



Minnesota  
Pollution  
Control  
Agency

# Feedlot Registration

Water Quality/Feedlots 4.01 • Updated August 2009

Minnesota law requires most feedlot owners to register their feedlot with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Owners meet feedlot registration requirements by filling out a form that is provided by the MPCA. Owners that have applied for a permit are automatically registered.

Feedlot owners are required to update their registration information in every four-year interval after the initial registration deadline of January 1, 2002. The MPCA notifies owners 90 days prior to the re-registration deadline



that it takes to exceed 10 animal units or 50 animals units:

Animal units	Dairy Cows	Beef Cows	Feeder Pigs
10	8	10	30
50	40	50	150

Owners that have closed their feedlots are not required to register. The MPCA defines a closed feedlot as a feedlot that has not had animals for the past five years.

## Pastures

Livestock operations that are only pastures do not need to be registered. The definition of pastures in Minnesota Rule 7020 states that pastures are areas where grass or other growing plants are used for grazing and where the concentration of animals is such that a vegetation cover is maintained during the growing season except in the immediate vicinity of temporary supplemental feeding or watering devices.

### MPCA Area Offices:

#### **Rochester:**

507/285-7343

#### **Mankato:**

507/389-5977

#### **Marshall:**

507/537-7146

#### **Willmar:**

320/214-3786

#### **Detroit Lakes:**

218/847-1519

#### **Brainerd:**

218/828-2492

#### **Duluth:**

218/723-4660

#### **Metro:**

651/296-6300

#### **Toll-Free Number:**

800/657-3864

## Am I required to register?

The location and number of animals at the site determines whether or not a feedlot must register. Owners of the following operations must register:

1. Feedlots located in shoreland, and that maintain 10 animal units or more.
2. Feedlots located outside of shoreland, and that maintain 50 animal units or more.

**Shoreland.** Shoreland, in most instances, refers to land that is 1,000 feet or less from a lake or 300 feet or less from a river or stream. In rare instances, land near large ponds, wetlands or ditches is classified as shoreland.

**Animal unit.** An animal unit is a term used to compare the differences in the production of animal manure. The table below shows the typical number of animals

A typical example of a pasture operation exempted from registration is a cow-calf operation that houses no animals in buildings or lots, but has winter feeding and sheltering areas within the pasture. The owners of these facilities pasture their livestock during the growing season and provide supplemental feed for them at various locations in the pasture during the winter months. (See factsheet: “Managing Livestock Feeding on Pasture and Crop Residue”)

## How do I register?

Most owners satisfy feedlot registration requirements by filling out a feedlot registration form and submitting it to the MPCA or delegated county. The feedlot registration form is available online at [www.pca.state.mn.us/hot/feedlot-forms.html#registration](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/hot/feedlot-forms.html#registration), or it may be obtained by contacting your MPCA regional office.

Owners of feedlots that have applied for a permit application or where a feedlot inspection has been conducted by the MPCA or delegated county are automatically registered.

## Feedlot registration form

The registration form is two pages and should take fewer than 10 minutes to complete. The form requests owners to provide general location and operation information about their feedlot. This information includes owner name and address, facility location, type of operation, and distance to surface water. Most facility owners can complete the registration form without having to look up information and records.

## How do I re-register?

By Jan. 1, 2006, more than 25,000 owners of feedlots and manure storage areas had registered their operations with the MPCA. The law requires that owners of these feedlots (including any feedlots registered for the first time subsequent to the January 1, 2006, date) must update their registrations, at least once, during each of the following pre-established four-year periods.

- January 2, 2006 – January 1, 2010
- January 2, 2010 – January 1, 2014
- January 2, 2014 – January 1, 2018

Owners are automatically re-registered for a four-year period if they apply for a permit application or receive a compliance inspection during that period. Owners, who according to MPCA records, have not updated their

registration within 90 days of the end of the current four-year period will be notified that they must re-register.

Owners who are unsure if they are registered may confirm their status by calling their MPCA regional office, or by contacting their county feedlot officer. A list of county feedlot officers is available on the MPCA Web site at [www.pca.state.mn.us/hot/feedlot-countyprogram.html](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/hot/feedlot-countyprogram.html).

## Registration confirmation, failure to register

Owners who have registered or re-registered their feedlots will receive written notification from MPCA or the delegated county confirming that they have registered. The notification contains the animal type and number of animals as reported by the feedlot owner on the registration form.

Failure to register a feedlot that is required to register and/or failure to re-register a feedlot that is required to register is a violation of feedlot rules.

## Why registration?

Registration data allows the MPCA to identify feedlots according to active or inactive sites, and number of animals at the site and location. This information helps to prioritize those operations with the greatest pollution risk, and to work with owners if a pollution hazard is present. Registration data is also important to MPCA planners and the legislature who need to plan for funding needs to assist producers with technical assistance, cost share and other financial assistance.

Registration allows the MPCA or delegated county to communicate directly with owners. Direct communication will keep feedlot owners informed on how to best devise their practices and business so that their operation meets with requirements.

## More information

For more information about the revised feedlot rule or to download a copy of the revised rule, log onto the MPCA website at: [www.pca.state.mn.us/hot/feedlot-rules.html](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/hot/feedlot-rules.html). Or, call your area office listed on the first page of this fact sheet and ask for the feedlot officer.