Emergency Planning for the Farm

E-2575

A Matter of Balance: After the Aftermath – Addressing Natural Resource in Emergencies
East Lansing, MI  March 6  2013

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Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
The Importance of Emergency Plans

- Share important information with responding Fire Departments and Emergency Management.
- Complete obligations under SARA Title III (Emergency Planning and Community right-to-know).
- Reduce the risk of exposure to humans and the environment to farm chemicals and other farm hazardous products.
- Awareness for agricultural operation employees and to the local responding Fire Department(s).
SARA Title III compliance

- Any Farm or Industry having an Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS) in the amount at or above the Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ)
- Required by law to notify the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and the Michigan SARA Title III Program
- Emergency Plan completed, annually reviewed and shared with local fire department and farm employees
How do Farmers Comply???

- Emergency Planning for the Farm
- Extension Bulletin E-2575 (available in Spanish)
- Minor revision July 2006
- Partnership between MSP Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division, MSU Extension, and the MDARD - MAEAP
Emergency Planning for the Farm

• Section I: Facility Information
• Section II: Farmstead Map
• Section III: Chemical/Flammables Information
• Section IV: Farm Response Resources
• Section V: Response plan completed by LEPC
Emergency Planning
FOR THE
FARM

Agricultural pesticides, fertilizers, fuels and livestock manure can pose risks to people and the environment.

Be prepared for emergencies by developing your Emergency Farm Plan (pages 8-10).

Discuss your Emergency Plan with family members, employees, and your local emergency service provider (usually the local fire department).

Keep your Emergency Plan up-to-date by reviewing and updating it annually.

Michigan State University Extension

Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program
Michigan Department of Agriculture
Environmental Stewardship Division
Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division
Eric McCumber

Spill Incident Reporting Form
Proper Farm Response

- Assess hazard potential to your crew, the environment and the community – Expect the worse case scenario  EHS, flammables, corrosives, etc.

**CAUTION!**


- Set up safety zones and **BE SAFE!**

- Could be toxic nasty chemicals that can travel off-site

- Never put water on barn fire unless you know there are no EHS’s or flammables that could become more of a problem if combined with water – Runoff problems
Proper Farm Response – 5 C’s

- **CAUTION!** Always assess the dangers of spill or release response first – protect your Fire Department, personal property, the community and environment.
- **CONTROL** the source of the spill or release
- **CONTAIN** the spill (or runoff) to a small area and away from groundwater or surface water.
- **COMMUNICATE** details to local, state, and federal authorities – MDA Assistance may be available.
- **CLEANUP** and follow up (incident reports)
How do we get more Farm Plans?

- Invite your local Groundwater Technician to join the LEPC.
- Work with your local farmers and farm organizations.
- Offer assistance, provide with information.
- DO NOT push or harass farmers, explain why a plan is needed and could help protect employees, farm headquarters, buildings and environment.
- Reduces Liability - insurance premium reductions
- Site visit or acknowledgment of plan once received.
- Have a nasty farm fire in your area that makes the news!
Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program
FY2010
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Revised: 12/03/09
Clean Sweep Collections
Agrichemical Handling Facilities
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Abandoned Well Closures
Educational Meetings
Thank You!

Any Questions?

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