

Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program

CNMP Components

The CNMP concepts are introduced to producers through the education phase of MAEAP. The data and records needed to complete a CNMP are presented along with the components and purpose. A CNMP includes 13 major components.

The components include:

1. Overview
2. Farm Headquarters Map
3. Animal Outputs
4. Conservation Practices on Fields Used for Land Application
5. Land Application Management
6. Record of CNMP Implementation
7. Feed Management
8. Alternative Utilization Activities
9. Inspection, Operation and Maintenance Training
10. Schedule of Implementation
11. Emergency Action Plan
12. References
13. Appendices.

The **Overview** is a brief statement describing the farm operation, including enterprises, goals and long-term plans for resource management.

In developing a **Farm Headquarters Map**, producers develop a site map showing the location of farm buildings, animal housing, manure storage structures, sources of manure and wastewater, feed storage, farm house(s) and any other relevant physical features.

Animal Outputs is one of the more comprehensive components in developing a CNMP as it involves an in-depth review of the production, collection, storage, treatment and transfer of manure. A few areas producers are asked to review during this component includes the inventory of species, total amount and characteristics of manure, animal mortalities management, manure and waste water collection methods, as well as the method for transport of manure and wastewater.

Conservation Practices on Fields for Manure Application is another key component in developing a CNMP. In this component, producers evaluate the potential for nitrogen or phosphorus transport off-site; identify sensitive areas such as streams and water bodies; identification of conservation and management practices needed for erosion control and water management in order to control offsite transport of manure, and develop maps showing sensitive areas and conservation practices.

The **Land Application Management** component allows producers to develop a nutrient budget. In addition, during this component, equipment is calibrated and the application schedule and rates are determined.

While all components of a CNMP are important, perhaps the most critical element in safeguarding against potential nuisance complaints is the completion of the **Record of CNMP Implementation**. This component includes key items such as keeping records by field regarding soil tests, dates of manure/wastewater application, method of application, weather conditions and previous crops grown and yields. In addition, other records are documented including the analysis results of manure/wastewater quantities and record of manure/wastewater sold or distributed to others.

The **Inputs to Animals** component addresses the management of animal diets that results in optimum production, best economical use of feed materials and minimizes the amount of nutrients contained in manure.

For some farms with a limited base, **Alternative Utilization** of manure may need exploration; compost or other value added options might need to be looked at. Additionally, this component asks producers to review the environmentally sound off-site utilization and the transportation of manure.

Inspections, Operation and Maintenance Training is instrumental in training and keeping up to date all existing employees as well as new hires regarding a farm's CNMP. This component also includes scheduling an inspection of structural and vegetative practices and equipment, as well as reviewing the operation and maintenance practices, and scheduling the review of management practices to ensure implementation of the plan.

Schedule of Implementation is merely a timeline showing when changes occurred or will occur. The schedule that is implemented is the result of the producer and plan writer working together, allowing for reasonable implementation. In addition to the suggested changes, this component includes scheduling the farm's annual review.

The purpose of devising an **Emergency Action Plan** is to provide producers with actions to take in the event of a spill or failure of collection of transfer components. In the Emergency Action Plan, a list of emergency telephone numbers is compiled, as well as developing the anticipated flow paths in the event of a spill.

The References and Appendices components allow the producer to collect information that is cited in the development of the plan, as well as gather environmental documentation and copies of pertinent references cited in the plan.