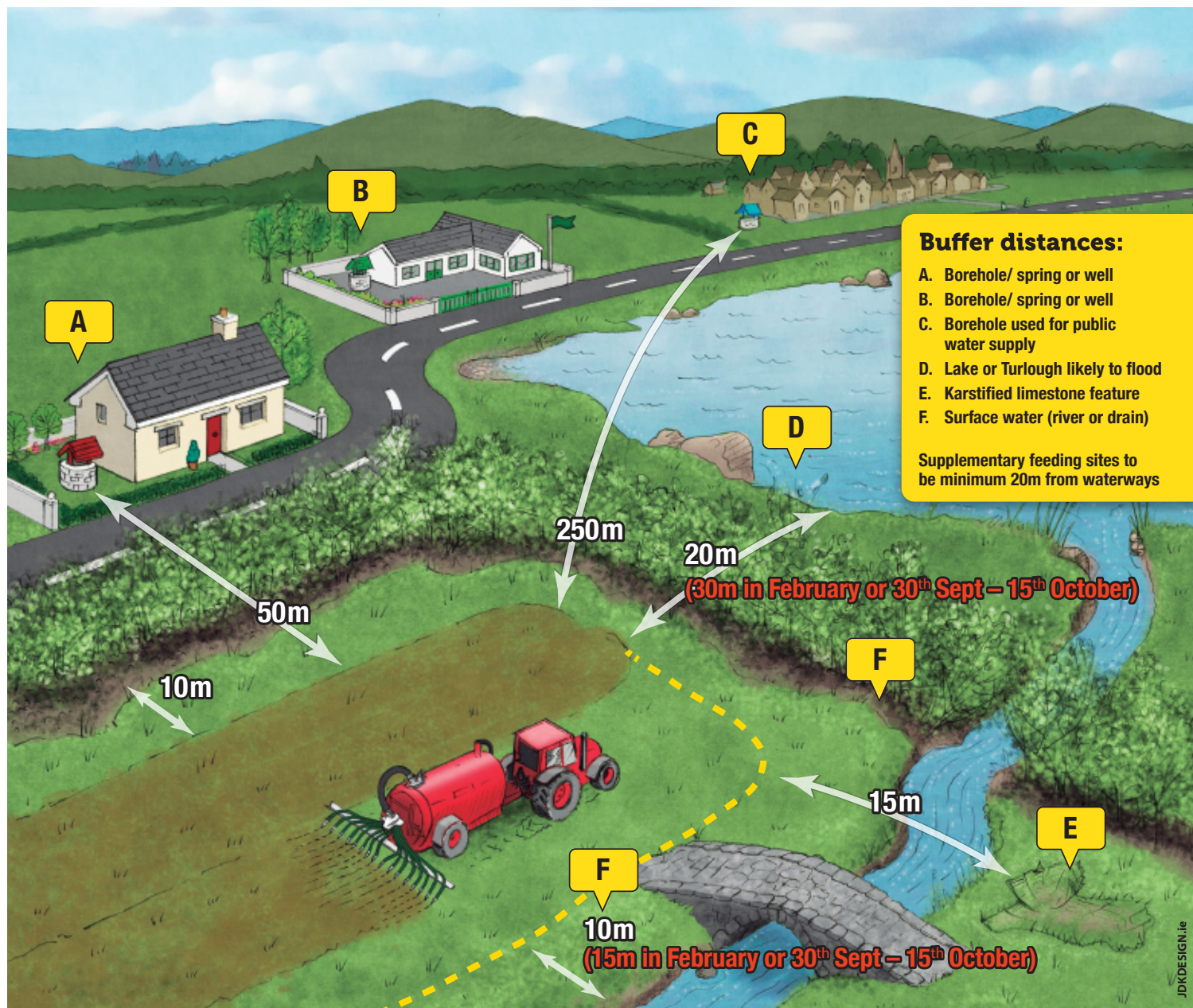


# The Nutrients Action Programme (NAP) 2019-2022

Buffer distances for the landspreading of organic fertiliser/dirty water



The Nutrients Action Programme (NAP) 2019-2022 outlines the requirements as to the manner of application of fertilisers and/or dirty water to land, as well as providing information on the dates when land-spreading is allowed. This leaflet is a practical guide to help farmers, growers and land managers to protect the environment in which they operate by following the NAP.

# The Nutrients Action Programme (NAP) 2019-2022

Buffer distances for  
the landspreading of  
organic fertiliser/dirty  
water

Prevent entry of fertilisers to waters and ensure application is accurate, uniform and not in a location or manner likely to cause entry to waters.

Organic and chemical fertilisers or dirty water shall not be applied to land in any of the following circumstances –

- On waterlogged soils, flooded land or land liable to flood; The land is flooded or likely to flood;
  - On frozen ground or snow covered ground;
  - If heavy rain is falling or forecast in the next 48 hours;
  - On sloping ground additional risk factors need to be considered include the proximity to waterways, the length of time to incorporation, the type and amount of fertiliser being applied and/or the soil and weather conditions (see NAP guidance for further details);
- No chemical fertiliser can be applied within 2m of any waterway.

Organic fertilisers or dirty water shall only be applied in the following manner-

- Application rates for organic fertilisers or dirty water
- No more than 50m<sup>3</sup> per ha (or 30m<sup>3</sup> per ha in February and October) or 50 tonnes per ha (20 t per ac) of organic manures to be applied at one time, with a minimum of three weeks between applications;
- No more than 50m<sup>3</sup> per ha (4,500 gal per acre) of dirty water to be applied at one time, with a minimum of two weeks between applications;
- Slurry can only be spread by inverted splashplate, bandspreaders, trailing shoe, trailing hose or soil injection;
- Dirty water to be spread by same methods as slurry and by irrigation;
- Anaerobic Digestate must be spread using Low Emission Slurry Spreading Equipment (LESSE) from 1st February 2020
- Slurry contractors must spread using LESSE from 1st February 2021
- On cattle farms with 200 or more livestock units and pig farms with a total annual livestock manure nitrogen production of 20,000kg or more Slurry to be spread using LESSE from 1st February 2022
- Sludgigators must not be used

## Closed Landspreading Season Table

Chemical	15 Sept – 31 Jan
Organic	15 Oct – 31 Jan
Farmyard Manure	31 Oct – 31 Jan

Source: S.R. 2019 No 81 - The Nutrient Action Programme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019