



"Protect and Serve"

ema.millscoia.us

ema@millsctyema.org

News Release: June 1, 2015

Contact: Sheri Bowen, Public Information Officer

Mills County, IA – Cell: 712-527-0137, Email: sherib@mcph.us

LOESS HILLS LANDFILL RECEIVES FIRST LOADS OF BIRD WASTE

Mills County government officials are closely monitoring the arrival of bird waste at the Loess Hills Landfill which began last Saturday, with 11 trucks bringing 21 loads for burial. The transport and burial processes were completed according to protocol developed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). This requires transport in heavy bags in covered containers, disinfecting all loaded trucks prior to leaving the farm site, use of alternate roads within the landfill, immediate burial in an isolated section of the landfill, complete disinfection of trucks before leaving the site and ongoing site monitoring. Officials from DNR, USDA and IDALS are onsite to assure all procedures are implemented according to protocol.

“We are pleased the Loess Hills Landfill has reported an uneventful beginning to this process, said Sheri Bowen, Public Information Office for Mills County. We did have reports that 3 trucks bringing empty containers were incorrectly using several gravel roads for access, rather than staying on Hwy 34, however, the issue has now been corrected. We will continue to monitor activity to assure the safety of our community.”

One container of bird waste material is comprised of approximately 7500 chickens and absorbent materials and weighs between 7 and 8 tons. The Loess Hills Landfill has processed a total of 21 loads over the weekend and anticipated receiving an additional 12 trucks today. This represents about 1% of the more than 30,000,000 birds currently affected here in Iowa.

Information has been posted to the Mills County Website at www.millscoia.us and includes links to state and national sites as well as the DNR protocol for landfill disposal of these birds. The Mills County Emergency Management Facebook Page also provides information. Concerns can also be addressed through a State-wide 24/7 Concern Hotline at 1-800-447-1985. If you need additional information, contact Sheri Bowen at 712-527-0137 or by email at sherib@mcph.us.