



## BREAKING THE MOLD

A strong offense is your best defense when it comes to keeping mold from becoming a problem in your home or workplace. Eliminating moisture is key to preventing mold from becoming an overwhelming problem. Be alert for signs of mold—musty smells and watermarks on walls and ceilings are good signs that mold is present. If caught early, mold can usually be easily removed with bleach and water. Be sure to clean the area thoroughly and dry it. Using a hair dryer, fan, or space heater to allow the area/room to thoroughly dry is critical for preventing mold from returning. If the area is prone to excessive moisture, find a way to eliminate the source of moisture.

If the mold problem is excessive, it may be necessary to clean and dry the area, as well as replace carpet, furniture, drapes, moldings, and/or walls.

While the majority of molds pose no threat to humans, certain molds can produce hay fever-like allergic reactions. Keep in mind that many symptoms associated with mold exposure are very common to other illnesses.

### **Listed below are a few tips for preventing mold:**

- ◆ Reduce the humidity in your home.
- ◆ Make sure to use exhaust fans in bathrooms and kitchens.
- ◆ Think twice before installing carpets or rugs in damp basements, bathrooms, or other damp areas.
- ◆ Avoid water accumulation under house plants.
- ◆ Use a primer that inhibits mold prior to painting.
- ◆ Make sure that clothing and towels are thoroughly dry before putting them away.
- ◆ Keep gutters and drains clear of debris.

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## ABRAHAM LINCOLN REMEMBERED AFTER 200 YEARS

Abraham Lincoln was born in Kentucky, spent his youth in Indiana, and made Illinois his home. The State of Illinois captured this special relationship with Lincoln with its slogan "*Land of Lincoln*".

Illinois communities have a significant connection to the Lincoln story since he lived in and traversed the state from 1830 until his departure on February 11, 1861. His most endearing relationship was with the town of Springfield where he departed with these words: "*To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe every thing. Here I have lived for a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young to an old man.*"

The Illinois Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission is encouraging citizens of all ages to send 200th birthday cards to Abraham Lincoln – the man who gave us Thanksgiving, saved the Union, and kept things under his hat?

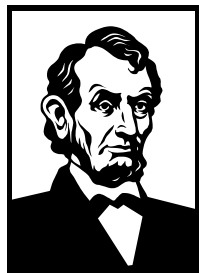
Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday is February 12, 2009, and the Illinois Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission encourages citizens of all ages to send birthday greetings, hand-made if possible, to Mr. Lincoln's official mailing address as recognized by the United States Postal Service: Abraham Lincoln, c/o Old State Capitol, 1 Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701.

"Whether they are made with crayon and construction paper or lace and ribbons, we hope the cards from all over the world pour into Mr. Lincoln's home town in the weeks leading up to his birthday," said Illinois Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Chair Marilyn Kushak.

Select cards received at the Old State Capitol may be used for physical or website displays, or for publicity purposes.

The Bicentennial Commission has planned numerous activities to celebrate Lincoln's 200th birthday. A complete list is available at [www.lincoln200.net](http://www.lincoln200.net). Join the celebration and honor Lincoln and his work by sending a card.

*The people and events of the past  
serve no useful purpose if they  
are forgotten.*



# Happy Presidents' Day!

## WINTER MANURE APPLICATION: Legal or Illegal?

I'm sure many of you have noticed while traveling around the county that many farmers are spreading manure. If you're like most people who noticed this, you probably asked yourself—'is it legal to spread manure on frozen ground?' 'Isn't that all going to run right off into our streams with the next rain or snow melt?'

Winter is not the best time to apply manure and it should be the farmer's last choice. The best nutrient utilization will come from applying the manure as close to the time of crop uptake as possible. Obviously, there are very few winter crops that utilize the nutrients (primarily nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium) in manure. In addition, the frozen/snow covered ground creates a high potential for nutrient loss via runoff, as well as an unappealing sight against the snow covered ground. But is it illegal? No. It is not illegal to spread manure on frozen ground. Certainly, if farmers could avoid applying manure to frozen ground, that would be the best approach, but this is not always practical. Farmers have limited manure storage space—usually a manure pit or tank. Once the manure pit/tank is full, the only option is to empty it and apply the manure on their crop fields.

Do the farmers have any regulations they must follow when spreading manure in winter? Yes! And thankfully, many farmers want to 'do the right thing' and are conscious of their actions and how it impacts the environment and the neighborhood. Many farmers will choose specific fields and time their application based on minimizing the potential for loss or runoff. In addition, many follow the state's guidelines which are listed below. However, if you feel a farmer is in conflict with these guidelines and is creating a problem, contact the Conservation District's Nutrient Management Specialist, Lynette Gelsinger, at 272-3908 ext. 4 so that the problem can be investigated and corrected.

### Winter Manure Application Guidelines:

- Select fields with cover crops or at least good residue
  - Regulations require a cover crop or at least 25% residue for winter spreading
- Stay as far away from water as practical
  - Regulations require staying 100 ft from water in the winter
- Select the most level fields available and especially avoid significant slopes
- Avoid areas in fields where concentrated water flow is likely
- Avoid poorly drained fields
- Don't spread on snow unless it is unavoidable
- Try to avoid spreading when rain or melting conditions are expected
- Stay away from roads and don't spread in road ditches
- For daily spreading, mark where you stop spreading in case fresh snow covers up the previous application to avoid skips and overlaps
- Select fields that are appropriate for winter manure application.

Even if manure is applied appropriately in good locations over the fall and winter, you are still not out of the woods because a large proportion of late fall and winter nutrient losses from manure come when conditions begin to warm up in the spring.

## GLRA ENHANCES UNION CANAL

**N. Annville Twp:** The historical Union Canal traverses throughout Lebanon County including the property of the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority (GLRA). The GLRA property also contains two canal lock structures that were used to move boats along the canal. In the Fall of 2008 the GLRA performed some much needed rehabilitation of the canal downstream of the locks viewable from Russell Rd. in North Annville Township.

Over many years a gravel bar had formed within the canal forcing the water to flow around this gravel/silt bar (left *photo*). This altered path caused increased erosion of the canal's banks and eventually changed the path and appearance of the canal. To return the site to its historical condition, the GLRA staff proposed the removal of the gravel/silt bar that had collected downstream of the lock and enhance or repair the banks. This project would allow the canal to return to the original path through the property.

Following approval from the PA Department of Environmental Protection and the PA Historical and Museum Commission, the GLRA began the project in December 2008. The project included the removal of the gravel bar, repairing the banks of the canal, adding rip-rap, and replanting shrubs to stabilize the banks (*right photo*). Two native species of willows (36 total) were planted along the banks that will eventually add protection and beauty to the canal.

Approximately 100 feet of the canal was repaired and returned to its natural flow path for all to enjoy.

**Written by Scott Werkheiser, GLRA**  
**Photos provided by GLRA**



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