

# The AAP's Accepted Agricultural Practices

## **Buffer Zones**

Maintain 10' buffers of vegetation,  
25' at runoff points.  
No manure application in buffer zone.  
Fertilize and tilling only for maintenance.  
May be harvested.



## **Construction of Farm Structures**

Maintain local setbacks and no-build area.  
Build at least 50' from top of bank.  
Design waste facilities to NRCS standards.  
Structures disturbing  $\geq 1$  acre need Agency of  
Natural Resources permit.



## **Streambank Stabilization**

Stabilize following NRCS standards.



## **Ground Water Quality**

Minimize impact to groundwater quality.  
VAAFm monitoring of farm groundwater quality.

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*This summary of the Accepted Agricultural Practices is  
provided through VACD.*

*Pictures by Jennifer Durham Alexander.*

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## Farm Management of Non-Point Source Pollution

The Accepted Agricultural Practices are standards designed to reduce non-point source pollutant discharges through improved farming techniques.

All farm operators are required to follow the AAP's.

For details of the AAP's or for technical assistance, contact your local Natural Resource Conservation District or Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets.



Vermont Association of Conservation Districts

**Vermont Agency Of  
Agriculture, Food & Markets**

# The AAP's:

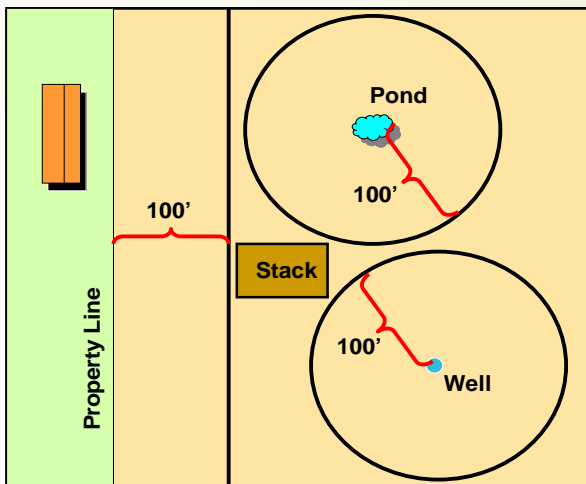
## Discharges

- No direct waste discharge to surface water.
- Manage facilities to prevent waste runoff.
- Limit trampling and equipment damage on banks.
- Leave banks in natural vegetated state



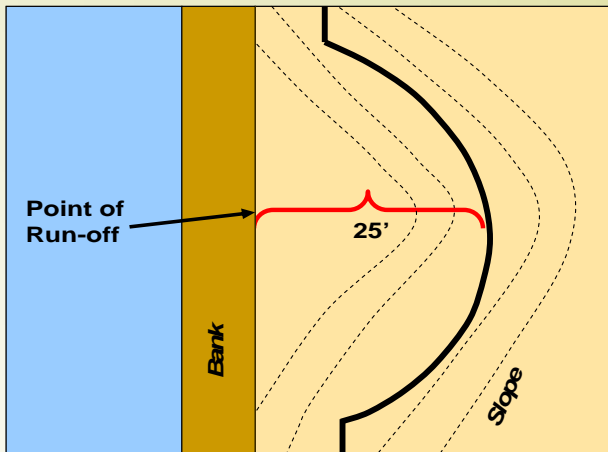
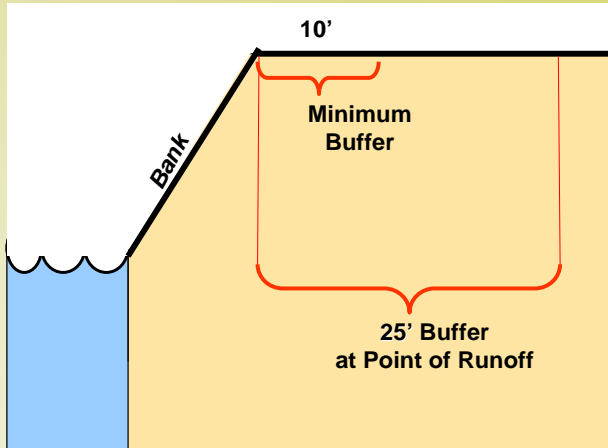
## Nutrient & Pesticide Storage

- No storage on lands subject to overland flow.
- Prevent discharge from waste systems.
- No storage within 100' of wells, property line or surface water.
- Stabilize following NRCS standards.



## Nutrient & Pesticide Application

- Apply according to soil tests taken every 5 years.
- Incorporate manure within 48 hours in floodplains.
- No manure spreading between Dec 15- April 1.
- No manure applied within 10' of surface water or within 25' at runoff points.
- No livestock or manure within 50' of wells.



## Soil Cultivation

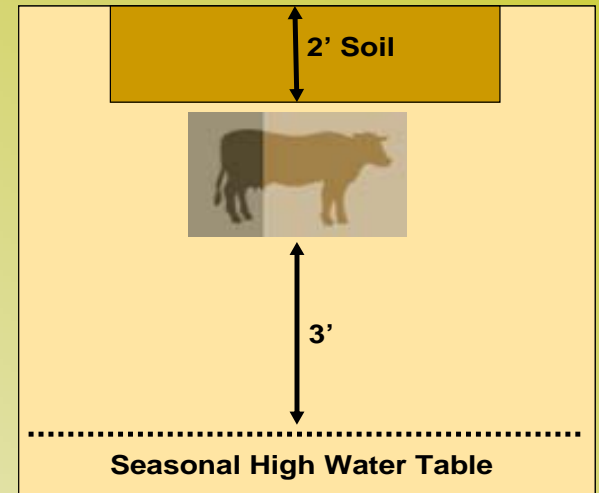
- Manage crop fields so that soil erosion loss does not exceed 2 tons per acre (according to Natural Resource Conservation Service standards).

## Agricultural Waste Management

- Minimize impacts to water quality

### Mortality Burial

- 150' from property line, well, surface water.
- 3' above seasonal high water table, 2' cover of soil.



### Mortality Composting

- 100' from boundary, wells, surface water.
- Not on land subject to annual overflow.
- 300' from neighboring domiciles.

