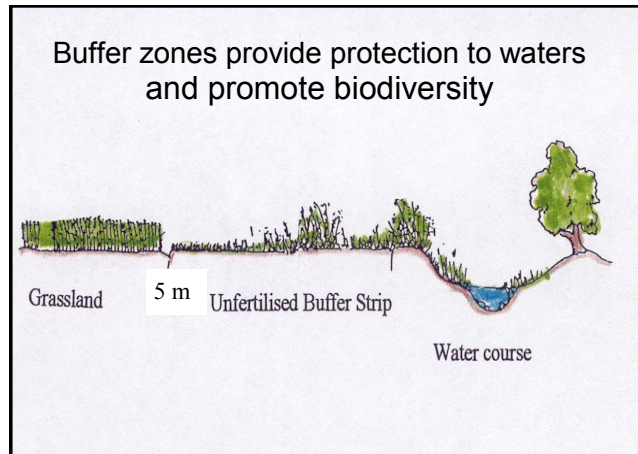


BUFFER ZONES

for spreading organic fertiliser and soiled water

Water Resource	Buffer Zone
Streams and Drains	5 meters
Streams and drains - for two weeks before and after the closed period and where lands slope (>10% incline) towards a watercourse	10 meters
Lake shoreline	20 meters
Karst feature / sinkhole	15 meters
Domestic wells	25 meters
Public water supply source	100-250 meters Or as directed by your local authority

Do advise your slurry contractor of the location of water supply sources and other sensitive waters on or adjacent your lands.



A well vegetated river corridor will trap silt and nutrients and limit pollutants entering the river.

SMART FARMING

Know the value of manure and soiled water

1000gal soiled water = 5€
1000gal slurry = 25€

Soil testing costs are low but allow significant savings on fertiliser inputs.

SOIL TESTING is recommended on intensively farmed lands and on lands where organic fertilisers (pig & poultry manure, sludge, spent mushroom compost) are imported.



Soil testing helps prevent over application of nutrients



Prohibited Methods of Applying Slurry

It is not permitted to spread slurry or soiled waters:

- ⇒ By use of an upward facing splash plate,
- ⇒ By use of a sludge irrigator mounted on a tanker or
- ⇒ From a road or passageway adjacent to the land.



**MONAGHAN
COUNTY
COUNCIL**

WATER QUALITY AND GOOD LANDSPREADING PRACTICES



Monaghan County Council is working to improve water quality.

Tá ról lárnach ag dea-chleachtais leata ar an talamh chun an cháilíocht uisce a chosaint.

For more Information see

www.agriculture.irlgov.ie

www.smartfarming.ie

www.wfdireland.ie

Teagasc, Monaghan - 047 81188

Environment Section - 042 9661240

Revised Mar 2014

WATER QUALITY

The European Union Water Framework Directive requires that we

- ⇒ protect satisfactory waters
- ⇒ improve unsatisfactory waters and
- ⇒ adequately protect our drinking water supply sources

The good news is that Monaghan rivers are showing signs of improvement but more is needed to ensure our rivers and lakes are healthy.

FARMING FOR WATER QUALITY - WHY ?

Clean surface and ground waters provide safe sources of drinking water.

Good water quality is required to support sustainable agriculture and Harvest 2020.

In terms of Ireland's green image and An Bord Bia's **ORIGIN GREEN** programme - what's good for the environment is good for business.

Good water quality is required to secure Ireland's derogation under the Nitrates Action Programme.

Healthy waterways are important for wildlife, recreation and amenity value

For further information on water pollution see www.monaghan.ie/waterpollution



While phosphate is a valuable fertiliser on land it is very damaging in waterways.

Manure Imports

High environmental standards, nutrient management and record keeping are required by farmers and contractors involved in the movement of manures.

Excessive manure applications, poor record keeping and bad land spreading practice are a recipe for water pollution.

Know the rules on stocking rate, derogation farms and manure imports



Avoid the import of manures to lands with significant land slope, heavy clay soils, and lands in lake catchments or water supply catchments.

Good farming practices prevent water pollution and safeguard the Single Farm Payment

The Good Agricultural Practice (**for the Protection of Waters**) (Nitrates) Regulations, 2014 - regulates slurry management, stocking rates and the application of fertilisers to land.

Closed Land Spreading Periods

Chemical Fertilizers: 15th Sep—31st Jan
Slurry: 15th Oct—31st Jan
Farmyard Manure: 1st Nov— 31st Jan

Slurry management can be challenging, when weather and ground conditions are unfavourable.

To maximise slurry storage capacity

- ⇒ Minimise soiled yard areas
- ⇒ Repair water leaks
- ⇒ Maintain rainwater gutters and downpipes
- ⇒ Avoid overstocking

Recycle slurry on lands in the growing season.

Don't apply fertiliser, slurry or animal manure where lands are wet, waterlogged or frozen.

Don't apply slurry on land has recently been mole drained.



Escape of slurry from a land drain