and ANY building permit\* for livestock barn and/or manure storage facility\*\*\*\*\*
- > 5 NU and construction of earthen storage, or
- Construction of a mixed anaerobic digestion facility.

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# What Must They Do?

- Get an APPROVED Nutrient Management
   Strategy (NMS)\*\*\* if phased-in as above and any part
   of farm unit is within 100 metres of municipal well
   OR NMS\*\*\* on file at farm and farm
   REGISTERED with OMAFRA for all others, and
- Manage manure and other nutrients (e.g., run-off and washwater) according to NMS (including construction and siting).

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# What Must They Do?

- Get an APPROVED NMS\*\*\* (Record of Approval provided by OMAFRA)
- Adhere to construction and siting requirements, and
- Manage manure and other nutrients (e.g., run-off and washwater) according to NMS (including construction and siting).

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- A. Above farms require a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) on file at farm **IF** nutrients are applied to land in the farm unit and one or more of the following conditions are met:
- 1. Livestock numbers ≥ 300 NU annually, or
- 2. Any part of the farm unit used for the operation is within 100 metres of a municipal well.
- B. Above farms requires an **APPROVED NMP\*\*\* IF Non-Agricultural Source Material (NASM)** is land applied unless they qualify for an exemption until December 31, 2008 by meeting the conditions below:
- 1. Livestock numbers less than 300 NU, and
- 2. The farm unit for the operations is not within 100 metres of a municipal well, and
- 3. There is an Organic Site Certificate of Approval (C of A) issued by MOE, and OMAFRA is notified of the C of A. **Note:** if required to have a NMP, it must be kept on file at the farm. The operation(s) must be managed in accordance with the NMP. Land application requirements in O. Reg. 267/03 must also be followed.

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### Recordkeeping and Renewal

Operator shall update NMS and/or NMP annually as necessary to accurately reflect anticipated operation of the farm for the following year. Renew NMS every five years, or earlier, if there is a change in ownership, construction of an earthen storage; or a building permit is sought for a livestock housing/manure storage facility. Renew NMP if required every five years or earlier if applying NASM and current NMP does not address NASM application.

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#### Notes:

- \* Applies to existing operations with 300 NU or greater, any phased-in farm unit that had a change in ownership or control and agricultural operations that were considered "new" under the regulation because the owner had not carried out the operation on the land at any time before September 30, 2003 and had submitted an application for a building permit for a building or structure that is used to house farm animals between the period of September 30, 2003 and December 31, 2005.
- \*\* In unorganized territiories if > 5 NU, require NMS for new/expanding livestock barns and manure storage facilities, even though there is no building permit required (NMS kept on file and agricultural operation is registered according to Part 8 of NM Protocol)
- \*\*\* Any NMS/P prepared as a requirement of the NMA must be prepared by a certified person as per the NMA.
- \*\*\*\* A permanent nutrient storage facility used solely as part of a vegetated filter strip system does not require NMS prior to construction but must meet requirements of Part IX.2 of regulations (e.g. engineering, construction, maintenance, operation, written records, etc).

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# **Everyone is Required to:**

- Manage nutrients to reduce the risk of an adverse effect
- Apply material from mixed anaerobic digestion (AD) facilities, if any, to land according to land application standards for agricultural source materials under Part VI of O.Reg. 267/03, without exceeding the limits for Nitrogen and Phosphorus, and
- Keep engineering, construction, maintenance and operations records and manage vegetated filter strip systems for runoff in accordance with Part IX.2 of O.Reg. 267/03.

#### No Person Shall:

- Spread sewage biosolids between December 1 and March 31 or when the ground is frozen or snow-covered;
- Apply NASM, such as biosolids, within 20 metres of top of bank of surface water; or
- Use high trajectory guns to spread nutrients, except if it is very dilute material (greater than 99 per cent water by weight).

Table 1: Symbols

">" greater than	"<" less than	"≥" equal to or greater than	"≤" equal to or less than	
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Note: This document is only a guideline, and is published as a service for Ontario farms and agricultural operations only. For further and detailed information, please consult the Nutrient Management Act, 2002 (NMA) and O. Reg. 267/03, as amended by O. Reg. 394/07 before taking any decisions about your farm unit/agricultural operation where nutrients are concerned, and that if a discrepancy arises between the flowchart and the legislation, the latter prevails.