

Livestock Facility Siting

Animal Units (Worksheet 1)

The livestock siting law primarily applies to livestock operations over 500 animal units (AU). Some local governments with a preexisting ordinance elected to grandfather a lower permit threshold prior to the November 1, 2006 deadline, all ordinances adopted after this date must begin permitting at 500 or more AU. The animal equivalency factors used to calculate the size of an operation in animal units can be found in the application Worksheet 1: http://datcp.wi.gov/uploads/Environment/pdf/atcp051 app a.pdf

How will we know when a facility adds enough animal units to need a permit?

It is the livestock operator's responsibility to get a permit when required. If you determine that a livestock operator has added more animal units than allowed without getting a permit, the full range of local options are available, including issuing stop-work orders and assessing fines until a permit is issued. Some local governments may choose to establish a livestock registration system that reflects each facility's animal unit count as of the effective date of the siting rule or your ordinance, whichever is later.

I currently have a WPDES permit for my facility and would like to expand my operation. What do I do?

You must complete the livestock siting application if local approval is required. Your farm may submit your WPDES permit in lieu of Worksheets 3, 4 and 5 if your WPDES permit was issued to cover the number of animal units you are planning to add to your operation.

WPDES permits allow expansions of your livestock facility within certain parameters. If your WPDES permit does not cover the full number of animal units that you are planning to expand your facility to, and you are expanding by 20%, you must complete the full siting application.

If you have a WPDES permit for your facility, as well as a local permit for your facility, you must complete a new siting application for any expansion that exceeds the number in your local permit.