

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOW STATE NUTRIENT REDUCTION STRATEGIES CAN ADDRESS
NUTRIENT POLLUTION FROM LIVESTOCK OPERATIONS
APRIL 2014**

**Prepared by the Mississippi River Collaborative's Agriculture Workgroup and
Endorsed by Iowa Environmental Council, Kentucky Waterways Alliance, Midwest
Environmental Advocates, and Prairie Rivers Network**

The following are livestock policy recommendations developed by the Mississippi River Collaborative's Agriculture Workgroup. The list is a compilation of recommendations from workgroup members, but individual workgroup members do not necessarily agree that every recommendation listed is appropriate for their state. Because each state is unique, not all policies will be appropriate. Members of the Collaborative are encouraged to use any of the following recommendations when commenting on their State Nutrient Reduction Strategy.

1. Identify watersheds with both high livestock density and high nitrogen or phosphorus loading; develop a plan for determining whether livestock operations are contributing to the pollution and whether NPDES permits or incentive/educational programs are needed
 2. Reduce or eliminate manure application in areas where soil phosphorus exceeds optimal
 3. Improve or develop a Phosphorus Index
 4. Develop a manure application certification program with regular training for applicators and include spill/accident response training
 5. The strategy should include a discussion of BMPs for livestock waste management and associated programs or policies that should be developed
 6. Conduct regional workshops on livestock regulations and BMPs
 7. Create more stringent regulations for livestock operations, especially operations without NPDES permits
 8. States should provide better follow-up to citizen complaints
 9. Restrict the application of waste on snow, ice or frozen ground
 10. Restrict the application of liquid waste on tile-drained fields with macropores
 11. Develop a statewide inventory of livestock operations (see NRDC et al. settlement with USEPA for ideas about which attributes to collect)
 12. Develop a GIS-based map of the locations of livestock operations (Minnesota has their map online at <http://pca-gis02.pca.state.mn.us/wimn2/index.html>)
 13. State inspection of facilities with NPDES permits more than once every 5 years
 14. Improve and expand the state's livestock compliance/enforcement program
 15. Prioritize inspections of CAFOs that have notified the state that winter application is likely due to inadequate waste storage
 16. Identify and inspect livestock operations that may be discharging without a discharge permit
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17. Administer a NPDES permit program that issues permits to discharging CAFOs and posts permit application materials on a publicly-accessible website
18. State review of annual NPDES permit reports to determine compliance
19. Require livestock operations with NPDES permits to do water monitoring and report results to the state
20. Establish siting setbacks from significant water bodies
21. Require groundwater monitoring around large waste storage structures
22. Create additional incentives and/or mandatory programs that address climate change
23. Place restrictions on the spray irrigation of livestock waste
24. Develop waste management and land application regulations for recipients of livestock waste from CAFOs
25. Estimate the need for additional funding to fully implement the state livestock programs, and propose ways to generate that funding.