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Subject: :Corn Stalk Debris Disposal Guidance
Date: Monday, October 7, 2019 11:10:19 AM

Just a note from an EHP perspective regarding **Corn Stalk Debris Management**:

There are no EHP concerns for mulching or otherwise disposing of corn stalks that wash onto a (maintained) road right-of-way – it is ok if an Applicant wants to gather corn stalk debris from a roadway or ditch and redistribute (with property owner's permission) back onto the field from where they came & even to plow them under. However, whether any of the above actions are eligible for PA funding is a PA call.

An Applicant can also **burn vegetative debris**.

They should contact Don Rosowitz (don.rosowitz@state.sd.us), SD-Dept of Environment and Natural Resources for guidance.

Here are links that addresses statutory compliance and regulations for burning:

SD Department of Environment and Natural Resources: <https://denr.sd.gov>

Air quality/burning: <https://denr.sd.gov/des/aq/openburn.aspx>

Essentially, the SD-DENR regulates the burning of vegetative debris and chemically untreated lumber with the following guidance: that apply to the open burning of trees, brush, grass, wood, and any vegetation in the clearing of land, right-of-way maintenance operations, and agricultural crop burning. This includes the open burning of structures or material for fire training, open burning for management of forests and wildlife or the disposal of a fire hazard.

- The prevailing winds during the burn should be away from any city or any occupied residence likely to be affected by the smoke to the best extent possible;
- The amount of dirt in the material being burned should be minimized to reduce smoldering;
- Oils, rubber, tarpaper, asphalt shingles, tires, railroad ties, treated wood, pesticide containers, materials containing asbestos, coated electrical wire,

and any other material creating unreasonable amounts of smoke or air pollutants may not be burned. For the purposes of burning buildings as a means of disposal or fire training, the above listed items should be removed, to the best extent possible, prior to burning;

- No hazardous waste or material shall be burned. This will create hazardous air pollutants;
- Open burning should be conducted between three hours after sunrise and three hours before sunset. This allows for good smoke dispersion. Air inversions that would trap the smoke at breathing level are less likely to occur between these hours. Additionally, fuel should not be added outside the timelines listed above. An open burn should be extinguished completely to ensure smoldering of material does not persist;
- Open burning should not obscure visibility or create a traffic hazard on any public road or airport right of way;
- The following entities should be notified of when and where the open burn will occur: local fire department, municipality nearest the burn, the county sheriff's department and any military, commercial, county, municipal or private airport or landing strip that may be affected by the open burn. Many complaints and disputes can be avoided by informing people ahead of time of the open burn. It is very important to contact your local fire department. This will ensure that sufficient personnel will be available in the event that control of the burn is lost; and
- Common sense precautions, such as having someone watching the fire until it is extinguished and assuring smoke does not impact residences or impair vehicular travel on highways, should be followed.

EHP wants to know the location of the burn.

Charlie