



BERKS COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

DEP Manure Management Manual

COMPLETING A MANURE MANAGEMENT PLAN – PART 5

Animal Concentration Areas Worksheet (pp.9 & 10)

ANIMAL CONCENTRATION AREAS WORKSHEET

Part 1

(See Page 22 of Manure Management Guidance Instructions)

Some farms may need technical assistance in order to develop and implement BMPs on ACAs. The farmer has until October 29, 2013, to develop the BMPs and no more than 3 years from the date of developing those BMPs, to implement the BMPs. DEP believes that most farms will be able to begin implementation on a much shorter time frame but recognizes that more time may be needed for costly BMPs.

Farmers with ACAs requiring corrective actions need to immediately contact the local conservation district, NRCS, or a private consultant and must document that contact and the time frame for developing and implementing BMPs.

List date contact was made to the assisting agency/party to help in these efforts: _____

List who was contacted to assist in these efforts: _____

ANIMAL CONCENTRATION AREA WORKSHEET

Part 2

Use Additional Sheets as Necessary
(See Page 22 of Manure Management Guidance Instructions)

[illegible]

Animal Concentration Areas (ACAs)

- Also called “Animal Heavy Use Areas”
- Barnyards, feedlots, loafing areas, exercise lots or other similar animal confinement areas
 - That will not maintain the dense vegetation of a pasture
 - Does not include pastures meeting the pasture requirements
- ACAs may exist within pastures
 - Feeding areas, watering areas, shade areas, walkways
 - Congregation areas where manure accumulates
 - Only become ACAs if runoff carrying manure or sediment discharges into
 - Streams, lakes, ponds, or sinkholes
- ACAs must be
 - Identified
 - Location noted on the Farm Map
 - Evaluated
 - Problems corrected

ACA Management Requirements

- Divert clean water flow from upslope fields, driveways, barn roofs, etc. away from the ACA
- Direct polluted runoff or allow it to flow from the ACA area into a storage facility or best management practice such as a correctly sized and well maintained vegetative filter strip
- Limit animal access to surface waters to only properly implemented livestock crossings
 - Animals may not have free access to streams adjacent to or within ACAs
- Minimize the size of denuded areas such as sacrifice lots
- Keep animal congregation areas as far away from water bodies as practical
 - Relocate movable structures creating animal congregation areas annually where appropriate and practical
 - Remove manure routinely from ACAs, where practical
 - Generally four times per year

ACA Identification

- “Lot” ACAs
 - Barnyards, feedlots, exercise lots, loafing areas
 - Animal confinement areas that will not maintain a growing crop
 - Excludes areas managed as pastures or cropland
- “Potential” ACAs
 - Smaller non-vegetated animal congregation areas
 - Typically in pastures or part of the pasture system
 - Watering, feeding, and shade areas
 - Access lanes
 - Designated ACAs if:
 - If there is direct flow of manure nutrients to surface water or groundwater (sinkholes)

ACA Identification

“Lot” ACAs



ACA Identification

“Lot” ACAs



ACA Identification

“Potential” ACAs



ACA Identification

"Potential" ACAs



8/21/92

Evaluating ACAs

- Three critical concerns
 - Keep the clean water clean
 - Diversion of upslope water from entering the ACA
 - Treat contaminated water leaving the ACA
 - Direct to manure storage
 - Direct to adequate treatment system
 - Cannot discharge into surface water or groundwater (sinkholes)
 - Consistent removal of accumulated manure
- Are BMPs in place and adequate?
- Evaluate, identify problems and determine solutions
 - Strongly suggest working with NRCS, conservation district, or private specialists