

Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker Certification Act (Act 49) FAQs

These FAQs are only intended to give a general overview of the Act since regulations are still in development. Specific criteria has yet to be determined but will be updated once more information is available.

What is Act 49?

Act 49 was signed into Law on June 28, 2004 by Governor Rendell and is now known as the Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker Certification Act.

What is the purpose of Act 49?

The purpose of the Act is to certify certain individuals or businesses that haul or apply manure in Pennsylvania. The intent of certification is to insure that manure generated by agricultural operations is safely transported and applied in an environmentally safe manner.

Who will be required to follow this new law?

Any person or business that will be commercially brokering, transporting or land applying manure on behalf of an agricultural operation in Pennsylvania will be required to follow this law.

When will commercial manure brokers and haulers be required to adhere to this law?

Although the law is technically in effect now there will not be regulations to follow until around February 2007 at which time a person or business falling under the requirements of Act 49 must be certified.

Who will be administering the Commercial Manure Hauler & Broker Certification Program?

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has been designated to administer Act 49 in consultation with the State Conservation Commission to insure continuity between the Nutrient Management Law and Commercial Manure Hauler & Broker Law. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture will administer a certification program to certify commercial manure haulers and brokers in various categories that are yet to be determined.

Will farmers be required to be certified or use a certified person to transport or land apply manure on their own operation?

No, the Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker Certification Law is intended to only cover those persons or businesses that will be brokering, transporting or land applying manure on a commercial basis on behalf of another agricultural operation.

Where can I find more information on the Commercial Manure Hauler and Broker Certification Program?

You may contact the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture at 717-772-5218 or 717-772-4189 for more information or visit the website at www.agriculture.state.pa.us.