

Gallo, Donald P. DPG (6224)

From: Gallo, Donald P. DPG (6224)
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2016 10:31 AM
To: Gallo, Donald P. DPG (6224)
Subject: Green Tier Application for Erin Meadows

Erin Meadows Farms LLC is a horse farm (approximately 140 horses and ponies) and crop farm located in Erin Township, Washington County and consists of five (5) properties (totaling 268 acres) including some rented farmland (approximately 60 additional acres). Clare Lane Stable LLC is a sister entity and a horse boarding facility consisting of another 10 acres with buildings. The properties are located within the Little Oconomowoc River watershed and the Ashippun River watershed. Erin Meadows employs 2 full time persons and approximately 40 part-time persons. We operate a year-round horse and pony riding facility, summer day camp, including an indoor riding arena, miles of outside trails and several hay fields consisting of mixed alfalfa and grasses. We raise 3 or 4 foals per year and we board at Clare Lane and lease several horses to our clients. We have considerable forage farm equipment, including dump trucks and trailers and make all of our own hay for private use and sell hay to others. Our Mission is to learn life skills through riding, be safe, have fun; we are environmentally conscious and practice sustainable measures to preserve our soil and improve water quality. Annually we need to be reviewed and certified by the Girl Scouts and we want to project a positive image and implement operational practices that are environmentally friendly and promote sustainability.

IV. Past and Current Environmental Performance – Baseline Date January 1, 2016

We practice no till planting and strategic application by sprayer of fertilizer, (EM A, B, C, D, E, F and CI)

We maintain conservation buffer strips on all waterways, (EM A, B, C, D, E, F and CI)

We practice energy and water conservation by using manure insulation around our water tanks for winter water, we also have constructed insulated covers for each tank to keep the heat in and to protect the water surface from blowing winds; and we install an air bubbler and water heater on some of the tanks to keep the tanks fresh and to keep the tanks from freezing. (EM A and CI)

We heat the barns and two houses with wood fired boilers from fallen trees and recycled old barn beams and structural members. (EM A, B, and E)

We compost the horse manure and saw dust bedding. (EM A and CI)

We use the compost for landscaping and field leveling as topsoil and we chip up all the branches for wood mulch for landscaping. (EM A, B, C, D, E, and CI)

We rotate pastures and in the fall we graze the hay fields to reduce mowing and save on hay consumption. (EM A)

We acid preserve the hay and stack the hay bales on pallets to provide for air circulation to prevent molding and to keep the hay fresh. (EM A, B, C, D, E, and CI)

We regularly change all oils and lubricants on our machinery, sharpen all blades regularly to save on fuel consumption and operate most efficiently. (EM A, C, D and CI)

We have an active recycle program; including deconstruction of old barns to salvage the old beams and timbers and siding for new run-in sheds for the horses and we burn the non-salvageable wood in our boilers used for heating. (EM A, B, D and CI)

We pick rocks from the fields, hedgerows and paddocks and utilize these rocks for water conservation and erosion control measures in the fields and along waterways. (EM A, B, C, D, E, F, and CI)

Storm water runoff is managed by settling areas, buffer strips and bio-swales. (EM A, B, C, D, and CI)

Future Plans for Enhancing the Environment

Insulate and seal air gaps in buildings and facilities. We have purchase an infrared camera for evaluating heat loss and cold air infiltration. (EM A, B, C, D, E, and CI)

Install water float shut off devices on all water tanks to conserve water and energy. (EM A, B, and CI)

Install air bubblers in water tanks to enhance water quality and conserve water from less tank cleaning, use of less chemicals from cleaning. (EM A, B, and CI)

Construct and maintain storm-water settling ponds to also be used for irrigation. (EM A, C, and D)

Enhance and preserve conservation buffer strips on wetlands and waterways, improving ground water recharge and surface water quality and function of wetlands. (EM A, B, C, D, and CI)

Participate in the Lake Country Pride Farms Group for water shed protection and water quality improvement within the Oconomowoc River water shed. (EM A, B)

Improve fertilizer usage and application with soil sampling and improved sprayer efficiency; reduces the pounds of fertilizer applied and wise application protects waterways. (EM A, B, C, D, E, F and CI)

Improve compost operation, collect surface water runoff and sediment control. (EM C, and D)

Develop a nutrient management plan for the facilities. (EM A, B, C, D, E, F, and CI)



Client Success.

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