

Department, and others to protect water quality. However, the Agricultural Water Quality Management Act also provides for a regulatory backstop to ensure prevention and control of water pollution from agricultural sources in cases where landowners or operators refuse to correct problem conditions.

Agricultural water quality regulations (Area Rules) allow landowners flexibility in how they protect water quality. Area Rules describe characteristics that landowners must achieved on agricultural lands, rather than practices that must be implemented.

The following is a summary of regulations that apply in the North Coast area:

1. *Landowner actions may not cause pollution to any waters of the state or place any wastes in a location where such wastes are likely to escape or be carried into the waters of the state by any means.*
2. *Riparian vegetation along streams must provide the establishment, growth, and/or maintenance appropriate to the site.*
3. *In addition, there are rules specific to erosion, livestock waste, irrigation*

water, nutrient applications, and chemical application.

4. *Ensure tide gates open and close as designed.*

Do the Plan and Regulations apply to me?

The Area Plan and associated regulations apply to all lands, regardless of size, in current agricultural use and those lying idle, or on which management has been deferred. It also applies to agricultural operations within incorporated city boundaries within the designated management area boundary.

What do I need to do?

You should evaluate your agricultural activities and try to determine whether they might:

1. Pollute streams, canals, and groundwater, and
2. Prevent growth of appropriate vegetation along streams.

Then you need to change any problem practices to ensure compliance with the Area Rules.



More information?

If you would like additional information or technical assistance please contact:

Clatsop Soil and Water Conservation District (503) 325-4571

Columbia Soil and Water Conservation District (503) 397-4555

Tillamook Soil and Water Conservation District (503) 842-2240

West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District (503) 238-4775

OR

Oregon Department of Agriculture North Coast/ North Willamette Water Quality Specialist:

Brenda Sanchez – Desk: (503)-986-4730; E-mail: bsanchez@oda.state.or.us

Natural Resource Programs at (503)-986-4700

Visit the website for more information and copies of the area plan:

www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/NaturalResources/AgWQ/Pages/AgWQPlans.aspx