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NetRegs Update

a monthly update produced by NetRegs
on behalf of the Northern Ireland
Environment Agency (NIEA)

May 2017

In this month's update...

[New on NetRegs](#), [Legislation](#), [Consultations](#) and [Updates](#)

New on NetRegs

Connect with NetRegs through social media

Follow NetRegs on social media to keep up-to-date with the latest developments and benefit from a range of useful resources.

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Video Case Studies for Agriculture

Have you checked out our video case studies for agriculture?

Learn how others in the business protect the water environment, make good use of nutrients and prevent soil erosion.

The videos include:

[How to prevent diffuse pollution on a farm](#)

[How to protect soil and water on a farm](#)

[How to make good use of nutrients on a farm](#)

[Forward thinking farming - Broughgammon farm](#)

Visit our [video case studies](#) pages on NetRegs for more best practice videos.

NEW Guidance for Pollution Prevention (GPPs) formerly known as Pollution Prevention Guidelines (PPGs)

NetRegs have completed and published a number of new GPPs including;

[GPP 2: Above Ground Oil Storage Tanks](#)

[GPP 5: Works and Maintenance in or Near Water](#)

[GPP 13: Vehicle Washing and Cleaning](#)

[GPP 24: Stables Kennels and Catteries](#)

Coming soon; GPP 4: Treatment and disposal of wastewater where there is no connection to the public foul sewer, GPP 8: Storage and Disposal of Waste Oil, GPP 19: Garages and Vehicle Service Centres and GPP 21: Pollution Incident Response Planning. These guidelines will provide environmental good practice for the whole UK, and environmental regulatory guidance directly to Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Legislation



Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007 SR421

These regulations aim to protect uncultivated land/semi-natural areas and the restructuring of rural land holdings where they are likely to be of particular environmental importance. Make certain categories of development subject to a Formal Impact Assessment, thus ensuring that the environmental effects of a range of development projects are considered before they are allowed to go ahead.

The regulations came into force on 5 November 2007.

You can view the full text of the regulations here:

[Environmental Impact Assessment \(Agriculture\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2007 SR421](#)

Further information can be found here:

[Environmental Impact Assessment Application Forms and Guidance](#)

The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017

These regulations replace and revoke The Water Environment (Water Quality) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 and transpose the Water Framework Directive.

The new Regulations improve transposition of the Water Framework Directive by incorporating more of the wording from the Directive and providing more transparency around the requirements coming from the Directive.

The regulations came into force on 22 May 2017.

You can view the full text of the regulations here:

[The Water Environment \(Water Framework Directive\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2017](#)

Consultations



Consultation on Amending the Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs is seeking your views on proposed changes in respect of its environmental impact assessment legislation relating to agricultural projects, in order to reflect amendments introduced by EU Directive 2014/52/EU. The broad intention of the 2014 amendments is deregulatory – to simplify and clarify requirements, by focusing on environmental factors that are significantly impacted by development, rather than on any potential impact. The proposals apply to areas of uncultivated or semi-natural land in Northern Ireland.

The consultation ends on the 19 June 2017.

You can read the full consultation here:

[Consultation on Amending the Environmental Impact Assessment \(Agriculture\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2007](#)

Government Targets Air Pollution - Consultation on a draft revised UK Air Quality Plan for tackling nitrogen dioxide

The UK Government, the Scottish Government, the Welsh Government and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland are seeking views on a revised plan to reduce levels of nitrogen dioxide around roads. The consultation applies to England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. It includes the consultation document; the draft UK Air Quality Plan for tackling nitrogen dioxide; and the Technical Report, which includes details of the modelling techniques and assumptions used in the draft Plan. Essentially the Consultation sets out steps that the Government propose to take to improve air quality in our towns and cities.

If you want to comment on the draft plan through the consultation you have until the 15 June 2017 to do so.

You can read the Consultation and related documents here:

[Consultation on a draft revised UK Air Quality Plan for tackling nitrogen dioxide](#)

Updates

Guidance Leaflet NW10 – Herbicides for the control of noxious weeds in grassland

In Northern Ireland land owners have a responsibility to control noxious weeds such as thistles and Ragwort before they seed and spread, and may be legally required to do so by a DAERA notice. Herbicides are a very useful tool in controlling noxious weeds and ensuring a highly productive pasture. The Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs have published a guidance leaflet on the use of herbicides for the control of noxious weeds in grassland.

Read the guidance here:

[Guidance Leaflet NW10 – Herbicides for the control of noxious weeds in grassland](#)



General Guidance for Applying for a Waste Management Licence

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs has published a number of documents outlining guidance and the respective fees when applying for a waste management licence under the Waste Management Licensing Regulations (N.I.) 2003

You can view the documents here:



Bus and train week

Don't forget next week is [bus and train week](#)! Why not give your local bus or train service a try? You never know you may enjoy having a bit more stress free "me" time, reducing both your commute time and stress levels, and help reduce noise and air pollution and congestion to boot! Have a look at their [website](#) which gives timetables and ticket details and give it a try



Missed last month's update?

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To view last months email update click the link below:

[NetRegs update - April 2017](#)



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