Manure Storage

Location: Storage facilities should be located on flat surfaces that are not subject to flows of storm water runoff. If situated at the base of a slope, run-on should be diverted around storage area with berms, diversions, or ditches.

Placement: Storage bins should be situated on a base of hard-packed, dry soil, or compacted soil with a layer of compacted gravel on top. Bins can also be placed on an impervious surface such as concrete or an impermeable liner. The surface should be sloped slightly so that liquid drains from the bin to a vegetated filter strip or other vegetated areas.

Setback: Manure storage facilities should be located at least 100 feet away from any stream, drainage course, or water well. Riparian buffers may be necessary if storage area is located near a stream or water body.

Cover: The storage area should be covered with a roof structure or a tarp during the rainy season (October through April). If the storage area has a roof, roof runoff should be drained away from the area via gutters and pipelines.

Landscape: Vegetation around the storage site (especially grass) can act as a filter strip (to effectively slow contaminated runoff and help trap manure particles). Native plants appropriate for the site’s soil type should be selected. Planting shrubs and trees around the storage site can block wind-blown particles and odors.

Stockpile: Manure should not be piled over 8 feet high as this can pose a fire hazard.

Storage Facility Maintenance and Procedures

Collection: Manure should be removed daily for all temporary manure sites, for example PSSI roll off bins collected from Stanford Red Barn.

Transition: Manure can be stored directly on a paved surface as a transitional area for no more than three hours during dry conditions, but never during wet conditions.

Maintenance: Horse stalls should be cleaned a minimum of three times daily, and paddocks cleaned a minimum of once daily.

Inspection: Visual observations should be made regularly during the rainy season to confirm that leachate is not being transported.

Records: Records should be kept for all activities, including: amount of manure produced annually; storage capacity; location manure is stored, composted, and used; application rates; and crop production yields.

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