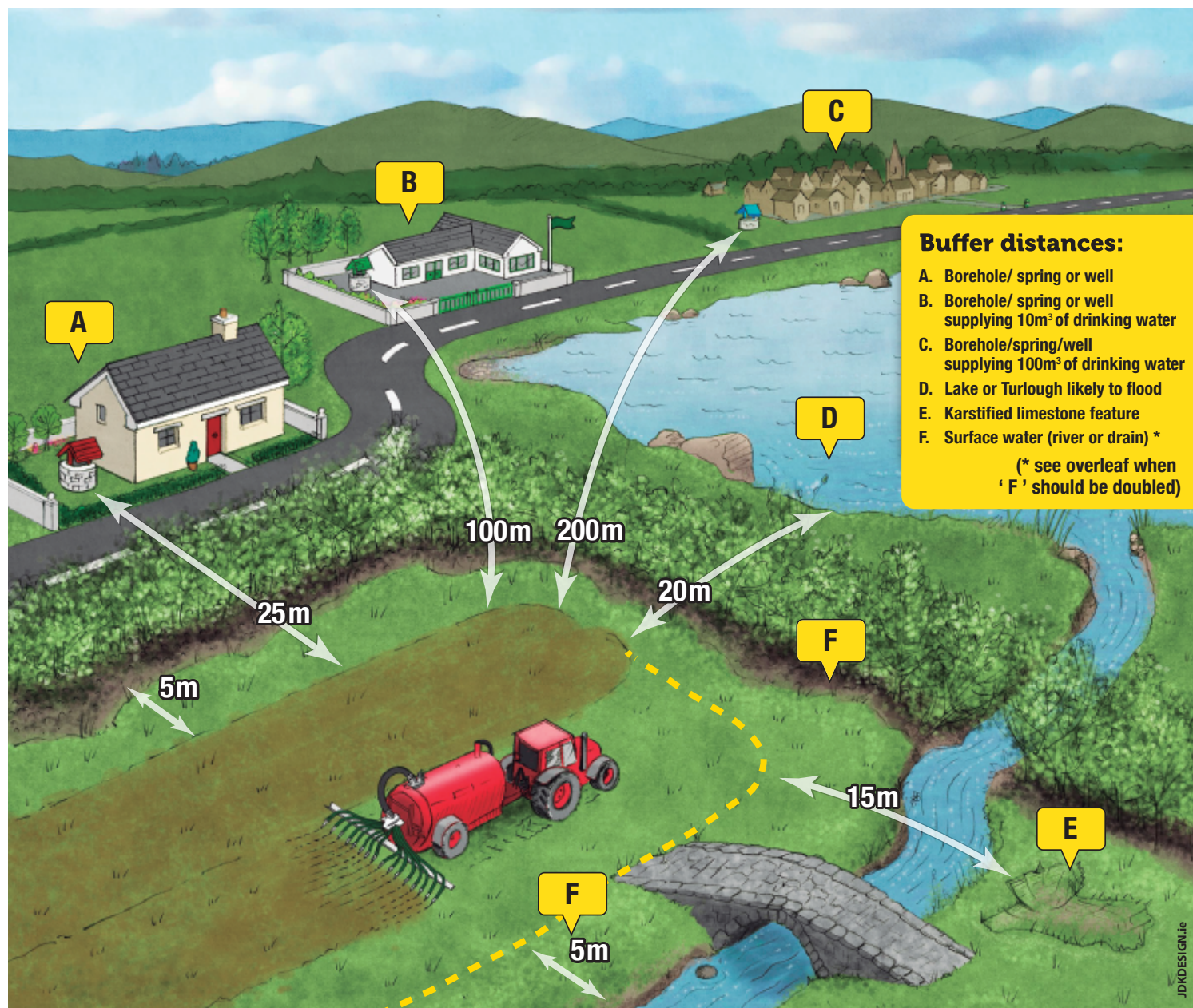


Good Agricultural Practice for the Protection of Waters

Buffer distances for the landspreading of organic fertiliser/soiled water



The Code of Good Agricultural Practice outlines the requirements as to the manner of application of fertilisers and/or soiled water to land, as well as providing information on the dates when landspreading 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 Code of Good Agricultural Practice.

Good Agricultural Practice for the Protection of Waters 2017 (GAP)

Buffer distances for the landspreading of organic fertiliser/soiled water

Livestock manure, other organic fertilisers, effluents, soiled water and chemical fertilisers shall be applied to land in as accurate and uniform a manner as is practically possible.

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

- The land is waterlogged;
- The land is flooded or likely to flood;
- The land is snow-covered or frozen;
- Heavy rain is forecast within 48 hours;
- The ground slopes steeply and there is a risk of water pollution having regard to factors such as surface runoff pathways, the presence of land drains, the absence of hedgerows to mitigate surface flow, soil condition and ground cover.

Organic fertilisers or soiled water shall not be applied to land –

- By use of an umbilical system with an upward-facing splashplate;
- By use of a tanker with an upward-facing splashplate;
- By use of a sludge irrigator mounted on a tanker;
- From a road or passageway adjacent to the land irrespective of whether or not the road or passageway is within or outside the curtilage of the holding.

Closed Landspreading Season Table

In counties Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan and Sligo (note different end date for Louth and Sligo shown within brackets)

Chemical	15 Sept – 31 Jan	(15 Jan)
Organic	15 Oct – 31 Jan	(15 Jan)
Farmyard Manure	1 Nov – 31 Jan	(15 Jan)

*Reg 605 of 2017 prescribes a doubling of the buffer distance from 5m to 10m from any streams/rivers waters in the two weeks before and after the closed period

Source: Schedule 4, S.I. No. 605/2017 - EU (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2017.