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August 2019

In this month's update...

[New on NetRegs](#), [New Legislation](#), [Consultation](#), [Updates](#) and [Events](#).

New on NetRegs



F-Gas refrigeration ban e-learning tool

NetRegs has launched their new learning course on The F-gas refrigeration ban. Learn about the 2020 F-gas ban and whether your equipment is affected.

For more details you can [access NetRegs e-learning here](#)

Important Announcement for anyone working with F-Gas or ODS -

If you work with products containing F-gases or ODS, such as refrigerators, air conditioning and fire protection equipment, [read the F-Gas and ODS certificates article below](#)

Legislation



Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019

This Order comes into force on 1 December 2019. It relates to Regulation (EU) No. 1143/2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species ("the Principal Regulation") which came into force on 1 January 2015.

It imposes strict restrictions on a list of species known as 'species of Union concern'. These are species whose potential adverse impacts across the European Union are such that concerted action across Europe is required.

The restrictions mean that (subject to certain defences, or exemptions through permits or licences) species of Union concern cannot be imported into the EU, kept, bred, transported, placed on the market, used or exchanged, allowed to reproduce, grown or cultivated, or released into the environment. There are currently 66 species on the Union list: 30 animals and 36 plants.

You can read the Order in full here <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisr/2019/159/made>

Consultation



DAERA Science Strategy Framework document consultation

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) is seeking views on a strategy framework to guide and direct its use of science over the next 15 years. This consultation exercise gives you the opportunity to make known your views on whether you consider the proposed DAERA Science Strategy Framework to be relevant and appropriate for your organisation/sector's perspective. The Department encourages you to consider this proposed strategy and to share your views.

You can read the Consultation and associated documents here <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/daera-science-strategy-framework-document-consultation>

Updates

F-gases and ozone depleting substances (ODS) Announcement

Action needed by 31st Oct 2019 if businesses/employees possess certificates for work with F-gases or ozone depleting substances in products/equipment and work in the Republic of Ireland's jurisdiction

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, certificates gained from a UK-based certification body will no longer be valid for F-gas/ODS work in the Republic of Ireland ("RoI").

Businesses working in the RoI with F-gases or ODS in equipment, even if just partially, may therefore need to take action before 31st October 2019. This would apply to both company and individual certificates.

[Read more here >>>](#)



DAERA's Environmental Farming Scheme

Applications are open for the Environmental Farming Scheme (Wider Level). The scheme, which is part-funded under the EU's Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, is designed to address specific environmental needs, primarily relating to biodiversity, climate change and water quality. Applications close on 20 September 2019.

[Read more here >>>](#)



NIEA signs innovative environmental agreement with Dale Farm

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) has announced the signing of a Prosperity Agreement between the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) and



dairy company Dale Farm. The Prosperity Agreement aims to provide a welcome boost to the environment whilst supporting business competitiveness and is the latest to be signed by NIEA and a Northern Ireland business.

[Read more here >>>](#)

Prosperity Agreements are voluntary agreements through which NIEA and an organisation can explore opportunities for reducing environmental impacts in ways that create prosperity and well being. You can find out more about the NIEA Prosperity Programme and information around current agreements here

[Read more here >>>](#)

Soil Sampling - Take Action this Autumn

The autumn through to mid-winter (October to February) is the ideal time for soil sampling provided there has been no organic manure, lime or bagged fertiliser applied in the previous three months. The Northern Ireland Environment Agency has published an Article on the New Requirements for Soil Sampling which includes information on the:-

- reasons for soil sampling
- best time to take samples
- lessons from your Soil analysis report and
- recommendations

[Read more here >>>](#)



Events

SMARTER WASTE REGULATION AND POLLUTION CRIME ENFORCEMENT

12-14 NOVEMBER 2019
Brussels, Belgium



REGISTER NOW



LIFE SMART Waste project final conference

When: 12-13 November 2019

Where: Brussels

LIFE SMART Waste is joining together with INTERPOL's Pollution Crime Working Group (PCWG) to deliver a conference entitled, '*Smarter waste regulation and pollution crime enforcement*'. The joint conference will bring together environmental regulators, law enforcement agencies, policymakers, legislators, waste management industry representatives and other key stakeholders, creating opportunities for knowledge exchange and collaboration on a truly global basis.

Registration is open until 12 October 2019.

[Sign up here >>>](#)

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