



The KAP Alert

June 5, 2009

Province Must Research Wastewater System

Commentary by Ian Wishart, KAP President

The province wants to change the way sewage disposal is managed in rural areas, and new regulations are going to have a significant impact on many people—including farmers. If you are not connected to community wastewater treatment infrastructure and you rely on a disposal field, sewage ejector system, or holding tank, you will be affected.

Changes to the [Onsite Wastewater Management Systems Regulation](#) (OWMS) under the Environment Act will have an effect on how we deal with wastewater disposal in several ways. The required lot size for disposal field use will increase to two acres, forcing residents to hook up to their municipal wastewater infrastructure where available. The changes will mean expanding the list of “sensitive areas” in the province where only holding tanks can be used, encouraging municipal wastewater infrastructure planning. Another change will prohibit the installation of new sewage ejectors and force the replacement of all existing sewage ejectors at the time of property transfer.

Activities

Tuesday, June 2: President Ian Wishart and Policy Analyst James Battershill attended Trace R&D 2009, a conference on agriculture and food traceability (Tuesday and Wednesday).

Wednesday, June 3: GM Yvonne Rideout participated in a conference call to discuss an individualized area-based insurance for Manitoba. President Wishart, VP Rob Brunel, and GM Yvonne Rideout attended a meeting with MAFRI at the KAP office to discuss environment issues. President Wishart was interviewed by CTV National news regarding seeding deadlines.

Thursday, June 4: Executive Member Doug Chorney attended a CropLife Canada Pesticide meeting.

Friday, June 5: Policy Analyst James Battershill participated in an Agri-Energy Sub-Committee

We were concerned to learn that those living in rural areas across the province will be forced to replace sewage ejectors. We understand the concerns regarding spreading sewage on top of land, but we are not convinced that the province has done its due diligence in researching the effectiveness of sewage ejectors.

In certain soil conditions, the ground has the capacity to properly treat sewage without the spread of nutrients into watersheds or pathogens into groundwater supplies. We have not received any scientific research indicating that sewage ejectors are responsible for any nutrient loading in the province. We understand the need for a controlled environment to deal with pathogen risks. In addition, the cost to property owners who are faced with decommissioning and replacing sewage ejectors with a disposal field or a holding tank can be as much as \$20,000. If a producer can prove that their sewage ejector system is equally effective to a disposal field, we see no reason why they should be forced to pay this significant expense.

We're asking the province to conduct research on the effectiveness of sewage ejectors in various soil conditions around Manitoba before they force hundreds of producers to pay tens of thousands of dollars for replacement systems. If it is discovered that some soil types cannot handle ejectors, the government could allow for variances if a study can prove their system properly treats effluent and doesn't leach nutrients or pathogens. Under the OWMS changes, the government attempts to address the problem of inadequate sewage treatment systems in cottage areas and some developments. We see this as a positive move, as for too long farmers have been bearing the brunt of the blame for nutrient loading in the province's lakes and watersheds. We now ask that the province investigate the science behind the effectiveness of sewage ejector systems before they force us to pay for unnecessary changes.

conference call.

Other Events

To June 7: Food Cycle 2009. In partnership with the Manitoba Pork Council, local bike enthusiast and avid Winnipeg Harvest supporter Ken Livingstone will cycle across Manitoba to raise food and funds for Winnipeg Harvest and rural food banks registered with the Manitoba Association of Food Banks. Livingstone will begin on the western edge of the Manitoba portion of the Trans Canada Trail and follow the trail's route - over 1,286 km - to the Manitoba/Ontario border. To find out which communities Food Cycle will visit on which dates, or how you can volunteer or donate food, contact Susan Riese at the Manitoba Pork Council (204) 235-2307 or Dana Todd at Winnipeg Harvest (204) 982-3581.

To June 7: Manitoba Summer Fair, Brandon, MB. [Website](#)

June 9: EastMan Sheep Association Meeting on premise ID and traceability, 7:30 p.m., Community Room, Real Canadian Superstore, Steinbach, Manitoba. All welcome. Contact Eugene Sabot at 422-8288.

June 17-19: Western Canada

Last Chance to Register for Golf!

Keystone Agricultural Producers invites its members and friends to join us for the 8th Annual KAP Klassic Golf Tournament on Friday, June 19, 2009 at the [Carman Golf Club](#) (only 45 minutes from Winnipeg's Perimeter Highway, or 1 hour 40 minutes from Steinbach!).



The cost to enter is \$75 which includes your green fees, golf cart, and dinner. Enjoy country cooking with [Danny's Whole Hog BBQ](#) following the event.

To register, please fill out the form provided [here](#). For more information contact Kathy Ulasy at finance@kap.mb.ca or 697-1140.

The deadline to register is TODAY, but you may send in your registration over the weekend. Hope to see you there!

Attend a Bipole III Public Open House

www.hydro.mb.ca

Plans are moving forward to develop a new high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line, known as [Bipole III](#), on the

Farm Progress Show, Evraz Place, Regina, SK. [Website](#)

July 13-16: Canadian Special Crops Association annual convention, The Fairmont Winnipeg, Winnipeg, MB. [Website](#)

Request for Proposals

The Manitoba Livestock Manure Management Initiative invites individuals, partnerships, companies, and research organizations to submit proposals for innovative manure management research and demonstration projects under this [RFP](#). Deadline for submissions is June 30, 2009.

Interested parties are encouraged to contact Brandy Street (Executive Director) by phone at (204) 945-2122 or by email at brandy.street@gov.mb.ca.

Manitoba Farm Mentorship Program

The Organic Food Council of Manitoba has just launched the Manitoba Farm Mentorship program (MFM)!

This is an exciting new program designed to connect people, land and local knowledge for a food-secure Manitoba.

west side of the province. This is an opportunity for producers to provide input and voice concerns regarding access to agricultural land.



Identification of a route for Bipole III will be based on a Site Selection and Environmental Assessment (SSEA) process. The SSEA began in fall 2008 and is scheduled to take four years to complete. Regulatory approvals will be required to proceed with constructing the project. The project in-service date is 2017.

Public Open Houses are being held to June 19, 2009.

Information obtained during these consultations, including local input and Traditional Knowledge, will be built into the planning process to assist in the identification of alternative routes. The goal for this round is to narrow down a set of alternative routes by the summer of 2009.

All sessions will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Thompson: June 10, St. Lawrence Hall

Roblin: June 16, Roblin Community Centre

Winnipeg: June 18, Holiday Inn Winnipeg South

Biopole Newsletter

There are still spaces available for this year for farmers looking to diversify or transition to an environmentally sustainable form of agriculture. MFM wants to connect you with a mentor to help you along the way. For more information please call 785-8828 or check out the [website](#).

KAP in Net News

[Farmers chilled to the bone](#)

Lac du Bonnet Leader

[Frustrating start to seeding season for Manitoba farmers](#)

CBC News

[Cool spring has Prairie farmers praying for a change in the weather](#)

The Canadian Press

[Weather sows seeds of despair](#)

Winnipeg Free Press

[Prairie farmers want warm weather after cool spring](#)

CTV.ca

Riparian Tax Credit

Message from the Provincial Government

The Riparian Tax Credit provides incentives to agricultural operators to commit themselves for five-year benefit periods to specific riparian management practices on the banks of waterways and on the shores of lakes.

The 2009 provincial budget announced the following:

- The basic tax credit for all categories of riparian land is approximately doubled, which automatically doubles participants' slope premium entitlements and increases the off-site watering component of the credit for some operators.
- The percentage premium for sloped riparian land is increased from 20% to 30% of the basic credit.
- The off-site watering component of the credit will be made renewable for participants who complete one benefit period and sign up for the next available intake group.
- The same enhancements will be made available to participants of previous intake groups whose benefit period is not yet expired.

If you are currently enrolled in a Riparian Tax Credit benefit period and are receiving yearly payments, you will be contacted this month to determine your status for the additional benefits.

If you qualify for Riparian Tax Credit and have not yet applied for benefits, you have until June 30, 2009 to submit an application. See the [website](#) for eligibility rules and general information.

Interested landowners can also contact the Manitoba Tax

Assistance Office at 1-800-782-0771 or by email at TAO@gov.mb.ca.

Problem predators?

Assistance is available if you are experiencing predation on stock.

Manitoba Conservation has entered into an agreement with the Manitoba Trappers Association (MTA) for MTA to administer Problem Predator Removal Services (PPRS).



This agreement is similar to previous ones. Producers who are experiencing problems should notify the Manitoba Agricultural Services (MASC) [office](#) nearest their location and report the problem. MASC will assign a claim number and an adjuster to investigate the claim. Producers may then contact the Manitoba Trappers Association at 1-204-345-9107 and request that a qualified trapper be assigned to deal with the issue.

For more information, contact Barry Verbiwski, Aboriginal Liaison Manager and the Head of the Furbearer and Problem Wildlife Management Unit at 945-7751.

Member Benefits Corner

Why You Should Consider Leasing Through the

KAP/National Leasing Program

The wise use of lease financing is the cornerstone of growth for most enterprises. Why should leasing be considered as a financing solution for acquiring equipment?

Conserve Cash

Leasing allows you to conserve cash, leverage up the buying power of your operating or capital budgets, and overcome budget limitations. A \$30,000 annual equipment budget is leveraged up considerably through leasing.

100% Financing

100% financing is achieved. Unlike most traditional financing, in most cases you do not make any down payment on the equipment.

No Pre-Payment of Taxes

You pay GST and PST on rentals; you do not prepay these taxes in full up front.

Preserve Lines of Credit

Valuable cash and lines of credit are preserved to grow your business. No one in business experiences financial difficulty because they have too much cash.

Potential Income Tax Benefits

In many instances, leasing provides income tax benefits, and the assets do not appear on the balance sheet. As well, debt to equity ratios are unaffected.

Match Revenue with Expenditures

You can match revenues with expenditures by paying for the equipment while it is used to generate revenue, or protect profits.

Please call if you have any questions in regards to leasing. The KAP/ National Leasing program offers a 0.5% cash rebate off of the total lease cost! To find our more, call Paula Hartfiel with National Leasing at 1-866-478-8293, e-mail kapbenefits@stratabenefits.ca or go to the website [here](#).

Benefits Reminder

PAT Inc. will assist KAP members to trade-up until JUNE 30, 2009

The Trimble® AgGPS® EZ-Steer® 500 assisted steering system Trade-Up program allows you to trade-in competing guidance products and receive a \$500 trade-up credit. On approval, PAT Inc. /Trimble will issue the trade-up credit amount directly to you.

For a complete list of conditions and eligibility [[click here](#)] or call toll free 1-866-531-2887. For all other Member Benefits [[click here](#)], call 1-866-527-0123 or [email](#).

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