



Manure Storage Facility Ownership 101

Manure storage facilities make it easier to get manure in the right place at the right time to improve the quality of your soil and the health of your crops. With good storage and handling, manure can reduce your fertilizer bill and livestock will be cleaner and healthier.

Unfortunately, nutrients and bacteria from improperly managed manure can harm fish and wildlife if they runoff into streams.

Manure also presents a potential source of pollution to local drinking water sources. Owning a manure storage facility requires additional care and management on behalf of the owner.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE SAUK COUNTY LAND RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT WEBSITE:

[HTTPS://WWW.CO.SAUK.WI.US/LANDCONSERVATION](https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/landconservation)

- Chapter 26 Agricultural Performance Standards & Manure Management Ordinance
- Consultants available to assist Sauk County landowners with developing NMPs
- Manure Storage Construction & Abandonment Documents
- Cost Share Application Materials & Practices Eligible for Cost Share Assistance

If you have recently purchased a property that has a manure storage facility, please reach out to the Sauk County Land Resources and Environment (LRE) Department to learn more about how to maintain and operate the facility

CONTACT US



Sauk County Land Resources and
Environment Department
505 Broadway
Baraboo, WI 53913



conservation@saukcountywi.gov



608-355-3245



www.co.sauk.wi.us/landconservation

Manure Storage Facility Ownership 101

THINGS TO KNOW WHEN OWNING A MANURE STORAGE FACILITY:

1. IDLE FACILITIES:



- A facility where manure has NOT been added or removed for more than 24 months is considered idle.
- Idle facilities must be properly abandoned (permit required) or if retained for future use, an agreement for idle storage facility must be on file with the county.

2. ACTIVE FACILITIES

- There are several responsibilities a farmer must take on when using manure storage facility:
 - **Nutrient Management Plan (NMP):** Landowners must submit an updated NMP to the LRE department by June 1st annually. Consultants are available to prepare a plan or Landowners may become certified to write their own plan.
 - **Maintenance:** Landowners must maintain the facility free from visible and serious damage, erosion, or deformities that would impair the facility's safety or function.
 - **Safety Devices:** Landowners must maintain the safety devices for the facility including fences, gates, and an Emergency Response Plan.
 - **Failing/Leaking Facilities:** Landowners must repair or upgrade any failing or leaking facilities to prevent negative impacts to public health, aquatic life, and groundwater.



3. STATUS REVIEW



- Staff from the LRE department conduct status reviews on manure storage facilities every four years. Staff will confirm the facility is idle (if applicable) or document if the facility appears to be in good working condition.