Public Comment Form

Draft Nitrogen Fertilizer Rule

Please submit written comments on the draft Nitrogen Fertilizer Rule by August 25, 2017 through mail or email to:

**Mail**
Larry Gunderson
Pesticide and Fertilizer Management Division
Minnesota Department of Agriculture

625 Robert Street North
St. Paul, MN, 55155-2538

**Email**
Larry.Gunderson@state.mn.us

All comments should, but are not required to, include a contact name, phone number and/or email address to provide for follow-up discussion on specific comments.

**Questions**
For any questions regarding the content of the draft Nitrogen Fertilizer Rule, please contact
Larry Gunderson, Fertilizer Technical Unit Supervisor
Larry.Gunderson@state.mn.us | 651-201-6168

**Comments**

I find the proposed Fertilizer Rule is a complete misuse of MDA - (Government). If the intent of this rule is to protect not only groundwater but protect the water we drink to use this rule should also apply to all land - especially valley - flood prone ground. With all cities along the Red River using River water for drinking water, the area where I live, as far as I have found does not have a issue with nitrates in its groundwater. Maybe, just maybe, the farmers are doing a good job if nitrates are not showing up. I also do not see any statistic that

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show the amount of nitrogen that is already fall applied on the so call prove areas, I personally have not used fall applied nitrogen on my fields ever, and I have farmed for 30+ years. Right now the infrastructure involved with fertilizer has evolved into a well-oiled machine, the supply & demand storage, delivery, application, should be studied or at least analyzed, you cannot think that this rule would not set this industry back on its heels, all at the farmers expense. In closing on this subject, farmers will not apply fertilizer if it won't get used. Find out which farmers are fall applying nitrogen & deal with it. If we look at the broad picture of what contributes to nitrates, the MDA is jumping into an equation that cannot be analyzed properly unless you start it at the beginning. An equation that cannot be analyzed properly. I believe that this entire system of analyzing, determining, governing, wetlands. I believe that this entire system of analyzing, determining, governing, wetlands is in need of it being overhauled. We cannot move forward into the future of protecting waters unless we look at all practices that are contributing to the equation. Simple government restrictions have a less than ideal effect on farmers. I personally have kept a lot of land for wildlife, habitat, woods, grass, planted trees, kept a lot of land for wildlife. I also incorporate cover crops & practices that contribute to healthy ground. I did not hear a word at the meeting about forests, and woods that are much. I could only hope that someone would realize the huge impact they have on the ground water and consider how given to the farmers who have kept them and do not farm every acre.

The task that has been presented to MDA is very complex and I do not think the scope of what is being proposed has been fully researched. The timeframe MDA has put on this certainly reflects this. This is complicated and please do not take it for anything less. And if this letter is read, I would like a call to know my thoughts have been heard. And like most government issues, this has not fallen on deaf ears. . . . . 218-280-8287

Sincerely, Allen
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Doray MN 56545

Jerry Sanderson
MDA
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