

Chapter NR 151

RUNOFF MANAGEMENT

Subchapter I – General Provisions

NR 151.001	Purpose
NR 151.002	Definitions
NR 151.003	Regional treatment exclusion
NR 151.004	State targeted performance standards

Subchapter I – General Provisions

NR 151.001 Purpose. This chapter establishes runoff pollution performance standards for non-agricultural facilities and transportation facilities and performance standards and prohibitions for agricultural facilities and practices designed to achieve water quality standards as required by s. 281.16(2) and (3), Stats. This chapter also specifies a process for the development and dissemination of department technical standards to implement the non-agricultural performance standards as required by s. 281.16(2)(b), Stats. If these performance standards and prohibitions do not achieve water quality standards, this chapter specifies how the department may develop targeted performance standards in conformance with s. NR 151.004.

NR 151.002 Definitions. In this chapter:

(1) "Adequate sod, or self-sustaining vegetative cover" means maintenance of sufficient vegetation types and densities such that the physical integrity of the streambank or lakeshore is preserved. Self-sustaining vegetative cover includes grasses, forbs, sedges and duff layers of fallen leaves and woody debris.

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(2) "Agricultural facilities and practices" has the meaning given in s. 281.16(1), Stats.

(3) "Average annual rainfall" means a typical calendar year of precipitation, excluding snow, and is defined by the department when using models such as SLAMM and P8, or equivalent methodology.

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(4) "Best management practices" or "BMPs" means structural or non-structural measures, practices, techniques or devices employed to avoid or minimize soil, sediment or pollutants carried in runoff to waters of the state.

(5) "Combined sewer system" means a system for conveying both sanitary sewage and stormwater runoff.

(6) "Connected imperviousness" means an impervious surface where the runoff flows over adequate pervious area before flowing into a separate storm sewer or water of the state.

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Note: The department has developed a guidance document to indicate when an impervious source area such as a roof or parking lot is considered connected.

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(7) "Construction site" means an area upon which one or more land disturbing construction activities occur, including areas that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale where multiple separate and distinct land disturbing construction activities may be taking place at different times on different schedules but under one plan. A long-range planning document that describes separate construction projects, such as a 20-year transportation improvement plan, is not a common plan of development.

(8) "DATCP" means the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection.

(9) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(10) "Design storm" means a hypothetical discrete rainstorm characterized by a specific duration, temporal distribution, rainfall intensity, return frequency and total depth of rainfall.

(11) "Development" means residential, commercial, industrial or institutional land uses and associated roads.

(12) "Effective infiltration area" means the area of the infiltration system that is used to infiltrate runoff and does not include the area used for site access, berms or pretreatment.

(13) "Erosion" means the process by which the land's surface is worn away by the action of wind, water, ice or gravity.

(14) "Exceptional resource waters" means waters listed in s. NR 102.11.

(14m) "Existing development" means development in existence on October 1, 2004 or a notice of intent for the development was received by the department of natural resources or the department of commerce on or before October 1, 2004

(15) "Final stabilization" means that all land disturbing construction activities at the construction site have been completed and that a uniform perennial vegetative cover has been established with a density of at least 70% of the cover for the unpaved areas and areas not covered by permanent structures or that employ equivalent permanent stabilization measures.

(16) "Illicit discharge" means any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer that is not composed entirely of runoff, except discharges authorized by a WPDES permit or any other discharge not requiring a WPDES permit such as water line flushing, landscape irrigation, individual residential car washing, fire fighting and similar discharges.

(17) "Impervious surface" means an area that releases as runoff all or a large portion of the precipitation that falls on it, except for frozen soil. Rooftops, sidewalks, driveways, parking lots and streets are examples of surfaces that typically are impervious.

(18) "In-fill area" means an undeveloped area of land located within existing urban sewer service areas, surrounded by already existing development or existing development and natural or man-made features where development cannot occur. The in-fill area must have been in existence on October 1, 2004 or was part of a notice of intent that was received by the department or the department of commerce by October 1, 2004

(19) "Infiltration" means ~~the~~ entry and movement of precipitation or runoff into or through soil.

(20) "Infiltration system" means a device or practice such as a basin, trench, rain garden or swale designed specifically to encourage infiltration, but does not include natural infiltration in pervious surfaces such as lawns, redirecting of rooftop downspouts onto lawns or minimal infiltration from practices, such as swales or road side channels designed for conveyance and pollutant removal only.

(21) Direct conduits to groundwater means an area or surficial geologic feature subject to bedrock dissolution so that it is likely to provide a conduit to groundwater, and may include caves, enlarged fractures, mine features, exposed bedrock surfaces, sinkholes, springs, seeps or swallets.

(22) "Land disturbing construction activity" means any man-made alteration of the land surface resulting in a change in the topography or existing vegetative or non-vegetative soil cover, that may result in runoff and lead to an increase in soil erosion and movement of sediment into waters of the state. Land disturbing construction activity includes clearing and grubbing, demolition, excavating, pit trench dewatering, filling and grading activities.

(23) "Landowner" means any person holding fee title, an easement or other interest in property, which allows the person to undertake cropping, livestock management, land disturbing construction activity or maintenance of storm water BMPs on the property.

(24) "Local governmental unit" has the meaning given in s. 92.15(1)(b), Stats.

(25) "MEP" or "maximum extent practicable" means a level of implementing best management practices in order to achieve a performance standard specified in this chapter which takes into account the best available technology, cost effectiveness and other competing issues such as human safety and

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welfare, endangered and threatened resources, historic properties and geographic features. MEP allows flexibility in the way to meet the performance standards and may vary based on the performance standard and site conditions.

(26) "Municipality" has the meaning given in s. 281.01 (6), Stats.

(27) "Navigable waters" and "navigable waterway" has the meaning given in s. 30.01(4m), Stats.

(28) "New development" means development resulting from the conversion of previously undeveloped land or agricultural land uses.

(29) "NRCS" means the natural resources conservation service of the U.S. department of agriculture.

(30) "Ordinary high water mark" has the meaning given in s. NR 115.03(6).

(31) "Outstanding resource waters" means waters listed in s. NR 102.10.

(32) "Percent fines" means the percentage of a given sample of soil, which passes through a # 200 sieve.

Note: Percent fines can be determined using the "American Society for Testing and Materials", volume 04.02, "Test Method C117-95 Standard Test Method for Materials Finer than 75- μ m (No. 200) Sieve in Material Aggregates by Washing". Copies can be obtained by contacting the American society for testing and materials, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959, or phone 610-832-9585, or on line at: "<http://www.astm.org/>".

(33) "Performance standard" means a narrative or measurable number specifying the minimum acceptable outcome for a facility or practice.

(34) "Pervious surface" means an area that releases as runoff a small portion of the precipitation that falls on it. Lawns, gardens, parks, forests or similar vegetated areas are examples of surfaces that typically are pervious.

(35) "Pollutant" has the meaning given in s. 283.01(13), Stats.

(36) "Pollution" has the meaning given in s. 281.01(10), Stats.

(37) "Population" has the meaning given in s. 281.66(1)(c), Stats.

(38) "Preventive action limit" has the meaning given in s. NR 140.05(17).

(39) "Redevelopment" means areas where development is replacing older development.

(40) "Runoff" means storm water or precipitation including rain, snow, ice melt or similar water that moves on the land surface via sheet or channelized flow.

(41) "Sediment" means settleable solid material that is transported by runoff, suspended within runoff or deposited by runoff away from its original location.

(42) "Separate storm sewer" means a conveyance or system of conveyances including roads with drainage systems, streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, constructed channels or storm drains, which meets all of the following criteria:

(a) Is designed or used for collecting water or conveying runoff.

(b) Is not part of a combined sewer system.

(c) Is not part of a publicly owned wastewater treatment works that provides secondary or more stringent treatment.

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(d) Discharges directly or indirectly to waters of the state.

(43) "Storm water management plan" means a comprehensive plan designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from storm water, after the site has undergone final stabilization, following completion of the construction activity.

(44) "Targeted performance standard" means a performance standard that will apply in a specific area, where additional practices beyond those contained in this chapter, are necessary to meet water quality standards.

(45) "Technical standard" means a document that specifies design, predicted performance and operation and maintenance specifications for a material, device or method.

(46) "Top of the channel" means an edge, or point on the landscape landward from the ordinary high water mark of a surface water of the state, where the slope of the land begins to be less than 12% continually for at least 50 feet. If the slope of the land is 12% or less continually for the initial 50 feet landward from the ordinary high water mark, the top of the channel is the ordinary high water mark.

(47) "TR-55" means the United States department of agriculture, natural resources conservation service (previously soil conservation service), Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds, Second Edition, Technical Release 55, June 1986, which is incorporated by reference for this chapter.

Note: Copies of this document may be inspected at the offices of the department's bureau of watershed management, NRCS, the secretary of state and the revisor of statutes [[Legislative Reference Bureau after 1/1/2008](#)], all in Madison, WI.

(48) "Transportation facility" means a highway, a railroad, a public mass transit facility, a public-use airport, a public trail or any other public work for transportation purposes such as harbor improvements under s. 85.095(1)(b), Stats. "Transportation facility" does not include building sites for the construction of public buildings and buildings that are places of employment that are regulated by the department of commerce pursuant to s. 101.1205, Stats.

(49) "Type II distribution" means a rainfall type curve as established in the "United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Technical Paper 149, published 1973", which is incorporated by reference for this chapter. The Type II curve is applicable to all of Wisconsin and represents the most intense storm pattern.

Note: Copies of this document may be inspected at the offices of the department's bureau of watershed management, NRCS, the secretary of state and the revisor of statutes [[Legislative Reference Bureau after 1/1/2008](#)], all in Madison, WI.

(50) "Waters of the state" has the meaning given in s. 283.01 (20), Stats.

(51) "WPDES permit" means a Wisconsin pollutant discharge elimination system permit issued under ch. 283, Stats.

(52) "Total maximum daily load" means the amount of pollutants specified as a function of one or more water quality parameters, that can be discharged per day into a water quality limited segment and still insure attainment of the applicable water quality standard. There are 4 components to the total maximum daily load: point source allocation, non-point source allocation, reserve capacity and margin of safety.

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(53) "Impaired water" means a waterbody impaired in whole or in part and listed by the department pursuant to 33 USC 1313 (d) (1) (A) and 40 CFR 130.7, for not meeting a water quality standard, including a water quality standard for a specific substance or the waterbody's designated use.

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NR 151.003 Regional treatment exclusion for existing development and post-construction

runoff. (1) Runoff from existing development or post-construction runoff within a non-navigable surface water that flows into a BMP, such as a wet detention pond, is not required to meet the performance standards of subchs. III and IV prior to the BMP. BMPs for such runoff may be located in non-navigable surface waters.

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Note: While regional treatment facilities are appropriate for control of pollutants from post-construction and existing development they should not be used for construction site sediment removal.

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(2) Except as allowed under sub. (3), post-construction runoff from new development shall meet the post-construction performance standards prior to entering a navigable surface water or wetland.

(3) Post-construction runoff within a navigable surface water that flows into a BMP is not required to meet the performance standards of subchs. III and IV prior to the BMP if:

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(a) 1. The BMP was constructed prior to October 1, 2002, and the BMP either received a permit issued under ch. 30, Stats., or the BMP did not require a ch. 30, Stats., permit; or

2. The BMP received a permit issued under ch. 30, Stats prior to October 1, 2002; and

(b) The BMP is designed to provide runoff treatment from future upland development.

(4) Runoff from existing development, redevelopment and in-fill areas shall meet the applicable performance standards of subchs. III and IV in accordance with pars. (a) and (b).

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(a) To the maximum extent practicable, BMPs shall be located to treat runoff prior to discharge to navigable surface waters and wetlands.

(b) BMPs for such runoff may be located in a navigable surface water or wetland if allowable under all other applicable federal, state and local regulations such as ch. NR 103 and ch. 30, Stats.

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Note: This allows the location of BMPs in navigable surface waters and wetlands where necessary to meet the developed urban area performance standards provided all applicable permits have been issued.

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(5) The discharge from a BMP, such as a wet detention pond, or after a series of such BMPs is subject to this chapter prior to reaching waters of the state.

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Note: This section does not supersede any other applicable federal, state or local regulation such as ch. NR 103 and ch. 30, Stats.

NR 151.004 State targeted performance standards. For some areas, implementation of the statewide performance standards and prohibitions in this chapter may not be sufficient to achieve water quality standards. In those cases, the department shall determine if a specific waterbody will not attain water quality standards after substantial implementation of the performance standards and prohibitions in this chapter, using modeling or monitoring. If the department finds that water quality standards will not be attained using statewide performance standards and prohibitions but the implementation of targeted performance standards would attain water quality standards, the department shall promulgate the targeted performance standards by rule.

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Note: Pursuant to s. 281.16(2)(a) and (3)(a), Stats., the performance standards shall be designed to meet state water quality standards.

NR 151.005 Performance Standards for Total Maximum Daily Loads. For impaired waters the implementation of statewide performance standards and prohibitions in this chapter may not be sufficient to meet water quality standards. If a federal environmental protection agency approved TMDL determines through monitoring or modeling that water quality standards will not be attained using statewide performance standards and prohibitions the department shall identify in the TMDL, enhancements to the performance standards and prohibitions in this chapter necessary to meet the allocations specified in the TMDL.

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Note: TMDLs are subject to public review as defined in the continuing planning process developed under s. 283.83.

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Chapter NR 151

RUNOFF MANAGEMENT

Subchapter II – Agricultural Performance Standards and Prohibitions

NR 151.01	Purpose
NR 151.015	Definitions
NR 151.02	Sheet, rill and wind erosion
NR 151.05	Manure storage facilities
NR 151.06	Clean water diversions
NR 151.07	Nutrient management
NR 151.08	Manure management prohibitions
NR 151.09	Implementation and enforcement procedures for cropland performance standards
NR 151.095	Implementation and enforcement procedures for livestock performance standards and prohibitions
NR 151.096	Local livestock operation ordinances and regulations
NR 151.097	Variations

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Subchapter II - Agricultural Performance Standards and Prohibitions

NR 151.01 Purpose. The purpose of this subchapter is to prescribe performance standards and prohibitions in accordance with the implementation and enforcement procedures contained in ss. NR 151.09 and 151.095 for agricultural facilities, operations and practices.

NR 151.015 Definitions. In this subchapter:

(1) "Agricultural land use" means the use of land for agricultural production excluding livestock facilities and manure management facilities.

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(3) "Conservation practice" means a best management practice designed to reduce or prevent soil or sediment loss to the waters of the state.

(4) "Crop producer" means an owner or operator of an operation engaged in crop related agricultural practices specified in s. 281.16(1)(b), Stats.

(5) "Cropland practice" means the method, activity or management measure used to produce or harvest crops.

(6) "County land conservation committee" means the committee created by a county board under s. 92.06, Stats. "County land conservation committee" includes employees or agents of the committee whom, with committee authorization, act on behalf of the committee.

(6.5) "Direct conduit to groundwater" has the meaning given in s. NR 243.03(20).

(7) "Direct runoff" means a discharge of a significant amount of pollutants to waters of the state including any of the following practices:

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(a) Runoff from a manure storage facility.

(b) Runoff from an animal lot that can be predicted to reach waters of the state,

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(c) Discharge of leachate from a manure pile or feed storage.

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(d) Seepage from a manure storage facility.

(e) Construction of a manure storage facility in permeable soils or over fractured bedrock without a liner designed in accordance with s. NR 154.04(3).

(f) milking center wastes.

(9) "Livestock facility" means a structure or system constructed or established on a livestock operation.

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(10) "Livestock producer" means an owner or operator of a livestock operation.

(11) "Livestock operation" has the meaning given in s. 281.16(1)(c), Stats.

(12) "Manure" means a material that consists primarily of excreta from livestock, poultry or other animals.

(13) "Manure storage facility" means an impoundment made by constructing an embankment or excavating a pit or dugout or by fabricating a structure to contain manure and other animal or agricultural wastes.

(13l) "Margin of safety level" has the meaning given in s. NR 243.03(37).

(13m) "Municipality" has the meaning given in s. 281.01(6), Stats.

(14) "NOD" means a notice of discharge issued under s. NR 243.24(4).

(15) "Operator" means a person responsible for the oversight or management of equipment, facilities or livestock at a livestock operation, or is responsible for land management in the production of crops.

(15m) "Overflow" means an accidental or intentional discharge to the environment from flow over the brim of a facility or from flow directed onto the ground through a pump or pipe.

(16) "Preventive action limit" has the meaning given in s. NR 140.05(17).

(17) "Residual cover" means vegetation, or organic debris that provides soil surface protection from raindrop impact.

(18) "Site that is susceptible to groundwater contamination" under s. 281.16(1)(g), Stats., means any one of the following:

(a) An area within 250 feet of a private well.

(b) An area within 1000 feet of a municipal well.

(c) An area within 300 feet upslope or 100 feet downslope of direct conduits to groundwater.

(d) A channel that flows to a direct conduit to groundwater.

(e) An area where the soil depth to groundwater or bedrock is less than 2 feet.

(f) An area where the soil does not exhibit one of the following soil characteristics:

1. At least a 2-foot soil layer with 40 percent fines or greater above groundwater and bedrock.
2. At least a 3-foot soil layer with 20 percent fines or greater above groundwater and bedrock.
3. At least a 5-foot soil layer with 10 percent fines, or greater above groundwater and bedrock.

Note: See s. NR 151.002(32) for definition of percent fines.

(19) "Stored manure" means manure that is kept in a manure storage facility or an unconfined manure pile.

(20) "Substantially altered" means a change initiated by an owner or operator that results in a relocation of a structure or facility, abandonment of a manure storage facility after October 2, 2002, or significant changes to the size, depth or configuration of a structure or facility including:

(a) Replacement of a liner in a manure storage structure.

(b) An increase in the volumetric capacity or area of a structure or facility by greater than 20%.

(c) A change in a structure or facility related to a change in livestock management from one species of livestock to another such as cattle to poultry.

(21) "Tolerable soil loss" or "T" means the maximum rate of erosion, in tons per acre per year, allowable for particular soils and site conditions that will maintain soil productivity.

(22) "Unconfined manure pile" means a quantity of manure that is at least 175 ft³ in volume and which covers the ground surface to a depth of at least 2 inches and is not confined within a manure storage facility, livestock housing facility or barnyard runoff control facility or covered or contained in a

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manner that prevents storm water access and direct runoff to surface water or leaching of pollutants to groundwater.

(24) "Water quality management area" or "WQMA" means the area within 1,000 feet from the ordinary high water mark of navigable waters that consist of a lake, pond or flowage, except that, for a navigable water that is a glacial pothole lake, the term means the area within 1,000 feet from the high water mark of the lake; the area within 300 feet from the ordinary high water mark of navigable waters that consist of a river or stream; and a site that is susceptible to groundwater contamination, or that has the potential to be a direct conduit for contamination to reach groundwater.

(25) "Phosphorus index" or "P Index" means Wisconsin's agricultural land management planning tool for assessing the potential of a cropped or grazed field to contribute phosphorus to the nearest stream or lake. Wisconsin's P Index uses a set of equations to estimate phosphorus losses from an individual field to nearby surface water for an "average" weather year. The P Index includes three primary components:

(a) a component that estimates annual delivery of sediment-bound phosphorus,

(b) a component that estimates annual runoff of dissolved phosphorus loads, and

(c) a component that accounts for the phosphorus losses that can occur if a severe rainfall or snowmelt runoff event occurs following an unincorporated manure or fertilizer application.

(26) "Accounting Period" means the period over which compliance is measured and consists of the current year and extends back the previous 7 years moving forward each consecutive year creating a rolling time period not to exceed 8 years. The accounting period starts the year after the effective date of this rule.

NR 151.02 Sheet, rill and wind erosion. (1) Agricultural land use where crops or feed are grown, including pastures, shall be cropped to achieve a soil erosion rate equal to, or less than, the "tolerable" (T) rate established for that soil.

(2) Pursuant NR 151.005, agricultural land use in watersheds with an approved TMDL shall be managed to achieve soil loss rates specified in the approved TMDL.

Note: Soil loss will be calculated according to the revised universal soil loss equation II as referenced in ch. ATCP 50 and appropriate wind loss equations as referenced in ch. ATCP 50.

NR 151.03 Tillage Setback. (1) All crop producers shall comply with this section.

(2) Cropland practices shall be limited to harvesting operations within 15 feet of the top of channel. This setback can be harvested provided it stays in self-sustaining vegetative cover and is not subjected to tillage operations.

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Note: The purpose of this section is to provide bank stabilization and prevent soil from being directly deposited in waterbodies through tillage operations.

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NR 151.04 Phosphorus Index Performance Standard. (1) Applicability. All crop producers shall comply with this section.

(2) Agricultural land use shall average a P Index of 6 over the accounting period and may not exceed a P Index of 10 on any individual year within the accounting period. Best management practices may be used alone or in combination to meet the requirements of this section.

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(3) Pursuant NR 151.005, agricultural land use in watersheds with an approved TMDL shall be managed to achieve a P Index specified in the approved TMDL. For a TDML, the accounting period shall begin the year following the federal environmental protection agency approval of the TMDL.

(4) To meet the requirements of this section, all producers must comply with NR 151.03 and shall not apply through mechanical methods nor allow the direct application of nutrients or manure into surface water.

Note: Calculation of the phosphorus index can be accomplished using SNAP-Plus or an equivalent methodology. Information on SNAP-Plus can be found at <http://wpindex.soils.wisc.edu/index.php>

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NR 151.05 Manure storage facilities. (1) APPLICABILITY. All livestock producers building new manure storage facilities, substantially altering manure storage facilities, or choosing to abandon their manure storage facilities shall comply with this section.

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(2) NEW CONSTRUCTION AND ALTERATIONS. (a) New or substantially altered manure storage facilities shall be designed, constructed and maintained to minimize the risk of structural failure of the facility, minimize leakage of the facility in order to comply with groundwater standards, and ensure levels of materials in the storage facility do not exceed the margin of safety level. In addition, storage facilities shall be designed and operated to contain the additional volume of runoff and direct precipitation entering the facility as a result of a 25-year, 24-hour storm.

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(b) A new manure storage facility means a facility constructed after October 1, 2002.

(c) A substantially altered manure storage facility is a manure storage facility that is substantially altered after October 1, 2002.

(3) CLOSURE. (a) Closure of a manure storage facility shall occur when an operation where the facility is located ceases operations, or manure has not been added or removed from the facility for a period of 24 months. Manure facilities shall be closed in a manner that will prevent future contamination of groundwater and surface waters.

(b) The owner or operator may retain the facility for a longer period of time by demonstrating to the department that all of the following conditions are met:

1. The facility is designed, constructed and maintained in accordance with sub. (2).
2. The facility is designed to store manure for a period of time longer than 24 months.
3. Retention of the facility is warranted based on anticipated future use.

(4) FAILING AND LEAKING EXISTING FACILITIES. (a) Manure storage facilities in existence as of October 1, 2002, that pose an imminent threat to public health or fish and aquatic life or are causing a violation of groundwater standards shall be upgraded, replaced or abandoned in accordance with this section.

(b) Levels of materials in storage facilities shall not exceed the margin of safety level.

NR 151.06 Clean water diversions. (1) All livestock producers within a water quality management area shall comply with this section.

(2) Runoff shall be diverted away from contacting feedlot, manure storage areas and barnyard areas within water quality management areas except that a diversion to protect a private well under s. NR 151.015 (18) (a) is required only when the feedlot, manure storage area or barnyard area is located upslope from the private well.

NR 151.07 Nutrient management. (1) All crop producers and livestock producers that apply manure or other nutrients directly or through contract to agricultural fields shall comply with this section.

Note: Manure management requirements for concentrated animal feeding operations covered under a WPDES permit are contained in ch. NR 243.

(2) This performance standard does not apply to industrial waste and byproducts regulated under ch. NR 214, municipal sludge regulated under ch. NR 204, septage regulated under ch. NR 113 or manure directly deposited by pasturing or grazing animals on fields dedicated to pasturing or grazing.

Note: The amounts and methods of application of industrial waste and byproducts, municipal sludge and septage are not regulated by the nutrient management performance standard. However, nutrient management plans developed in accordance with this performance standard must account for these nutrient sources when applying manure and other nutrient sources regulated by this standard.

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Note: In accordance with ss. ATCP 50.04, 50.48 and 50.50, nutrient management planners, Wisconsin certified soil testing laboratories and dealers of commercial fertilizer are advised to make nutrient management recommendations based on the performance standard for nutrient management, s. NR 151.07, to ensure that their customers comply with this performance standard.

(3) Manure, commercial fertilizer and other nutrients shall be applied in conformance with a nutrient management plan that is designed to minimize, or reduce the discharge of nutrients to waters of the state for the purpose of complying with state surface and ground water quality standards.

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(a) The nutrient management plan shall be

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(a) Nutrient management plans for croplands in watersheds that contain impaired surface waters or in watersheds that contain outstanding or exceptional resource waters shall meet the following criteria:

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1. Unless otherwise allowed under a department approved TMDL, the plan shall be designed to maintain or reduce delivery of nutrients contributing to the impairment of an impaired surface water.

2. The plan may allow an increase in nutrient delivery to an exceptional or outstanding resource water, provided it will not alter the background water quality of the exceptional or outstanding resource water.

Note: It is expected that producers will meet the requirements of this subsection through the use of instream water quality modeling or the P-index. For impaired waters, TMDLs would provide the basis for allowable increases or required decreases in nutrient delivery. The producer could demonstrate maintaining or reducing delivery or not altering background water quality by maintaining or reducing P-Index values for each field draining to the surface water. For outstanding and exceptional resource waters, the producer could demonstrate that it will not alter the background water quality by documenting that any increase in a field's P-Index value would be offset by comparable decrease in P-Index values from other fields contained in the producer's nutrient management plan that drain to the resource water.

(b) In this standard, impaired surface waters are waters identified as impaired pursuant to 33 USC 1313 (d) (1) (A) and 40 CFR 130.7. Outstanding or exceptional resource waters are identified in ch. NR 102.

(4) This section is in effect on January 1, 2005 for existing croplands under s. NR 151.09 (4) that are located within any of the following:

- (a) Watersheds containing outstanding or exceptional resource waters.
- (b) Watersheds containing impaired waters.
- (c) Source water protection areas defined in s. NR 243.03 (29).

(5) This section is in effect on January 1, 2008 for all other existing croplands under s. NR 151.09(4).

(6) This section is in effect for all new croplands under s. NR 151.09(4) on October 1, 2003.

Note: The purpose of the phased implementation of this standard is to allow the department sufficient time to work with the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection and local governmental units to develop and implement an information, education and training program on nutrient management for affected stakeholders.

NR 151.08 Manure management prohibitions. (1) All livestock producers shall comply with this section.

- (2) A livestock operation shall have no overflow of manure storage facilities.
- (3) A livestock operation shall have no unconfined manure pile in a water quality management area.
- (4) A livestock operation shall have no direct runoff from a feedlot or stored manure into the waters of the state.

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3. For lands in watersheds containing exceptional or outstanding resource waters, t

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(5) (a) A livestock operation may not allow unlimited access by livestock to waters of the state in a location where high concentrations of animals prevent the maintenance of adequate sod or self-sustaining vegetative cover.

(b) This prohibition does not apply to properly designed, installed and maintained livestock or farm equipment crossings.

NR 151.09 Implementation and enforcement procedures for cropland performance

standards. (1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this section is to identify the procedures the department will follow in implementing and enforcing the cropland performance standards pursuant to ss. 281.16 (3) and 281.98, Stats. This section will also identify circumstances under which an owner or operator of cropland is required to comply with the cropland performance standards. In this section, "cropland performance standards" means performance standards in ss. NR 151.02 and 151.07.

(2) **ROLE OF MUNICIPALITIES.** The department may rely on municipalities to implement the procedures and make determinations established in this section.

Note: In most cases, the department will rely on municipalities to fully implement the cropland performance standards. The department intends to utilize the procedures in this section in cases where a municipality has requested assistance in implementing and enforcing the cropland performance standards or in cases where a municipality has failed to address an incident of noncompliance with the performance standards in a timely manner. The department recognizes that coordination between local municipalities, the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection and other state agencies is needed to achieve statewide compliance with the performance standards. Accordingly, the department plans on working with counties, the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection and other interested partners to develop a detailed intergovernmental strategy for achieving compliance with the performance standards that recognizes the procedures in these rules, state basin plans and the priorities established in land and water conservation plans.

Note: The department implementation and enforcement procedures for livestock performance standards relating to manure management are included in s. NR 151.095 and ch. NR 243.

(3) **LANDOWNER AND OPERATOR REQUIREMENTS.** (a) *Introduction.* This section identifies compliance requirements for landowners and operators based on whether the cropland is existing or new and whether cost sharing is required and made available to the landowner or operator.

(b) *General requirements.* If any cropland is meeting a cropland performance standard on or after the effective date of the standard, the cropland performance standard shall continue to be met by the existing landowner or operator, heirs or subsequent owners or operators of the cropland. If a landowner or operator alters or changes the management of the cropland in a manner that results in noncompliance with the performance standard, the landowner or operator shall bring the cropland back into compliance, regardless of whether cost-sharing is made available. This paragraph does not apply to croplands completing enrollment determined to be existing under sub. (4) (b) 2.

Note: The department or a municipality may use conservation plans, cost share agreements, deed restrictions, personal observations or other information to determine whether a change has occurred.

(c) *Existing cropland requirements.* 1. A landowner or operator of an existing cropland, defined under sub. (4)(b), shall comply with a cropland performance standard if all of the following have been done by the department:

a. Except as provided in subd. 2. and 3., a determination is made that cost sharing has been made available in accordance with sub. (4)(d) on or after the effective date of the cropland performance standard.

b. The landowner or operator has been notified in accordance with sub. (5) or (6).

2. A landowner or operator of existing cropland, defined under sub. (4)(b), shall comply with a cropland performance standard, regardless of whether cost sharing is available, in situations where the best management practices and other corrective measures needed to meet the performance standards do not involve eligible costs.

3. A landowner or operator of an existing cropland that voluntarily proposes to construct or reconstruct a manure storage system shall comply with s. NR 151.07, regardless of whether cost sharing is made available, if the nutrient management plan is required pursuant to a local permit for the manure storage system.

Note: Although the requirement for the nutrient management plan in this subd. 3 is tied to construction of a new manure storage system, the department intends to implement the nutrient management standard through s. NR 151.09 rather than through s. NR 151.095.

(d) *New cropland requirements.* A landowner or operator of a new cropland, defined under sub. (4)(b), shall comply with the cropland performance standards, regardless of whether cost sharing is available.

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Note: Under s. 281.16 (3)(e), Stats., a landowner or operator may not be required by the state or a municipality through an ordinance to bring existing croplands into compliance with the cropland performance standards, technical standards or conservation practices unless cost-sharing is available in accordance with this section.

(4) DEPARTMENT DETERMINATIONS. (a) *Scope of determinations.* If croplands are not in compliance with a cropland performance standard, the department shall make determinations in accordance with the procedures and criteria in this subsection.

(b) *Cropland status.* The department shall classify non-complying croplands to be either new or existing for purposes of administering this section and s. 281.16 (3) (e), Stats. In making the determination, the department shall base the decision on the following:

1. An existing cropland is one that meets all of the following criteria:

a. The cropland was being cropped as of the effective date of the standard.

b. The cropland is not in compliance with a cropland performance standard in this subchapter as of the effective date of the standard. The reason for non-compliance of the cropland may not be failure of the landowner or operator to maintain an installed best management practice in accordance with a cost-share agreement or contract.

2. An existing cropland also includes land enrolled October 1, 2002, in the conservation reserve or conservation reserve enhancement program administered by the United States Department of Agriculture.

3. A new cropland is one that does not meet the definition under subd. 1. or 2., including:

a. Land without a previous history of cropping that is converted to cropland after the effective date of the standard. "Without a previous history of cropping" means land where crops have not been grown and harvested for agricultural purposes in the last 10 years prior to the conversion to cropland.

b. Cropland that is in existence and in compliance with a performance standard on or after the effective date of the standard and that undergoes a change in a cropland practice that results in noncompliance with the performance standards.

Note: The department or a municipality may use conservation plans, cost share agreements, deed restrictions, personal observations or other information to determine whether a change has occurred.

4. Change in ownership may not be used as the sole basis for determining whether a cropland is existing or new for purposes of administering this subsection.

(c) *Eligible costs.* 1. If cost sharing is required to be made available under sub. (3) (c), the department shall determine the total cost of best management practices and corrective measures needed to bring a cropland into compliance with performance standards and shall determine which of those costs are eligible for cost-sharing for the purposes of administering this section and s. 281.16 (3) (e), Stats.

2. The cost-share eligibility provisions identified in chs. NR 153 and 154 shall be used in identifying eligible costs for installation of best management practices and corrective measures.

3. The technical assistance eligibility provisions identified in ss. NR 153.15 (1) and 153.16 (1) or ch. ATCP 50 shall be used in identifying eligible costs for planning, design and construction services.

4. If cost sharing is provided by DATCP or the department, the corrective measures shall be implemented in accordance with the BMPs and technical standards specified in ch. NR 154 or subch. VIII of ch. ATCP 50.

Note: Under chs. NR 153 and 154, eligible costs typically include capital costs and significant other expenses, including design costs, incurred by the landowner or operator. Eligible costs do not include the value or amount of time spent by a landowner or operator in making management changes.

(d) *Determination of cost-share availability.* 1. For purposes of administering this section and s. 281.16(3)(e), Stats., if cost sharing is required to be made available under sub. (3), the department shall make a determination as to whether cost sharing has been made available on or after the effective date

of the cropland standard to cover the eligible costs for a landowner or operator to comply with the cropland performance standard.

2. Cost sharing under s. 281.65, Stats., shall be considered available when all of the following have been met:

a. Cost share dollars are offered in accordance with either of the following: the department has entered into a runoff management grant agreement under ch. NR 153 or a nonpoint source grant agreement under ch. NR 120, and a notice under sub. (5) has been issued by the department or a municipality; or the department directly offers cost share assistance and issues a notice under sub. (5).

b. The grants in subd. 2.a., alone or in combination with other funding determined to be available under subd. 3., provide at least 70% of the eligible costs to implement the best management practices or other corrective measures for croplands needed to meet a cropland performance standard.

c. In cases of economic hardship determined in accordance with s. NR 154.03 (3), the grants in subd. 2.a., alone or in combination with other funding determined to be available under subd. 3., cover not less than 70% and not greater than 90% of the eligible costs to implement the best management practices or other corrective measures needed to meet a cropland performance standard.

3. For funding sources other than those administered by s. 281.65, Stats., the department may make a determination of cost share availability after consulting with DATCP and ch. ATCP 50.

Note: Under s. 281.16 (3) (e), DATCP is responsible for promulgating rules that specify criteria for determining whether cost-sharing is available from sources other than s. 281.65, Stats., including s. 92.14, Stats. Pursuant to s. 281.16 (3) (e), Stats., a municipality is required to follow the department's definition of cost-share availability if funds are utilized under s. 281.65, Stats. If funds are utilized from any other source, a municipality must defer to DATCP's definition of cost-share availability.

(5) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND COMPLIANCE PERIODS FOR EXISTING CROPLANDS WHEN COST-SHARING IS REQUIRED. (a) *Landowner notification.* 1. The department shall notify a landowner or operator in writing of the determinations made under sub. (4) and implementation requirements for existing croplands where cost sharing is required for compliance.

2. The notice shall be sent certified mail, return receipt requested or personal delivery.

3. The following information shall be included in the notice:

a. A description of the cropland performance standard being violated.

b. The cropland status determination made in accordance with sub. (4) (b).

c. The determination made in accordance with sub. (4) (c) as to which best management practices or other corrective measures that are needed to comply with cropland performance standards are eligible for cost sharing.

Note: Some best management practices required to comply with cropland performance standards involve no eligible cost to the landowner or operator and are not eligible for cost sharing.

d. The determination made in accordance with sub. (4)(d) that cost sharing is available for eligible costs to achieve compliance with cropland performance standards, including a written offer of cost sharing.

e. An offer to provide or coordinate the provision of technical assistance.

f. A compliance period for meeting the cropland performance standard.

g. An explanation of the possible consequences if the landowner or operator fails to comply with provisions of the notice, including enforcement or loss of cost sharing, or both.

~~(b) Compliance schedule. 1. A landowner or operator that receives the notice under par. (a) shall install or implement best management practices and corrective measures to meet the performance standards in the time period specified in the notice, if cost sharing is available in accordance with sub. (4)(d) 2.~~

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2. The compliance period identified in the notice in par. (a) shall be determined by the department as follows:

a. The compliance period shall begin on the postmark date of the notice or the date of personal delivery.

b. The length of the compliance period shall be from 60 days to 3 years unless otherwise provided for in this subdivision.

c. The length of the compliance period may be less than 60 days if the site is an imminent threat to public health, fish and aquatic life.

d. The department may authorize an extension up to 4 years on a case-by-case basis provided that the reasons for the extension are beyond the control of the landowner or operator. A compliance period may not be extended to exceed 4 years in total.

3. Once a landowner or operator achieves compliance with a cropland performance standard, compliance with the standard shall be maintained by the existing landowner or operator and heirs or subsequent owners, regardless of cost sharing.

(6) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND COMPLIANCE PERIODS FOR EXISTING CROPLANDS IN SITUATIONS WHEN NO ELIGIBLE COSTS ARE INVOLVED. (a) *Landowner notification.*

1. The department shall notify a non-complying landowner or operator of existing croplands of the determinations made under sub. (4).

2. The notice shall be sent certified mail, return receipt requested, or via personal delivery.

3. The following information shall be included in the notice:

a. A description of the cropland performance standard that is being violated and the determination that corrective measures do not involve eligible costs under sub. (4) (c).

b. The cropland status determination made in accordance with sub. (4) (b).

c. A compliance period for achieving the cropland performance standard. The compliance period may not exceed the time limits in par. (b).

d. An explanation of the consequences if the landowner or operator fails to comply with provisions of the notice.

~~(b) *Compliance period.* 1. The compliance period for existing croplands where best management practices and other corrective measures do not involve eligible costs shall be in accordance with the following:~~

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a. The compliance period shall begin on the postmark date of the notice or the date of personal delivery.

b. The length of the compliance period shall be from 60 days to 2 years unless otherwise provided for in this subsection.

c. The length of the compliance period may be less than 60 days if the site is an imminent threat to public health, fish and aquatic life.

2. Once compliance with a cropland performance standard is attained, compliance with the standard shall be maintained by the existing landowner or operator and heirs or subsequent owners.

(c) *Combined notices.* The department may meet multiple notification requirements under par. (a), sub. (5) and s. NR 151.095 within any single notice issued to a landowner or operator.

(7) ENFORCEMENT. (a) *Authority to initiate enforcement.* The department may take enforcement action pursuant to s. 281.98, Stats., or other appropriate actions, against the landowner or operator of a cropland for failing to comply with the cropland performance standards in this subchapter or approved variances to the cropland performance standards provided by the department under s. NR 151.097.

(b) *Enforcement following notice and direct enforcement.* The department shall provide notice to the landowner or operator of an existing cropland in accordance with subs. (5) and (6) prior to the department initiating enforcement action under s. 281.98, Stats.

Note: The implementation and enforcement procedures in this section are limited to actions taken by the department under s. 281.98, Stats., for noncompliance with a cropland performance standard. Pursuant to other statutory authority, the department may take direct enforcement action without cost sharing against a crop producer for willful or intentional acts or other actions by a landowner or operator that pose an immediate or imminent threat to human health or the environment.

Note: An owner or operator of a new cropland is required to meet the cropland performance standards by incorporating necessary management measures at the time the new cropland is created. This requirement shall be met regardless of cost sharing. The department may pursue direct enforcement under s. 281.98, Stats., against landowners or operators of new croplands not in compliance.

(8) NOTIFICATION TO MUNICIPALITIES. The department shall notify the appropriate municipality, including a county land conservation committee, prior to taking any of the following actions under this section:

(a) Contacting a landowner or operator to investigate compliance with cropland performance standards.

(b) Issuing a notice under sub. (5) or (6) to a landowner or operator.

(c) Taking enforcement action under s. 281.98, Stats., against a landowner or operator for failing to comply with cropland performance standards in this subchapter.

(d) Notification is not required if the site is an imminent threat to public health or fish and aquatic life.

NR 151.095 Implementation and enforcement procedures for livestock performance standards and prohibitions. (1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this section is to identify the procedures the department will follow in implementing and enforcing the livestock performance standards and prohibitions pursuant to ss. 281.16(3) and 281.98, Stats. If a livestock performance standard is also listed as a cropland performance standard under s. NR 151.09, the department may choose the procedures of either s. NR 151.09 or this section to obtain compliance with the standard. This section will also identify circumstances under which an owner or operator of a livestock facility is required to comply with livestock performance standards and prohibitions. In this section, "livestock performance standards and prohibitions" means the performance standards and prohibitions in ss. NR 151.05, 151.06 and 151.08.

Note: The nutrient management standard in s. NR 151.07 should be implemented through the procedures in s. NR 151.09.

(2) **ROLE OF MUNICIPALITIES.** The department may rely on municipalities to implement the procedures and make determinations outlined in this section.

Note: In most cases, the department will rely on municipalities to fully implement the livestock performance standards and prohibitions. The department intends to utilize the procedures in this section in cases where a municipality has requested assistance in implementing and enforcing the performance standards or prohibitions or in cases where a municipality has failed to address an incident of noncompliance with the performance standards or prohibitions in a timely manner. The department recognizes that coordination between local municipalities, the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection and other state agencies is needed to achieve statewide compliance with the performance standards and prohibitions. Accordingly, the department plans on working with counties, the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection and other interested partners to develop a detailed intergovernmental strategy for achieving compliance with the performance standards and prohibitions that recognizes the procedures in these rules, state basin plans and the priorities established in land and water conservation plans.

Note: Additional implementation and enforcement procedures for livestock performance standards and prohibitions are in ch. NR 243, including the procedures for the issuance of a NOD.

(3) **EXEMPTIONS.** The department may follow the procedures in ch. NR 243 and is not obligated to follow the procedures and requirements of this section in the following situations:

(a) If the livestock operation holds a WPDES permit.

(b) If the department has determined that the issuance of a NOD to the owner or operator of the livestock operation is warranted. Circumstances in which a NOD may be warranted include:

1. The department has determined that a livestock facility has a point source discharge under s. NR 243.24.

2. The department has determined that a discharge to waters of the state is occurring and the discharge is not related to noncompliance with the performance standards or prohibitions.

3. The department has determined that a municipality is not addressing a facility's noncompliance with the performance standards and prohibitions in a manner consistent with the procedures and timelines established in this section.

(4) LIVESTOCK OWNER AND OPERATOR REQUIREMENTS. (a) *Introduction.* This section identifies compliance requirements for a livestock owner or operator based on whether a livestock facility is existing or new and whether cost sharing is required to be made available to a livestock owner or operator.

(b) *General requirements.* If any livestock facility is meeting a livestock performance standard or prohibition on or after the effective date of the standard or prohibition, the livestock performance standard or prohibition shall continue to be met by the existing owner or operator, heirs or subsequent owners or operators of the facility. If an owner or operator alters or changes the management of the livestock facility in a manner that results in noncompliance with a livestock performance standard or prohibition, the owner or operator shall bring the livestock facility back into compliance regardless of cost-share availability.

(c) *Existing livestock facility requirements.* 1. An owner or operator of an existing livestock facility, defined under sub. (5) (b), shall comply with a livestock performance standard or prohibition if all of the following have been done by the department:

a. Except as provided in subd. 2., a determination is made that cost sharing has been made available in accordance with sub. (5) (d) on or after the effective date of the livestock performance standard or prohibition.

b. The owner or operator of the livestock facility has been notified in accordance with sub. (6) or (7).

2. An owner or operator of an existing livestock facility, defined under sub. (5) (b), shall comply with the livestock performance standards and prohibitions, regardless of whether cost sharing is available, in situations where best management practices and other corrective measures needed to meet the performance standards do not involve eligible costs.

(d) *New livestock facility requirements.* An owner or operator of a new livestock facility, defined under sub. (5) (b), shall comply with the livestock performance standards and prohibitions, regardless of whether cost sharing is available.

Note: Under s. 281.16 (3) (e), Stats., an owner or operator may not be required by the state or a municipality through an ordinance or regulation to bring existing livestock facilities into compliance with

the livestock performance standards or prohibitions, technical standards or conservation practices unless cost-sharing is available in accordance with this section.

(5) DEPARTMENT DETERMINATIONS. (a) *Scope of determinations.* If a livestock facility is not in compliance with a livestock performance standard or prohibition, the department shall make determinations in accordance with the procedures and criteria in this subsection.

(b) *Livestock facility status.* The department shall classify a non-complying livestock facility on an operation to be either new or existing for purposes of administering this section and s. 281.16 (3) (e), Stats. In making the determination, the department shall base the decision on the following:

1. An existing livestock facility is one that meets all of the following criteria:

a. The facility is in existence as of the effective date of the livestock performance standard or prohibition.

b. The facility is not in compliance with a livestock performance standard or prohibition in this subchapter as of the effective date of the livestock performance standard or prohibition. The reason for noncompliance of the livestock facility may not be failure of the owner or operator to maintain an installed best management practice in accordance with a cost-share agreement or contract.

2. A new livestock operation or facility is one that does not meet the definition under subd. 1., including:

a. A livestock operation or facility that is established or installed after the effective date of the livestock performance standard or prohibition, including the placement of livestock structures on a site that did not previously have structures, or placement of animals on lands that did not have animals as of the effective date of the livestock performance standard or prohibition, unless the land is part of an existing rotational grazing or pasturing operation.

b. For a livestock operation that is in existence as of the effective date of the livestock performance standard or prohibition that establishes or constructs or substantially alters a facility after the effective date of the livestock performance standard or prohibition, the facilities constructed, established or substantially altered after the effective date of the livestock performance standard or prohibition are considered new, except as specified in subd. 3.

c. A livestock facility that is in existence and in compliance with a livestock performance standard or prohibition on or after the effective date of the livestock performance standard or prohibition and that undergoes a change in the livestock facility that results in noncompliance with the livestock performance standard or prohibition.

3. Pursuant to the implementation procedures in this section, if the department or a municipality directs an owner or operator of an existing livestock facility to construct a facility as a corrective measure to comply with a performance standard or prohibition on or after the effective date of the livestock performance standard or prohibition, or directs the owner or operator to reconstruct the existing facility as a corrective measure on or after the effective date of the livestock performance standard or prohibition,

the constructed facilities are not considered new for purposes of installing or implementing the corrective measure.

4. A livestock facility that meets the criteria in subd. 1. and has subsequently been abandoned shall retain its status as an existing livestock facility if livestock of similar species and number of animal units are reintroduced within 5 years of abandonment.

5. Change in ownership may not be used as the sole basis for determining whether a livestock facility is existing or new for purposes of administering this subsection.

(c) *Eligible costs.* 1. If cost sharing is required to be made available under sub. (4) (c), the department shall determine the total cost of best management practices and corrective measures needed to bring a livestock facility into compliance with a livestock performance standard or prohibition and shall determine which of those costs are eligible for cost sharing for the purposes of administering this section and s. 281.16 (3) (e), Stats.

2. The cost-share eligibility provisions identified in chs. NR 153 and 154 shall be used in identifying eligible costs for installation of best management practices and corrective measures.

3. The technical assistance eligibility provisions identified in ss. NR 153.15 (1) and 153.16 (1) or ch. ATCP 50 shall be used in identifying eligible costs for planning, design and construction services.

4. If cost sharing is provided by DATCP or the department, the corrective measures shall be implemented in accordance with the best management practices and technical standards specified in ch. NR 154 or subch. VIII of ch. ATCP 50.

Note: Under chs. NR 153 and 154, eligible costs typically include capital costs and significant other expenses, including design costs, incurred by the owner or operator of the livestock operation. Eligible costs do not include the value or amount of time spent by an owner or operator in making management changes.

(d) *Determination of cost-share availability.* 1. For purposes of administering this section and s. 281.16(3)(e), Stats., if cost sharing is required to be made available under sub. (4) (c), the department shall make a determination as to whether cost sharing has been made available on or after the effective date of the livestock performance standard or prohibition to cover eligible costs for an owner or operator to comply with a livestock performance standard or prohibition.

2. Cost sharing under s. 281.65, Stats., shall be considered available when all of the following have been met:

a. Cost share dollars are offered in accordance with either of the following: the department has entered into a runoff management grant agreement under ch. NR 153 or a nonpoint source grant agreement under ch. NR 120, and a notice under sub. (6) or under s. NR 243.24 (4) has been issued by the department or a municipality; or the department directly offers cost sharing and issues a notice under sub. (6) or s. NR 243.24(4).

b. The grants in subd. 2.a., alone or in combination with other funding determined to be available under subd. 3., provide at least 70% of the eligible costs to implement the best management practices or

other corrective measures needed for a livestock facility to meet a livestock performance standard or prohibition.

c. In cases of economic hardship determined in accordance with s. NR 154.03 (3), the grants in subd. 2.a., alone or in combination with other funding determined to be available under subd. 3., cover not less than 70% and not greater than 90% of the eligible costs to implement the best management practices or other corrective measures needed for a livestock facility to meet a livestock performance standard or prohibition.

d. If an existing livestock operation with less than 250 animal units wants to expand at the time it is upgrading a facility to meet a performance standard or prohibition pursuant to a notice in sub. (6) or under s. NR 243.24(4), the grants in subd. 2.a., alone or in combination with other funding determined to be available under subd. 3., shall also provide at least 70% of eligible costs needed to bring any expansion of facilities of up to 300 animal units into compliance with the performance standard or prohibition. In cases of economic hardship, the grants in subd. 2.a., alone or in combination with other funding determined to be available under subd. 3., shall also provide between 70% and 90% of the eligible costs needed to bring any expansion of facilities of up to 300 animal units into compliance with the performance standards and prohibitions.

Note: For livestock operations with less than 250 animal units, that portion of any expansion of facilities to accommodate more than 300 animal units is not eligible for cost sharing under s. NR 153.15(2)(d)1. For an existing livestock operation with greater than 250 animal units, but less than the number of animal units requiring a WPDES permit under s. NR 243.12(1)(a), (b) or (c), cost sharing may be provided under s. NR 153.15(2)(d)2., for at least 70% of eligible costs to bring up to a 20% increase in livestock population into compliance with the performance standards and prohibitions; however, cost sharing for eligible costs up to a 20% expansion in livestock population is not required to be made available for compliance.

3. For funding sources other than those administered by s. 281.65, Stats., the department may make a determination of cost share availability after consulting with DATCP and ch. ATCP 50.

Note: Under s. 281.16 (3) (e), Stats., DATCP is responsible for promulgating rules that specify criteria for determining whether cost sharing is available from sources other than s. 281.65, Stats., including s. 92.14, Stats. Pursuant to s. 281.16 (3) (e), Stats., a municipality is required to follow the department's definition of cost share availability if funds are utilized under s. 281.65, Stats. If funds are utilized from any other source, a municipality shall defer to DATCP's definition of cost-share availability.

(6) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND COMPLIANCE PERIODS FOR EXISTING LIVESTOCK FACILITIES WHEN COST SHARING IS REQUIRED. (a) *Owner or operator notification.* 1. The department shall notify an owner or operator in writing of the determinations made under sub. (5) and implementation requirements for existing livestock facilities where cost sharing is required for compliance.

2. The notice shall be sent certified mail, return receipt requested or personal delivery.

3. The following information shall be included in the notice:

- a. A description of the livestock performance standard or prohibition being violated.
- b. The livestock facility status determination made in accordance with sub. (5) (b).
- c. The determination made in accordance with sub. (5)(c) as to which best management practices or other corrective measures needed to comply with a livestock performance standard or prohibition are eligible for cost sharing.

Note: Some best management practices required to comply with a livestock performance standard or prohibition involves no eligible costs to the owner or operator.

d. The determination made in accordance with sub. (5)(d) that cost sharing is available for eligible costs to achieve compliance with a livestock performance standard or prohibition, including a written offer of cost sharing.

e. An offer to provide or coordinate the provision of technical assistance.

f. A compliance period for meeting the livestock performance standard or prohibition.

g. An explanation of the possible consequences if the owner or operator fails to comply with provisions of the notice, including enforcement or loss of cost sharing, or both.

~~(b) Compliance period. 1. An owner or operator that receives the notice under par. (a) shall install or implement best management practices and corrective measures to meet a performance standard or prohibition in the time period specified in the notice, if cost sharing is available in accordance with sub. (5) (d) 2.~~

Deleted: h. An explanation of state or local appeals procedures. ¶

2. The compliance period identified in the notice in par. (a) shall be determined by the department as follows:

a. The compliance period shall begin on the post-mark date of the notice or the date of personal delivery.

b. The length of the compliance period shall be from 60 days to 3 years unless otherwise provided for in this subdivision.

c. The length of the compliance period may be less than 60 days if the site is an imminent threat to public health or fish and aquatic life.

d. The department may authorize an extension up to 4 years on a case-by-case basis provided that the reasons for the extension are beyond the control of the owner or operator of the livestock facility. A compliance period may not be extended to exceed 4 years in total.

3. Once an owner or operator achieves compliance with a livestock performance standard or prohibition, compliance with the standard or prohibition shall be maintained by the existing owner or operator and heirs or subsequent owners or operators, regardless of cost sharing.

(7) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND COMPLIANCE PERIODS FOR EXISTING LIVESTOCK FACILITIES IN SITUATIONS WHEN NO ELIGIBLE COSTS ARE INVOLVED. (a) *Owner or operator notification.* 1. The department shall notify a non-complying owner or operator of an existing livestock facility of the determinations made under sub. (5).

2. The notice shall be sent certified mail, return receipt requested or personal delivery.

3. The following information shall be included in the notice:

a. A description of the livestock performance standard or prohibition that is being violated and the determination that corrective measures do not involve eligible costs under sub. (5) (c).

b. The livestock operation status determination made in accordance with sub. (5) (b).

c. A compliance period for meeting the livestock performance standard or prohibition. The compliance period may not exceed the time limits in par. (b).

d. An explanation of the consequences if the owner or operator fails to comply with provisions of the notice.

~~(b) Compliance period. 1. The compliance period for existing livestock facilities where best management practices and other corrective measures do not involve eligible costs shall be in accordance with the following;~~

Deleted: e. An explanation of state or local appeals procedures. ¶

a. The compliance period shall begin on the postmark date of the notice or the date of personal delivery.

b. The length of the compliance period shall be from 60 days to 2 years unless otherwise provided for in this subdivision.

c. The length of the compliance period may be less than 60 days if the site is an imminent threat to public health, or fish and aquatic life.

2. Once compliance with a livestock performance standard or prohibition is attained, compliance with the performance standard or prohibition shall be maintained by the existing owner or operator and heirs or subsequent owners or operators.

(c) *Combined notices.* The department may meet multiple notification requirements under par. (a), sub. (6) and s. NR 151.09 within any single notice issued to the owner or operator.

(8) ENFORCEMENT. (a) *Authority to initiate enforcement.* The department may take action pursuant s. 281.98, Stats., or other appropriate actions, against the owner or operator of a livestock operation for failing to comply with the livestock performance standards and prohibitions in this subchapter or approved variances to the livestock performance standards provided by the department under s. NR 151.097.

(b) *Enforcement following notice and direct enforcement.* The department shall provide notice to the owner or operator of an existing livestock facility in accordance with sub. (6) or (7) prior to the department initiating enforcement action under s. 281.98, Stats.

Note: The implementation and enforcement procedures in this section are limited to actions taken by the department under s. 281.98, Stats., for noncompliance with a livestock performance standard or prohibition. Pursuant to other statutory authority, the department may take direct enforcement action without cost sharing against a livestock producer for willful or intentional acts or other actions by a producer that pose an imminent or immediate threat to human health or the environment.

Note: An owner or operator of a new livestock facility is required to meet the livestock performance standards and prohibitions at the time the new facility is created. This requirement shall be met regardless of cost sharing.

(9) NOTIFICATION TO MUNICIPALITIES. The department shall notify the appropriate municipality, including a county land conservation committee, prior to taking any of the following actions under this subsection:

(a) Contacting an owner or operator to investigate compliance with livestock performance standards and prohibitions.

(b) Issuing a notice under sub. (6) or (7) to an owner or operator.

(c) Taking enforcement action under s. 281.98, Stats., against an owner or operator for failing to comply with a livestock performance standard or prohibition in this subchapter.

(d) Notification is not required if the site is an imminent threat to public health or fish and aquatic life.

NR 151.096 Local livestock operation ordinances and regulations. (1) LOCAL REGULATIONS THAT EXCEED STATE STANDARDS; APPROVAL REQUIRED. (a) Except as provided in par. (b), a local governmental unit may not enact a livestock operation ordinance or regulation for water quality protection that exceeds the performance standards or prohibitions in ss. NR 151.05 to 151.08 or the related conservation practices or technical standards in ch. ATCP 50, unless the local governmental unit obtains approval from the department under sub. (2), or receives approval from DATCP pursuant to s. ATCP 50.60.

(b) Paragraph (a) does not apply to any of the following:

1. Local ordinances or regulations that address cropping practices that are not directly related to the livestock operation.

2. Local ordinances or regulations enacted prior October 1, 2002.

Note: See s. 92.15, Stats. A person adversely affected by a local livestock regulation may oppose its adoption at the local level. The person may also challenge a local regulation in court if the person believes that the local governmental unit has violated sub. (1) or s. 92.15, Stats. A local governmental unit is responsible for analyzing the legal adequacy of its regulations, and may exercise its own judgment in deciding whether to seek state approval under this section.

Note: Subsection (1) does not limit or expand the application of s. 92.15, Stats., to ordinances or regulations enacted prior to October 1, 2002.

(2) DEPARTMENT APPROVAL. (a) To obtain department approval under sub. (1) for an existing or proposed regulation, the head of the local governmental unit or the chair of the local governmental unit's governing board shall do all of the following:

1. Submit a copy of the livestock operation ordinance or regulation or portion thereof to the department and to the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection.

2. Identify the provisions of the regulation for which the local governmental unit seeks approval.

3. Submit supporting documentation explaining why the specific regulatory provisions that exceed the performance standards, prohibitions, conservation practices or technical standards are needed to achieve water quality standards, and why compliance cannot be achieved with a less restrictive standard.

(b) The department shall notify the local governmental unit in writing within 90 calendar days after the department receives the ordinance or regulation as to whether the ordinance or regulation, or portion thereof is approved or denied and shall state the reasons for its decision. Before the department makes its decision, the department shall solicit a recommendation from DATCP. If the department finds the regulatory provisions are needed to achieve water quality standards, the department may approve the ordinance or regulation or portion thereof.

(3) LOCAL PERMITS. Local permits or permit conditions are not subject to the review and approval procedures in this section unless the permit conditions are codified in a local ordinance or regulation.

Note: A local permit requirement does not, in and of itself, violate sub. (1), but permit conditions codified in a local ordinance or regulation must comply with sub. (1). If a local governmental unit routinely requires permit holders to comply with uncodified water quality protection standards that exceed state standards, those uncodified requirements may be subject to court challenge for noncompliance with s. 92.15, Stats., and sub. (1) as *de facto* regulatory enactments. A local governmental unit may forestall a legal challenge by codifying standard permit conditions and obtaining any necessary state approval under this section. The department will review codified regulations, but will not review individual permits or uncodified permit conditions under sub. (2).

NR 151.097 Variances. (1) The department may grant a variance to the performance standards, technical standards or other non-statutory requirements in this subchapter.

(2) The department may not grant a variance solely on the basis of economic hardship.

(3) The department may grant a variance only if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) Compliance with the performance standard or technical standard is not feasible due to site conditions. This condition does not apply to research activities conducted as part of a planned agricultural research and farming curriculum.

(b) The landowner or operator will implement best management practices or other corrective measures that ensure a level of pollution control that will achieve a level of water quality protection comparable to that afforded by the performance standards in this subchapter.

(c) The conditions for which the variance is requested are not created by the landowner or operator or their agents or assigns. This condition does not apply to research activities conducted as part of a planned agricultural research and farming curriculum.

(4) The department shall use the following process when administering a variance request:

(a) The landowner or operator shall submit the variance request to the department or governmental unit, including a county land conservation committee within 60 days of receiving the notice.

(b) The governmental unit shall forward any variances that it receives to the department. The department may consider a recommendation from the governmental unit concerning acceptance of the variance request.

(c) The department shall make its determination based on the factors in sub. (3).

(d) The department shall notify the landowner or operator and the governmental unit of its determination. If the variance is granted, the department or governmental unit shall send to the landowner or operator an amended notice.

(e) The period of time required to make a ruling on a variance request does not extend the compliance periods allowed under ss. NR 151.09 and 151.095.

Note: The department may consider decisions made by a governmental unit, in accordance with local ordinance provisions, when making its determination whether to accept or deny the variance.

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