

## Dayna Burtness

Greetings MPCA! My name is Dayna Burtness. My husband Nick Nguyen and I own and operate Nettle Valley Farm in Black Hammer Township outside of Spring Grove, MN (Houston County). We are a diversified livestock and seed operation on 90 acres of rented and owned land.

This issue is personal for me -- the water I used to make my coffee this morning had to go from our well through a reverse osmosis system due to high nitrates and other contaminants.

I'm writing in support of these changes, especially eliminating winter application entirely. It's incredibly painful and maddening to see shit-soaked snow melt and watch it flow from the fields into our shared water supply. What a waste. It just doesn't make any sense.

I also support the changes to requirements about having a perennial crop or cover crop planted or at least a growing annual crop. Other changes that make a ton of sense are the rules about consistently following the permit requirements even once the manure is transferred (I assumed this was already the case, yikes) and also that if you cause a manure spill or discharge, you gotta help clean it up and pay for water sampling.

Something that hasn't been updated and ought to be is the requirement for proactive sampling and testing of the water wherever liquid manure is being spread. Farmers already do proactive soil sampling to give us info about how to make changes to our nutrient management programs (or at least we all should), so sampling the water nearby makes sense as well.

Thank you,  
Dayna Burtness