

# Mower County Feedlot Newsletter

Fall 2025

"To be a farmer is to be a student forever, for each day brings something new"

- John Connell

## INSIDE

### MN Rule 7020 Rule Change

Last major revision took place in 2000. Time for an update and want producer's input.

### Nutrient Management Tool

New way to document manure application

### Simple Facts

Facts about feedlots



**Mower County Feedlot  
Officer- Danielle Anderson**

507-279-7149  
daniellea@co.mower.mn.us

### Who do you call about a manure spill?

1. State Duty Officer- (800) 422-0798
2. Mower County Feedlot Officer- (507) 279-7149



# MN 7020 Rule Change

BY: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

**Purpose: improve land application of manure practices to address nitrate and fish kills, establish additional technical standards to protect water quality and avoid fish kills.**

The last major rule revision occurred in 2000. Since that time, many notable changes have been observed. For example: changes in crop production and nutrient management practices, changes in livestock and poultry production techniques, evolution of technology and regulatory strategies.



### Areas Of Focus for the Rule Change:

1. Land application of manure
  - a. Looking at nitrates in surface water and ground water
  - b. Best Management Practices (BMPs)
  - c. Transferred Manure
2. Technical Standards
  - a. Liquid manure storage areas- capacity, design standards
  - b. Feed storage areas- location requirements, no current design requirement
  - c. Access to waters- small feedlots are allowed access, should there be controlled access?
3. Rule Implementation
  - a. Permits and registration- new thresholds? complex ownerships, commonly owned sits in proximity
  - b. Animal Units (AU)- do they reflect current production trends? More categories, less?
  - c. New agency data services



Links for more information:

<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/get-engaged/animal-feedlots>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FueIjU0csAn0>

<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/wq-rule4-29e.pdf>





# New Nutrient Management Tool

- MPCA

This is a new program for developing a manure management plan.

You can import data from the Manure Management Planner spreadsheet producers are already using.

NPDES/SDS permit applications submitted to the MPCA will be required to utilize this tool to develop a manure management plan.

Vulnerable ground water area is indicated within this mapping system- this will help NPDES/SDS sites when determining best management practices to use.

## FAQs

1. Can an agronomist or crop consultant complete my farm's nutrient management plan?
  - Yes, the producer will still need to create an account and then grant permission to the individual.
2. If I do not have an NPDES/SDS permit, can I still use the old spreadsheet to create a manure management plan?
  - Yes, but the spreadsheet will become unavailable on the MPCA website sometime in 2026 and eventually the spreadsheet will not be accepted as a nutrient management plan.

There are tutorials to help walk producers through the process of entering data. Go to the link provided below.

<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/land-application-of-manure>

## Final N BMP requirements (summary)

### Non-vulnerable groundwater areas

<b>June 1 – Sept. 30</b> • Cover crops • Actively growing crops	<b>Oct. 1 – Oct. 14</b> • Cover crops • Actively growing crops • 50°F soils (2 days) • N stabilizer • Split application
-----------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



January 17, 2025

www.pca.state.mn.us

14

## Feedlot Facts



1. There are about 18,000 registered feedlots in Minnesota that the MPCA and County Feedlot Officers oversee.
2. Mower County has 544 registered feedlots.
3. In Mower County all new feedlots must be 1,000ft away from neighboring dwellings.
4. Pasture is not a feedlot component and therefore are exempt from feedlot rules but not exempt from Minnesota's water quality rules.
5. Any site with 1,000 tons or more of sweet corn silage must obtain an operational permit from the MPCA.

**Mower County Feedlot Officer- Danielle Anderson**

507-279-7149  
 daniellea@co.mower.mn.us