



# FARM ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



**FARM & FOOD**  
*Care* ONTARIO

This newsletter highlights what Farm & Food Care is working on related to farming and the environment. Your comments and suggestions are welcomed.

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## What's new?

### New Manure Spreader Visiting Ontario Farms

New manure application technology to Ontario combines uniform application of manure and digestate with the ability to apply larger volumes quickly for more days of the year. This combination of European dribble bar technology and an Ontario-made tanker may strike a new balance between thin, even application and fast turnaround times back to the tank.

Workshops and demonstration events planned across Ontario over the next year (2015) will demonstrate in-field multi-crop precision manure and digestate application. The goal of the workshops is to have a larger proportion of manure applied to growing crops, which will help maximize nutrient utilization and minimize negative environmental impact. Look for this interesting new spreading technology at a demonstration event near you.



For more information contact:

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### Farm Invention Challenge

Tinkering, mending, dabbling, modifying, revolutionizing – whatever it is that you do on the farm we want to know about it. Farm & Food Care is sponsoring the Farm Invention Challenge with \$9,000 in cash prizes available in the categories of farm animal care and water efficiency and quality. Farm & Food Care will profile winning entries as part of our commitment to doing the right thing in farm animal care and the environment.

For more information and to enter the contest: <http://bit.ly/1mbFDhm>

## Upcoming Events & Meetings

- ⇒ Breakfast on the Farm:  
Wilmot Orchards, Newcastle, ON  
October 4, 2014
- ⇒ Environment Advisory Council  
Meeting: October 9, 2014
- ⇒ Tribute to Farmers Football Night:  
Rogers Centre, October 10, 2014
- ⇒ Harvest Gala: October 30, 2014  
Bingemans, Kitchener, ON

### Watch us on YouTube



Follow Farm & Food Care on our YouTube channel to see the latest videos from our environment projects.

New videos are uploaded each month. Follow this [link](#) to our YouTube channel. Subscribe to the channel for more interesting videos.

# Project Updates

Have a friend or family member who is interested in visiting a farm? Did you know you can from the comfort of your own couch? Visit Virtual Farm Tours today.



## Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS)

Are you a weather enthusiast? Do you keep regular rainfall records? There is a new weather network for you.

We are looking for volunteers! CoCoRaHS consists of a network of volunteer observers who upload daily precipitation information to the program website, [www.cocorahs.org/canada](http://www.cocorahs.org/canada). CoCoRaHS is now live in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario, and the Maritime Provinces. The information recorded creates daily precipitation maps used by farmers, forecasters, schools, and many others. Weather gauge kits can now be purchased online from the CoCoRaHS website.

For more information about the program email [ontario@cocorahs.org](mailto:ontario@cocorahs.org).

## Water Adaptation Management and Quality Initiative (WAMQI)

A total of 29 projects focusing on water conservation, efficiency and nutrient management are underway and already yielding results. Many projects have been documented with video and can be seen on our [YouTube channel](#).

WAMQI allocates approximately \$1.25 million to demonstration and pilot projects that showcase innovative technologies and solutions for agricultural water conservation and efficiency and projects that support the efficient use of nutrients and effective nutrient management related to water quality. To know more about the program, click [here](#).

Funding is provided through Growing Forward 2 (GF2), a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. Projects have been chosen that support farm water quality and water quantity objectives and will benefit Ontario agricultural producers and organizations. The program is administered by Farm & Food Care Ontario.

## 2014 Ontario Pesticide Survey

The Ontario Pesticide Survey is a confidential survey conducted by Farm & Food Care and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

The Information collected is used to help improve minor use pesticide registration lists, work towards safer use of pesticides and to understand trends in use and types of crop protection products used. Farmers are encouraged to contribute their data to help improve Ontario agriculture

What information is collected:

- Grower's county
- Crop type
- Crop protection product used
- Acres applied
- Acres not applied

Data is being collected online until February 2015 at [www.pesticidesurvey.ca](http://www.pesticidesurvey.ca)

## Farm Innovation Tours Across Ontario

Three farm innovation tours have already taken place in 2014, featuring agricultural innovation in Guelph, Chatham-Kent and the Holland Marsh. The tours highlight innovations in environment and farm animal welfare. Tour locations are currently being planned for 2015. visit <http://bit.ly/1r0sijd> to see highlights of past tours.



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