



# Informational Flyer for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (“CAFO”)

Water Permitting & Enforcement Division  
March 2024

## What is a CAFO?

A CAFO is an Animal Feeding Operation that discharges process wastewater to waters of the state.

## Am I a CAFO?

You are considered a medium or large CAFO if you meet the eligibility criteria as prescribed in the regulations. Please refer to the below diagram to determine if your farm qualifies as a CAFO.

## What is the CAFO NPDES General Permit?

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (“NPDES”) Program is a federal program that regulates all point source discharges to waters of the US. The state of CT CAFO General Permit was issued to simplify the permitting process for farms providing consistent and equitable permit conditions. The CAFO General Permit was issued by the state of CT in January 2023.

## Why Should I Apply for a Permit?

Under the federal Clean Water Act and the CT statutes and regulations all CAFOs are required to have a NPDES permit. All large and qualifying medium CAFOs must apply for the CAFO General Permit through DEEP.

## What Does the Permit Require?

You will be required to operate and manage your wastewater in accordance with your site-specific Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan to minimize impacts to nearby waterways.

## Is There a Permit Application Fee?

There is a registration fee of \$250 for Medium CAFOs and \$500 for Large CAFOs.

## Helpful Links

DEEP's Agricultural Wastewater Webpage: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Water-Regulating-and-Discharges/Agricultural-Wastewater>

CAFO General Permit and Registration Form: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Permits-and-Licenses/Water-Discharge-Permits-and-General-Permits>

NRCS Nutrient Management (590) Practice Standards: [https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/api/CPS/File/43878/590\\_CT\\_CPS\\_Nutrient\\_Management\\_2023](https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/api/CPS/File/43878/590_CT_CPS_Nutrient_Management_2023)

EPA Animal Feeding Operations: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/animal-feeding-operations-afos>

EPA & Animal Agriculture Sector Collaboration: <https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=d3a5b53dbdf94fb2a4bbd5d2af1def07>

**For questions or to learn more about the program please contact us.**

Emily Marshall, CAFO Coordinator  
(E): [Emily.marshall@ct.gov](mailto:Emily.marshall@ct.gov) (P): 860-424-3858

Audra Dickson, Director  
(E): [audra.dickson@ct.gov](mailto:audra.dickson@ct.gov) (P): 860-424-3056

For general CAFO inquiries  
(E) [CAFO.Coordinator@ct.gov](mailto:CAFO.Coordinator@ct.gov)

