

What is required for CAFO compliance?

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), with concurrence from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), has developed a State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permitting process for CAFOs.

If the CNMP is developed for CAFO permit compliance, an Appendix B–Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan Certification shall be completed by a Certified or Conditionally Certified Planner, and sent to DEC. The Conditionally Certified Planner must submit the plan for review and receive approval by a CNMP Review Team before the Appendix B will be accepted.

The landowner is expected to check with county and municipal officials to determine if any local ordinances or regulations apply to the development or implementation of the CNMP.

Is funding available for CNMPs?

Cost-share assistance for CNMP development is available through State grant programs. Funding criteria requires that services for CNMP development are fully documented as planning components. In order to complete required elements of the CNMP, conservation practices may need to be installed and/or implemented. Certain activities considered implementation components of the plan should not be included in the overall cost when development of the CNMP is cost-shared through a state grant.

A CNMP planner may offer additional services associated with CNMP implementation. A farm that is receiving cost-share assistance for the CNMP through a state grant should only submit invoices that reflect the cost for CNMP development. Examples of services not eligible for state grant funding are:

- Equipment used to develop CNMPs
- Testing for equivalent neutralizing value (ENV) of lime.
- Pre-sidedress nitrogen testing (PSNT)
- Integrated Crop Management (ICM) or Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Personnel training
- Operator's record keeping
- Engineering services relating to the design and construction of BMPs



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USDA NRCS

For More Information Contact Your County:

Soil & Water Conservation District
www.nys-soilandwater.org

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Center
<http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>

Cost-Share Assistance Programs:

NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets
Division of Soil & Water
Division of Agricultural Protection & Development
www.agmkt.state.ny.us

NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation
www.nysefc.org/fab/fabhome.htm#efarm

NYS Soil & Water Conservation Committee
www.nys-soilandwater.org

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs

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New York State

AGRICULTURAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT



Anne Salliman

CNMP Fact Sheet

COMPREHENSIVE NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

What is a CNMP?

A Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) is a conservation plan unique to animal feeding operations. It is designed to evaluate all aspects of farm production and offer conservation practices that help achieve production and natural resource conservation goals.

Site specific CNMPs are implemented to address the goals and needs of individual farmers regarding State water quality considerations and regulations. CNMPs in New York must meet the high standards of USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Waste Management System Standard NY-312. Technical information and NRCS practice standards can be found at:

www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/

What is the purpose of a CNMP?

A CNMP is designed to enhance the natural resources on the farm and to reduce the potential for off-site impacts by managing the:

- production, handling, storage and/or treatment of animal manure, its organic by-products, and fertilizers
- amount, source, form, placement, and timing of the application of these materials to the land
- loss of soil from water and wind erosion
- long-term economic viability and efficiency of animal feeding operations

Who needs a CNMP?

A CNMP is required for farms that are:

- Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) operating under State General Permit GP-04-02. Information on the General Permit can be found at:
www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dow/cafohome.html
- Farms seeking federal or state cost-sharing to construct a manure storage structure.

A CNMP can also be developed and implemented by any livestock farm seeking to maximize production, while efficiently managing their natural resources and protecting the environment.

What are the basic elements addressed by CNMPs?

Manure & Wastewater Management

Process wastewater is water that is no longer clean due to the addition of manure, milk, feed, silage juice, etc. In many circumstances, process wastewater needs to be cleaned up before it leaves the farm operation. The CNMP will include recommendations to address process wastewater including barnyard runoff, milk center wash water or egg wash, and silage leachate from storage areas. Clean surface water runoff and roof water will be directed away from production areas where contamination could occur. Pathogen management practices and proper disposal of animal mortality must also be addressed.

Feed Management

The CNMP guides producers and their nutritionists in modifying animal diets to reduce nutrients in manure while maintaining production. Producing high quality, home grown feeds and forage can reduce nutrient imports and lead to improved farm nutrient balances.



Skaneateles Lake Watershed Agricultural Program

Nutrient Management

A nutrient input budget for crop production is developed for all sources of nutrients used on the farm such as manure and commercial fertilizer based on realistic crop yields. The volume of manure generated is calculated and analyzed for nutrient content. Fields are soil tested to determine existing nutrient levels and evaluated for run-off and leaching potential to help plan the rate, timing, and method of nutrient application. A manure spreading schedule is developed providing the quantity (tons, gallons or number of loads) and timeframe for spreading each field. Manure is utilized as the primary source of nutrients, while commercial fertilizer is supplemented as needed. Manure and fertilizer application equipment will also be calibrated.

Land Management

The characteristics of crop fields including soil type, topography, slope, erosion potential, and evidence of runoff are examined. The producer and planner will select conservation practices and management activities that control erosion and reduce the runoff and leaching potential of nutrients. Practices often include crop rotation, cover crops, conservation tillage, waterways, and conservation buffers.

Record Keeping

Record keeping is a necessary part of the CNMP. During CNMP development, a record of decisions must be maintained for future reference. Also, producers are responsible for tracking the following: the amount of manure produced, how and where the manure is applied, current soil and manure analyses, operation and maintenance of conservation practices, export or import of nutrient sources, planting dates and records, equipment calibrations, and crop yields.

Emergency Action Planning

An Emergency Action Plan is required to address manure spills from a storage or spreader, or other spills such as fuel or pesticides. The plan should include locations of equipment that can be used to contain the spill and assist clean-up efforts, as well as a map of water resources that could be impacted. Contact information for emergency services should be posted in a central location. The plan identifies areas to receive additional manure in the event of equipment breakdown, facility failure, and/or adverse weather conditions for an extended period of time.

Alternative Considerations

Alternative uses for manure are identified such as off-site sale of manure or compost, anaerobic digestion, feed stock, and other innovative solutions. These alternatives may be considered when land application opportunities are limited and producers desire alternative value-added approaches to manure and wastewater use.

Periodic Evaluation & Updates

CNMPs must be evaluated and updated periodically to be effective. When a significant change in the operation occurs, such as an increase in acreage, animal units, or change in manure and waste management, the CNMP should be updated accordingly. The manure spreading schedule and the nutrient management element should also be updated annually. Updates could include evaluation and modification of any element described above. Regulated CAFOs are required to update their CNMP annually and must submit an Annual Compliance Report signed by their Certified Planner to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.