



Developing Annual CNMP Updates

Purpose

This fact sheet provides guidance to Certified Planners in New York State in developing annual updates for Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMP). Once a CNMP is developed, it continues as a regularly updated, dynamic plan to guide the producer in agricultural environmental management and compliance with the CAFO general permit. For that reason, all CNMPs for CAFOs should be updated annually. Planners should develop annual CNMP updates with the same approach used for the original CNMP, but with consideration for planned and implemented changes in farm facilities, landbase, management, and/or CAFO policy since the original CNMP. The planner must involve the producer and utilize a farm visit to assess the current conditions. Similarly, farm management should keep the planner current about upcoming changes on the farm (increases in livestock numbers, new barns, new parlor, etc.) so that the changes are planned and implemented in-line with the CNMP. In cases where farm changes occur without the planner's knowledge, the planner should evaluate the latest conditions and update the CNMP with recommendations in accordance with NRCS standards and the CAFO general permit. Once the CNMP update is complete, the planner should deliver and communicate the updates to the producer. For more detail, refer to the following when developing updates for CNMPs.

Annual Updates in General

- Update the BMP Implementation Schedule.
 - o While implementation is the responsibility of the producer, if it is

not progressing in-line with CAFO deadlines, consider discussing the situation with farm management and recommending alternative approaches, if appropriate, based in your knowledge of the NRCS planning process and standards and the CAFO general permit.

- The conservation assistance notes should be current and complete, including dates of assistance, planner identification, and a brief description of assistance provided and/or decisions made (see Conservation Assistance Notes fact sheet #2 at www.nys-soilandwater.org).
- The plan overview map should describe the latest implemented configuration of facilities and fields.
- The farm narrative and objectives should be current.
- Operation and Maintenance (O&M) plans need to be included for new practices and may need to be revised for existing practices.
 - o If an installed BMP is not functioning as planned because of poor O&M, then development and communication of a more farm-specific O&M plan may help the BMP perform as planned.
- The emergency action plan should be up-to-date and include newly installed practices (see Emergency Action Plan fact sheet #3 at www.nys-soilandwater.org).
- Record keeping is the responsibility of the producer, but if records are not being properly kept by the farm, consider discussing the issues and alternative record keeping approaches with the producer.

Annual Updates for Farmstead Areas

The current plan should identify, describe, and address all sources of process wastewater around the farmstead. Overall, the CNMP should be revised before changes in livestock numbers, facilities, management, etc. are implemented, so that such changes occur in accordance with the CNMP.

- Document current livestock numbers. If changes will move the farm to a different CAFO category (medium or large), then the farm should be advised to file a Notice of Intent with an explanation of the farm status to the NYS DEC before the expansion (see Appendix A – Notice of Intent or Transfer, www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dow/cafohome.html).
- Document the amounts and types of process wastewaters produced or imported.
 - o The manure analyses should be current (every year per source for large CAFOs and at least every other year per source for medium CAFOs).
- Check if the manure export program on the farm has changed.
- Planned changes in facilities or structures should be evaluated for feasibility with the existing CNMP and, once installed, included:
 - o on maps,
 - o in narratives, and
 - o addressed with properly designed (and documented) practices, O&M, and emergency action plans.
- Existing practices and facilities (and their associated O&M plans) should be working as intended or modifications should be planned (improved O&M, complementary practices, etc.).
 - o Practices should be properly designed and documented.
 - o Implementation is the responsibility of the producer, but if recommendations are not being implemented, consider

discussing the issues and alternative approaches with the producer.

Annual Updates for Fields

Similar to above, the CNMP should be revised before changes in livestock numbers, facilities, fields, management, etc. are implemented, so that such changes occur in accordance with the CNMP.

- The list of fields owned or rented by the farm should be current.
- All fields should be properly assessed and planned according to the NRCS Nutrient Management Standard (NY590):
 - o current soil analyses (every 3 years),
 - o current crop rotation,
 - o N Leaching Index, P Runoff Index, and RUSLE2 assessments,
 - o manure and fertilizer use planned according to Cornell crop nutrient guidelines,
 - o manure application setbacks, maps, etc.
- Existing soil conservation, manure management, and fertilizer management practices (and their associated O&M plans) should be working as intended or modifications should be planned (improved O&M, complementary BMPs, etc.).
 - o Implementation is the responsibility of the producer, but if recommendations are not being implemented, consider discussing the issues and alternative approaches with the producer.

For more information

Agricultural Environmental Management Program
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