Livestock System Progressive Planning Fact Sheet
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The facility site review is conducted to determine if there are any direct discharges from the Farm site. This component is key to your success and is recommended as the first components completed. This confidential, Non Regulatory site review will need to be completed by an approved provider (see resource section). A discharge is the release of nutrients, pathogens, manure or polluted storm water into a water of the state. Surface waters include county drains, ditches, streams, creeks, rivers, wetlands, lakes, and ponds. In addition, based on Right to Farm Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPS) for Manure Management and Utilization, it is unacceptable for nutrients, pathogens, manure or polluted storm water to leave the owner's property, or run to a low area and pond.

Components

- Milkhouse and/or parlor wastewater
  - Is milkhouse and parlor wastewater collected and land applied?
  - If not collected and land applied, is milkhouse and parlor wastewater treated?
    - Acceptable wastewater treatments may include appropriately sized and designed settling tanks followed by an acceptable infiltration system. This does NOT include a failed septic leach field or a direct tile line to surface water.
    - Cooling water.
      - Cooling water cannot be directly discharged to surface water or groundwater without a discharge permit. Less than 10,000 gal/day can be discharged onto a pasture or grassy field without a permit as long as there is no possibility of a discharge or ponding.

- Silage leachate and feed storage runoff
  - Is runoff reaching surface water, a tile, or running to a low area and ponding?

- Outdoor lots
  - Is contaminated water running to surface water, a tile, or running to a low area and ponding?

- Pasturing along surface waters
  - Do animals have unrestricted access to surface water?

- Manure storage breaches
  - Is sufficient freeboard being maintained, is there a breach of storage, or evidence of a past breach?

- Farmstead tile
  - Can polluted water reach tile inlets?

- Egg wash-water
  - Is water reaching surface water, a tile, or running to a low area and ponding?

- Other potential nutrient runoff and discharge sources
  - Manure loading and handling areas
  - Composting areas
  - Manure storage and stacking areas
  - Drains from boot washes and other cleaning areas
  - Mortality disposal

If a potential discharge is present you will need to develop a plan to address the problem. This may include something as simple as adding a gutter to a barn, or something as complicated as installing a new manure storage structure. Regardless of the complexity you will be working on your own schedule and will be directed to any available sources of cost-share and design assistance.

Resources

- Certified Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) Provider
  - Trained MAEAP Partner or representative (see your project coordinator)
  - MAEAP Technician
  - Frequently asked questions document available at www.maeap.org
  - Inspecting your confined feeding operations Extension Bulletin E2823

Timing

Anytime except when snow covered, preferably during a precipitation event.

1 This list is not comprehensive of all potential discharges, but provides examples to help you begin assessing your farmstead.

In Michigan, Part 31-Water Resources Protection of Public Act 451 of The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act states, “A person shall not directly or indirectly discharge into waters of the state a substance that is or may become injurious to any of the following: a) to the public health, b) to domestic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational or other uses that are being made or may be made of such waters, c) to the value or utility of riparian lands, d) to livestock, wild animals, birds, fish, aquatic life, or plants or to the growth propagation, or the growth, or propagation thereof be prevented or injuriously affected; or whereby the value of fish and game is or may be destroyed or impaired.”