

Fact Sheet – Risk Maps

The Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021 require all farms to maintain a risk map, to help prevent pollution incidents. You must maintain a risk map of your holding from 1 January 2023.

The risk map must show:

- each field, with its area in hectares;
- all surface waters;
- any boreholes, springs or wells on the *holding* or within 50 metres of the *holding* boundary;
- areas with *sandy* or *shallow soils*;
- land with a slope of more than 12° (equivalent to 20% or 1 in 5);
- land within 10 metres of surface waters;
- land within 50 metres of a borehole, spring or well;
- land drains (other than sealed impermeable pipes);
- sites suitable for temporary field heaps, if this method of storing manure is to be used; and
- *land that has a low run-off risk*, if such land is to be used when calculating *slurry* storage requirements.

What the risk map can also show (optional)

The risk maps can also be used to identify features where it would not be appropriate to spread organic manure, but are not a requirement of the regulations including:

- any areas where you may not be allowed to *spread* for reasons such as a tenancy agreement, or a designation (e.g. Site of Special Scientific Interest);
- areas categorised as a “wildlife habitat” under an agri-environment agreement (e.g. Glastir), plus any other areas where an agreement prohibits *spreading* (e.g. low input land);
- areas where the surface is rocky or uneven so that equipment cannot be used effectively or safely;
- fields or part fields which in the last 12 months have been pipe drained, mole drained or sub-soiled over drains;
- areas of woodland or orchards.

Updating and maintaining records of your risk map

You must update the risk map with any changes and you must keep all copies of your risk map, for a minimum of 5 years.

Detailed guidance on how to create your risk map can be found at gov.wales/land-management