

Capitol LINK

CURRENT ISSUES AFFECTING WISCONSIN AGRICULTURE & AGRI-BUSINESS

January 29, 2010

Upcoming NR 151 Hearing Dates

By Jordan Lamb, DeWitt Ross & Stevens

The Department of Natural Resources has released the following schedule of hearings at which the DNR will take public testimony on their proposed changes to Wis. Admin. Code. § NR 151, Wisconsin's nonpoint source pollution rule. This rule impacts every single livestock and agriculture producer in WI:

- Feb. 2, 2010 State Office Bldg., 141 NW Barstow Street,
Room 151, Waukesha – 1:00 p.m.
- Feb. 10, 2010 Lyman F. Anderson Agricultural and Conservation Center,
1 Fen Oak Court, Classrooms A & B (1st Floor), Madison – 1:00 p.m.
- Feb. 11, 2010 Rib Mountain Municipal Center, 3700 N. Mountain Road,
(Hwy NN), Wausau – 1:00 p.m.

Each hearing will begin with a 1 hour informational session followed by formal testimony.

The proposed rule revisions and supporting documents may be viewed and downloaded from <https://health.wisconsin.gov/admrules/public/Rmo?nRmoId=1703>.

Comments can also be submitted electronically from that website.

Written comments may be submitted via U.S. Mail to:

Carol Holden
DNR – WT3
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Or via email to Carol Holden at carol.holden@wisconsin.gov.

Comments may be submitted until Feb. 26, 2010.

Remember: Ag Day at the Capitol is February 3

Ag Day at the Capitol will be held Feb. 3 at the Monona Terrace in Madison. Ag Day at the Capitol is the largest gathering of farmers from across the state representing a variety of farm groups to learn more about state issues and meet with their state legislators.

Hot topics on the legislative plate are expected to be state climate change legislation, use value assessment of farmland, animal welfare and proposed changes to the state's nonpoint regulations known as NR 151.

“The difference this day makes for agriculture is tremendous,” said Bill Bruins, president of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau. “By having farmers from every major farm and commodity group in the state taking part, our legislative leaders have no doubt about the needs and opportunities for a growing agricultural sector in Wisconsin.”

Registration will begin at 11 a.m. with introductions at 11:30 a.m. A pot roast lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. Issue briefings and a panel of guest legislative speakers will begin at 12:45 p.m. At 3 p.m. attendees will then walk up the street to the State Capitol to meet with their legislators in the Wisconsin Assembly and Senate.

It is important that attendees call the offices of their legislators in advance to schedule an appointment between 3 and 5 p.m. for Feb. 3.

Register for Ag Day by calling the Wisconsin Farm Bureau at 800-261-FARM. Registration cost is \$25. A copy of the registration form is also available at www.wfbf.com.

Cosponsors of the event with the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation are: National Farmers Organization, Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association, Wisconsin Pork Association, Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association, Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association, Wisconsin Soybean Association, Dairy Business Association, **Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin**, Wisconsin Horse Council, Wisconsin Women for Agriculture, Wisconsin Veal Growers Association and *The Country Today* newspaper. The Rural Mutual Insurance Company and GROWMARK Inc. are also major sponsors of the event.

Capitol Link Details

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Jordan Lamb is a partner at DeWitt Ross & Stevens' Capitol Square office in Madison. Jordan's law practice focuses on government relations and administrative law. She concentrates on legislative drafting, legislative research, and facilitating communication between clients and state government including administrative agencies and the State Legislature. Ms. Lamb also offers litigation support for administrative law issues. Jordan can be contacted at 608-252-9358 or at jkl@dewittross.com. For more information about DeWitt Ross & Stevens, go to www.dewittross.com.



Brought to you by:
Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin
N5776 County Road D, Suite 1
Fond du Lac, WI 54937
Phone: 800-947-7379
mail@pdpw.org
www.pdpw.org