

By state law, a chemigation permit MUST be obtained before person may legally chemigate.

NEW PERMITS

Whether or not the permit holder is certified, the *person who actually applies* the chemicals through an irrigation system **MUST be certified.** A person may become certified by attending a course offered by the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension Service and passing a written exam. Certification is good for four years, after which you must take a renewal course. CPNRD should be notified by the permit holder of any change of certified applicators to avoid complications if an accident or violation occurs. ***A chemigation system MUST be inspected before a new permit may be issued.***

WHAT TO EXPECT AT NEW PERMIT INSPECTIONS:

- * The system is required to be started, brought to normal operating pressure and shut down.
- * The system must meet all chemigation system requirements (see back of brochure).
- * A permit holder or applicator must be present during the NRD's inspection. NRD staff will not operate any irrigation or chemigation equipment, nor will they open any electrical control box.
- * An emergency permit may be issued by CPNRD for a cost of \$500. This permit is valid for 45 days and would allow the option of chemigating in an emergency situation.
- * Permit needs to be signed by both the permit holder & certified applicator if application is different than permit holder.

RENEWING PERMITS

IMPORTANT REGULATIONS TO REMEMBER:

- * **Current permits expire on June 1 of each year.** If you do not receive an application in the mail, call CPNRD at 308-385-6282 before June 1.
 - * Renewal permits can be issued without an inspection, however, the NRD is required to re-inspect systems in operation on a spot-check basis. Inspectors will be monitoring on a spot-check basis to ensure the NRD that the operation is compliant to regulations.
 - * **To Renew Your Chemigation Permit:** send the completed application form, along with the \$20 permit fee to: **Central Platte NRD, 215 N. Kaufman Ave., Grand Island, NE. 68803.** Renewal applications received after June 1 must comply with provisions for new permits, including a \$60 permit fee and the requirement for an inspection before the permit can be issued.
 - * **CPNRD has a three-year rotation schedule for re-inspections.** After the period for renewal applications ends on June 1, notification will be sent to 1/3 of the renewal permit holders that their systems need to be reinspected. **It is the responsibility of the permit holder to contact the CPNRD to set up an appointment for such an inspection.**
- NOTE:** If you are notified by the NRD and your system is not inspected during the year that it is due to be reinspected, than the permit will not be renewed until the system has been reinspected and all system requirements are met. A new permit will be required if the system is not inspected before June 1.
- * Permit needs to be signed by both the permit holder & certified applicator if application is different than permit holder.

NON-PERMITTED IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

- * CPNRD is required by law to make area-wide, selective and periodic inspections of non-permitted irrigation systems. **Periodic spot-check inspections are required to ensure compliance with the Nebraska Chemigation Act.**
- * In cases of non-compliance by an irrigator, CPNRD may apply to district or county court of the county in which the irrigation system is located for inspection warrant to allow CPNRD's employee entry onto the irrigator's property to carry out duties under the Chemigation Act.
- * CPNRD will investigate complaints concerning non-permitted systems.

REPORTING ACCIDENTS

An actual or suspected accident, related to the use of chemigation, must be reported within 24 hours of its discovery. You should notify the **Nebraska Department of Environmental Control at 402-471-2186 or CPNRD at 308-385-6282 or 1-800-577-3995** by telephone during normal working hours. After hours or on holidays or weekends, you should notify the **Nebraska State Patrol at 402-471-4545.** Notification should include the time of occurrence, quantity/type of material, location and any corrective/cleanup actions being taken.

CHEMIGATION SYSTEM EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

Six specific equipment requirements are included in the laws relating to chemigation. These items must be in place before any system is approved for permit and must also be in place and in use during any application.

#1 MAINLINE CHECK VALVE An irrigation line check valve must be located in the pipeline between the irrigation pump and the point of chemical injection into the irrigation pipeline. The check valve must stop the water and chemicals from draining or siphoning back into the irrigation well, when the system is shut down. The check valve must have a positive closing action and a watertight seal. It should be easy to repair and maintain. The irrigation pipeline check valve may be moved from site to site, provided each site is properly equipped, maintained and complies with all requirements of the Nebraska Chemigation Act.

#2 VACUUM RELIEF VALVE A vacuum relief valve must be located on the pipeline between the irrigation pump and the mainline check valve. The valve allows air into the pipeline when the water flow stops, preventing a vacuum that could cause siphoning.

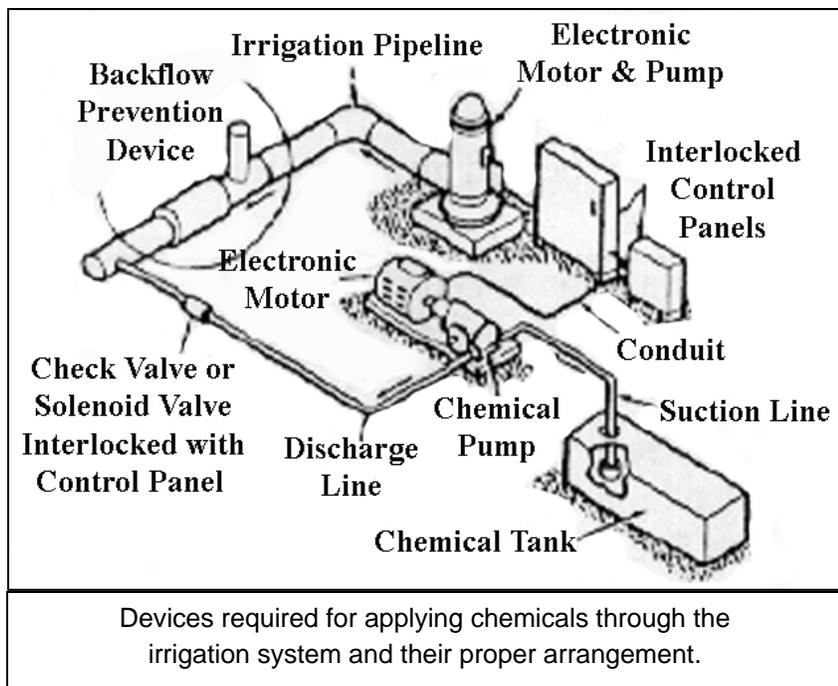
#3 INSPECTION PORT An inspection port must be located between the irrigation pump discharge and the mainline check valve. The four-inch inspection port enables the operator to make a visual inspection for possible leaks of the check valve. The vacuum relief valve connection can often serve as the inspection port.

#4 AUTOMATIC LOW PRESSURE DRAIN The low pressure drain, made of corrosion-resistant material and having at least 3/4 inch orifice, must be located on the bottom of the horizontal pipe between the irrigation pump and the irrigation pipeline check valve. The drain must discharge at least 20 feet from the water source. This drain will keep any mixture of water and chemical away from the irrigation source.

#5 CHEMICAL INJECTION LINE CHECK VALVE A chemical injection line check valve must be located between the point of chemical injection into the irrigation pipeline and the chemical injection pump. This valve shall be chemically resistant. With a minimum opening pressure of 10psi, this check valve is needed to stop the flow of water from the irrigation system into the chemical supply tank and to prevent gravity flow from the chemical supply tank, through the injection pump and into the irrigation pipeline after an unexpected shutdown.

#6 SIMULTANEOUS INTERLOCK DEVICE The irrigation pump and the chemical injection pump need to be interlocked so that if the irrigation pump stops, the chemical injection pump will also stop. This interlock prevents the pumping of chemicals from the supply tank into the irrigation pipeline after the irrigation pump stops.

REPLACEMENTS Replacement or alternation of equipment must be reported to Central Platte NRD within 72 hours. The NRD must do an inspection. If in compliance, the permit will be continued. If the equipment does not comply, the permit must be suspended until compliance is achieved and the NRD gives its approval.



Regulations & Requirements of the Nebraska Chemigation Act

An annual permit is REQUIRED.

A system *must be inspected* before a new permit is ISSUED.

Equipment must meet SPECIFICATIONS.

Operators must be CERTIFIED.



Central Platte

Natural Resources District

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Phone: 308-385-6282 Fax: 308-385-6285

Website: www.cpnrd.org