

NetRegs

Your guide to environmental law affecting your business

Welcome to the March update from NetRegs. In this issue we highlight how farmers and developers can help to prevent water pollution, and what all businesses can and should do to keep waste out of landfill.

New rules on nitrogen fertiliser



Tough new rules for nitrate vulnerable zones (NVZs) came into force this year to tackle the high levels of harmful nitrates in British rivers, 60% of which come from agriculture. Almost 70% of England is now in a NVZ, so avoid a fine and find out exactly where, when and how much nitrogen fertiliser can legally

be spread on crops with our guides to NVZs in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

In this issue:

- Nitrogen fertiliser rules
- Sustainable drainage
- Animal by-products
- Reduce, reuse, recycle
- New waste protocols
- PPG 6 in consultation
- HazRed

Spread the word

Do you know a business that would benefit from staying informed, saving money and going green with NetRegs updates? Recommend us to a friend

Help us to help you

We'll soon be updating our **contaminated land** guidance, so if you have questions about this topic please write to us at news@netregs.gov.uk and we'll do our best to answer them on NetRegs.

Dates for your diary

Developers clean up with SUDS



Sustainable drainage systems (SUDS) are now required by law for new building developments in Scotland and are often needed to gain planning permission in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. This natural approach to drainage helps to prevent water pollution and flooding,

and can create green spaces in urban areas. If you're a builder or developer, make sure you have our fully updated guidance on how you can use SUDS in your project.

'Former foodstuffs' banned from landfill



If you're a food retailer or manufacturer it's likely you will no longer be able to send any food waste of animal origin or containing animal by-products to landfill from 31 July. Check out what this means for you with our fully updated animal by-products guidance.

Talking rubbish: is recycling still worth it?



Despite sharp falls in the global market for recyclables, it's no time to neglect our good green habits. Recycling your business waste saves you money in landfill and handling costs, but it's even cheaper and greener to make less waste in the first place. Give every employee a reusable cup or glass and bring an end

to plastic pile-ups at the watercooler. Check out NetRegs for more ideas to reduce and reuse your rubbish.

Meet the NetRegs team at the **Derby and Staffordshire Business Advice Open Day** at Uttoxeter racecourse on Thursday 19 March.

Word of the month

Swale *noun* A shallow drainage channel in the ground where surface water run-off from roads, yards and car parks can collect and soak away.



Saving waste from landfill: your ideas wanted!



Do you ever think some of the waste you send to landfill could be recovered and reused if there was less red tape? The Waste Protocols Project, an initiative from the Environment Agency and Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP), wants your recommendations for waste materials that could be turned into new

items. If your suggestion is successful, they will develop a Quality Protocol for using the waste as a resource. You have until Wednesday 8 April 2009 to make a recommendation.

Builders and demolition experts: have your say



The regulators are reviewing the pollution prevention guideline (PPG 6) on Working at Construction and Demolition Sites. Have your say and help shape the new guidance.

HazRed



Want to find out how to save money by reducing the amount of hazardous waste you produce in your business? The HazRed (Hazardous Waste Reduction) website will tell you, based on the experience of SMEs who have participated in the programme. We will be

linking to this guidance in the coming months.

Coming soon to NetRegs

Environmental permitting changes

The environmental permitting system is being extended in stages to cover areas such as mining waste, water discharge consents, groundwater authorisations and radioactive substances. Make sure you know what is changing and when with guidance coming soon to NetRegs.

SUDS image: © John Millington Photography

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