

# Chapter 49

# Manure Storage Facility Permit



## Dane County Manure Storage Facility Permit

In 2019, Dane County Board of Supervisors approved Dane County Code of Ordinances Chapter 49: Agricultural Performance Standards and Manure Management effective July 1, 2019. Chapter 49 authorizes the Land & Water Resources Department to evaluate the siting, construction, installation, management, and closure of manure storage facilities and waste transfer systems through the issuance of a permit.

### What is a Manure Storage Facility?

A manure storage facility is any structure that is used to contain manure, anything mixed with manure (e.g. bedding, soil, compost, feathers, hair, etc.), manure by-products (e.g. sand, separated solids, sludge, etc.), process wastewater (e.g. milkhouse waste, runoff from barnyards, feed leachate, etc.) or other agricultural wastes. This may include stacking pads for solid manure, liquid manure storage facilities, transfer systems, digesters, composting facilities, and collection systems for runoff from barnyards, manure storage or feed storage areas.

### When is a Manure Storage Permit Required?

Chapter 49 manure storage facility permits are 20 years permits that cover the construction, operation and maintenance through the designed life expectancy of the facility. They are required **prior to:**

- ☛ Constructing a new manure storage facility,
- ☛ Substantially altering an existing manure storage facility,
- ☛ Constructing waste transfer systems, or
- ☛ Closing an existing manure storage facility. (see separate brochure)
- ☛ Tanks smaller than 1,000 gallons do not require a permit but are required to meet the standards contained in the ordinance.



## Obtaining a Manure Storage Permit

To apply for a manure storage facility permit, the following items must be submitted to the department as a complete application for review and approval:

- ☛ Manure storage facility permit application form,
- ☛ Application fee,
- ☛ Engineering and construction plans – certified by a professional engineer or engineering practitioner,
- ☛ Emergency response plan,
- ☛ Operation and maintenance plan, and
- ☛ Nutrient management plan.

The department has 30 calendar days from receipt of a complete permit application to review and issue a decision regarding the application. Be aware that other permits may also be required such as local building permits, construction site erosion control permits, and storm water management permits.

## Hiring Consultants and Contractors

Hiring a professional engineer registered with the State of Wisconsin or an engineering practitioner certified by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) or the United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will help make the permitting process go smoothly. Engineering professionals and practitioners can assist with:

- ☛ Management and site assessment,
- ☛ Construction and inspection plans,
- ☛ Final construction plan showing changes and certifying it meets NRCS standards and specifications,
- ☛ Operation and maintenance plan, and
- ☛ Safety design.

The department can also assist landowners with the bidding process to review proposed construction costs and hire contractors. A list of engineers, practitioners, and contractors who typically work in Dane County is available online: [lcd-lwrd.countyofdane.com/](http://lcd-lwrd.countyofdane.com/)

## Operation and Maintenance

Once a permit is issued, construction is complete and the manure storage facility is being used, the facility will need to be operated and maintained in accordance with the operation and maintenance plan through the permit term. Permit terms are 20 years. If modifications or repairs are needed during the permit term, a new application should be submitted to the department for review and approval. In most cases, the modifications can be covered under the existing permit; however, there may be situations where modifications to the permit will be required.

## Permit Expiration

At the end of the permit term, the landowner can request a certificate of use to continue using the facility. An evaluation may be required to determine the facility is still meeting the design criteria. If the landowner no longer wishes to use the facility, a manure storage facility permit for closure will be required and the facility should be properly closed in accordance with an approved manure storage facility closure plan.