



CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION (CAFO) GENERAL PERMIT

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REGULATORY HISTORY FOR CAFOS

1972

- CWA

1974

- EPA used the term “feedlot”

1976

- EPA defined Animal Feeding Operation & Concentrated Feeding Operation

1999

- National Performance Standards
- 6 elements of CNMP

2003

- CAFOs must obtain NPDES permit
- Develop NMP
- Regulations challenged

2008

- EPA updated CAFO regulations in favor of producers
- Only CAFOs which discharge or propose to discharge waste need to apply for NPDES permit

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Federal Regulations

40 CFR 122.23 – Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (applicable to State NPDES programs)

40 CFR 412 – CAFO Point Source Category

[https://www.epa.gov/npdes/animal-feeding-operations-
npdes-cafo-permitting](https://www.epa.gov/npdes/animal-feeding-operations-
npdes-cafo-permitting)

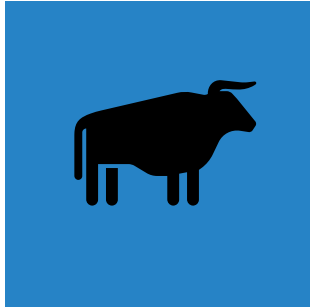
State Regulations

RCSA 22a-430-3 – General Conditions Applicable to Water Discharge Permits

RCSA 22a-430-4 – Procedures and Criteria for Issuing Water Discharge Permits

[https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Water-Regulating-and-Discharges/Agricultural-
Wastewater#:~:text=Examples%20of%20agricultural%20wastewater%20include,and%20r
unoff%20associated%20with%20composting](https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Water-Regulating-and-Discharges/Agricultural-Wastewater#:~:text=Examples%20of%20agricultural%20wastewater%20include,and%20r
unoff%20associated%20with%20composting)

ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS (AFO)



“a feedlot or building or a group of feedlots or buildings (other than an aquatic animal production facility),



which is located at a lot or facility,



where the following conditions are met:

1. animals (other than aquatic animals) have been, are, or will be stabled or confined and fed or maintained for a total of 45 days or more in any 12-month period, and
2. crops, vegetation, forage growth, or post-harvest residues are not sustained in the normal growing season over any portion of the lot or facility.”

CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS (CAFO)

Type of animal	LARGE	Medium
	CAFO	CAFO
	Number of animals	Number of animals
Mature dairy cows, whether milked or dry	700	200–699
Veal calves	1,000	300–999
Cattle, other than mature dairy cows or veal calves (Cattle includes but is not limited to heifers, steers, bulls and cow/calf pairs.)	1,000	300–999
Swine, each weighing 55 pounds or more	2,500	750–2,499
Swine, each weighing less than 55 pounds	10,000	3,000–9,999
Horses	500	150–499
Sheep or lambs	10,000	3,000–9,999
Turkeys	55,000	16,500–54,999
Laying hens or broilers, if the AFO uses a liquid-manure handling system	30,000	9,000–29,999
Chickens (other than laying hens), if the AFO uses other than a liquid-manure handling system	125,000	37,500–124,999
Laying hens, if the AFO uses other than a liquid-manure handling system	82,000	25,000–81,999
Ducks, if the AFO uses other than a liquid-manure handling system	30,000	10,000–29,999
Ducks, if the AFO uses a liquid-manure handling system	5,000	1,500–4,999

- An AFO meets the criteria for a Medium CAFO if it has the above number of animals, as well as a discharge criteria if pollutants are discharged in one of the following ways:
 - Into waters of the U.S. through a man-made ditch, flushing system, or other similar man-made device
 - Directly into waters of the U.S. that originate outside the facility and pass over, across, or through the facility or otherwise come into direct contact with the confined animals

Note: two or more AFOs under common ownership = single AFO for purpose of determining if it is a CAFO

CT ISSUED CAFO GENERAL PERMIT ON JANUARY 1, 2023

- This permit covers discharges associated with CAFOs which includes:
 - Any discharge under catastrophic or chronic rainfall conditions from facilities that are designed, constructed and operated to hold all agricultural wastes, agricultural wastewater and runoff from at least a 25-year, 24-hour rainfall event
 - All other discharges to groundwater and surface water in accordance with the approved CNMP
- Any discharge of water, substances or materials into the waters of the state other than those specified above are not authorized under this permit
- Exemption: Stormwater discharge from land application areas where the agricultural waste and/or agricultural wastewater was applied in accordance with a site-specific nutrient management plan

WHO MUST FILE A REGISTRATION?

- Any person seeking authorization for a discharge associated with a CAFO

Criteria	Days to Submit Registration
Existing Large CAFO	365 days from January 1, 2023
Existing Medium CAFO	365 days from January 1, 2023
CAFO designated by Commissioner	180 days after being notified
New CAFO	180 days prior to initiating discharge

REGISTRATION FORM

- Search "CT Wastewater Permits" in a search engine
- Click the link titled "Water Discharge Permits and General Permits"
- Scroll down until you reach General Permits (half-way down page)

[General Permit Registration for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations \(CAFO\) \(ct.gov\)](#)

REVIEW & APPROVAL PROCESS

DEEP staff review and draft an Approval of Registration

Post the Registration Form, CNMP and draft approval of Registration on the DEEP website for public comment

30-day public comment period

Commissioner may require the CAFO owner or operator to revise the CNMP

DEEP will include written responses to public comments along with the Commissioner's final Approval of Registration on the DEEP website

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE

Questions pertaining to discharge permits for CAFOs can be sent to CAFO.Coordinator@ct.gov

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[CT DEEP Agricultural Wastewater](#)