

While the state nutrient management program covers all dairies, some dairies along with other livestock operations are also defined under the federal Clean Water Act as Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) and subject to state and federal permit requirements. LNMP staff currently inspect all dairies and inspect CAFO facilities as needed to evaluate compliance with nutrient management plans and presence of any risks to water quality. The program is mandated to inspect every dairy at least once in two years and efforts are made to coordinate inspections with local water quality activities and concerns.

The Department of Ecology is responsible for developing and administering the CAFO permit and WSDA carries out needed inspections and enforcement. WSDA also works with producers and other state and federal agencies to provide consistent information and effective technical assistance to operators.

Further state information is available at:

<http://agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/Livestock-Nutrient/Livestocknutrient.htm>

LNMP Activities

- Work with livestock operators through inspections and technical assistance visits to achieve water quality compliance
- Identify implementation issues and coordinate with Conservation Commission and Districts, Ecology, WSU Cooperative Extension, and Natural Resources Conservation Service to address technical issues, education needs and permit compliance
- Work with the Livestock Oversight Committee to address program and implementation issues
- Continue to develop technical expertise of staff to support sound decision-making and good data management and reporting
- Develop legislation and regulatory changes to meet the federal CAFO rule requirements and to gain delegation of the CAFO permit program to WSDA from the Environmental Protection Agency

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The program is authorized under the federal Clean Water Act, CFR 40, the State Water Pollution Control Act, RCW 90.48 and the Dairy Nutrient Management Act, RCW 90.64.

Federal information is available at: www.cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/index.cfm

The Livestock Nutrient Management Program was established to carry out the state's dairy nutrient management program and to provide regulatory oversight and clear guidance to the broader livestock industry regarding their responsibilities to protect water quality under state and federal law. Program staff coordinate with other agencies and industry groups on education and technical assistance for producers. The program seeks to carry out equitable enforcement of our water quality laws while ensuring a healthy and productive livestock industry in the state.



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Livestock Nutrient Management Program**

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The Washington State Department of Agriculture serves the people of Washington state by supporting the agricultural community and promoting consumer and environmental protection.



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