



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Animal Feeding Operations

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Description:

- The term “animal feeding operation” refers to facilities where:
 - Animals are confined and fed for at least forty-five (45) days (consecutive or non-consecutive) or more out of the year; and
 - The confinement area is covered with less than 50% vegetation.
- Regulated animal feeding operations are divided into two (2) categories according to the size of the operations:
 - Confined feeding operations (CFO).
 - Concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFO).
- The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) regulates CFOs as a state program not required by federal regulation and CAFOs by authority of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).
- As of July 1, 2010, there are 2,051 CFOs and CAFOs in Indiana.

Threshold Number of Animals		
Species/Sector	CAFO	CFO
Beef:		
Cattle	1,000	300
Cow/Calf Pairs	1,000	
Dairy:		
Mature Dairy Cow	700	300
Other than Mature Dairy Cow (dairy heifers, dairy calves, veal calves)	1,000	
Swine:		
Growers/Finishers/Sows (greater than 55lbs)	2,500	600
Nursery Pig (less than 55lbs)	10,000	
Chickens:		
Layers/Broilers (liquid manure handling system)	30,000	30,000
Chickens other than Layers (not in a liquid manure handling system)	125,000	
Layers (not in a liquid manure handling system)	82,000	
Ducks:		
Liquid Manure System	5,000	30,000
Not in a Liquid Manure System	30,000	
Others:		
Turkeys	55,000	30,000
Horses	500	500
Sheep/Lambs	10,000	600

Environmental Impacts:

- Because of the nature of animal feeding operations, large quantities of manure are produced and stored in pits, lagoons, tanks and other storage devices. When stored and applied properly, this manure is a beneficial resource for farmers and the environment, adding nutrients to the soil and reducing the need for fuel and other natural resources required for the production of commercial fertilizer.
- If handled improperly, manure can have detrimental effects on the surrounding soil and surface water.
- To protect water quality, federal and state rules require that all animal feeding operations be designed as zero discharge facilities. Facility design standards require farms to collect and land apply all manure and process wastewater in order to avoid discharging to waters of the state of Indiana.
- There are currently no state or federal odor-related regulations for animal feeding operations; however, USEPA provided funding for a two (2)-year study on animal feeding operations and air quality, which was completed in 2010.

IDEM's Role:

- IDEM is responsible for protecting human health and the environment while providing for safe industrial, agricultural, commercial and governmental operations vital to a prosperous economy.
- IDEM is responsible for administering the state's Confined Feeding Control Law (IC 13-18-10) and approval program. IDEM's CAFO regulatory program is based on water pollution control laws and rules adopted by the Indiana Water Pollution Control Board. Environmental scientists, engineers and geologists from IDEM's Office of Land Quality (OLQ) evaluate CAFO approval applications for compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Additionally, it is important to note that zoning and development issues fall under the jurisdiction of the local government. Issues such as property values, road traffic, odors and other issues are not addressed in the Confined Feeding Control Law (IC 13-18-10), the Confined Feeding Operations Rule (327 IAC 16) or the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations Rules (327 IAC 15-4-3 and 327 IAC 15-15).
- IDEM notifies local officials (county commissioners, mayors, town board presidents) when an application is received.

Citizen's Role:

- Citizens may get involved in the CAFO permitting process in the following ways:
 - When a public notice is issued for a draft permit, citizens will be given thirty (30) days to submit comments about the CAFO operation.
 - Citizens may request a public hearing for a proposed CAFO.
 - If a public hearing does occur, citizens may attend to provide oral or written comments, which will be part of the public record as recorded by a court reporter.
 - Citizens can work with their local government to address zoning laws and land use.

More Information:

- For more information, please visit IDEM's Web site at <http://www.in.gov/idem/4994.htm>.
- For questions, please contact IDEM's agriculture liaison at (317) 232-8587 or (800) 451-6027 and request extension 2-8587 or by e-mail at atauer@idem.in.gov.