

Feedlot registration

Minnesota law requires most feedlot owners to register their feedlot with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Owners meet [feedlot registration requirements](#) by providing basic information to the MPCA. Owners who have applied for a permit are automatically registered.

Feedlot owners are required to update their registration information within a four-year cycle. Registration information includes location, type of operation, and number of livestock including poultry. The next deadline for maintaining a current registration of Minnesota’s estimated 15,000 feedlots is December 31, 2025.



How to register

To register your feedlot, you must use the online feedlot registration service available at <https://webapp.pca.state.mn.us/services/login>. You will need internet access and an email account to use this service and register your feedlot. The service can be accessed via computer, tablet, or smart phone. No paper forms are available to complete your feedlot registration.

Some counties delegated to administer the feedlot program, may assist with feedlot registration by collecting information on a paper form and then entering that information into the online service for feedlot owners.

Who must register

A feedlot is required to register based upon its number of [animal units](#). Animal units (AU) are calculated by multiplying the number of animals by the AU factors listed in the table to the right (e.g. 50 dairy calves x 0.2 = 10 AU).

Owners of the following operations must register:

- All feedlots with 50 or more AU.
- Feedlots located in shoreland with 10 or more AU.

[Shoreland](#), in most instances, refers to land that is 1,000 feet or less from a lake or 300 feet or less from a river or stream. In rare instances, land near large ponds, wetlands, or ditches is classified as shoreland.

Owners who have closed their feedlots since their last registration should use the online system to record the closure. The MPCA defines a closed feedlot as one that has not had animals for the past five years.

Feedlots with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NDPES) or State Disposal System (SDS) operating permit were registered at the time of permit issuance. A separate registration is not necessary.

Animal type	AU
Dairy cow over 1,000 lbs	1.4
Dairy cow under 1,000 lbs	1.0
Dairy heifer	0.7
Dairy calf	0.2
Beef steer or stock cow	1.0
Beef heifer or backgrounding	0.7
Beef cow calf pair	1.2
Beef calf	0.2
Swine over 300 lbs	0.4
Swine 55 – 300 lbs	0.3
Swine under 55 lbs	0.05
Horse	1.0
Sheep or lamb	0.1
Chicken (liquid manure system)	0.033
Chicken over 5 lbs (dry manure)	0.005
Chicken under 5 lbs (dry manure)	0.003
Turkey over 5 lbs	0.018
Turkey under 5 lbs	0.005

Types of animals to register

Only animals that produce agricultural commodities (meat, milk, eggs, hides, fur/hair/wool, etc.) should be registered. Over the past 20+ years, the MPCA has developed a list of 44 different common animal types that produce agricultural commodities and has included this list in the online registration service.

Only animals that are within the current MPCA list of animals are eligible for registration.

Here are examples of animal types that should not be registered:

Dogs/dog kennels

Cats/cat breeders

Exotic/zoo animals

Rodents

Fish or shrimp

Other domestic animals (parakeets, cockatoos, reptiles, goldfish, etc.)

Questions regarding registration of a specific animal type should be directed to MPCA feedlot staff. Feedlot staff contact information is available at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/wq-f1-11.pdf>

Pastures

Livestock operations that are only pastures do not need to be registered. The [definition of pastures](#) in Minn. R. 7020 states that pastures are areas where grass or other growing plants are used for grazing, and where the concentration of animals is such that a vegetation cover is maintained during the growing season, except in the immediate vicinity of temporary supplemental feeding or watering devices.

A typical example of a pasture operation exempted from registration is a cow-calf operation that houses no animals in buildings or lots, but has winter feeding and sheltering areas within the pasture. The owners of these facilities pasture their livestock during the growing season and provide supplemental feed for them at various locations in the pasture during the winter months. (See factsheet: [“Managing Livestock Feeding on Pasture and Crop Residue”](#)).

Failure to register

Failure to register a feedlot that is required to register and/or failure to re-register a feedlot that is required to register is a violation of feedlot rules.

Why registration

Registration data allows the MPCA to identify feedlots according to active or inactive sites, and number of animals at the site and location. This information helps to prioritize those operations with the greatest pollution risk and to work with owners if a pollution hazard is present. Registration data is also important to MPCA planners and the legislature who need to plan for funding needs to assist producers with technical assistance, cost share, and other financial assistance.

More information

More information about feedlot registration and the feedlot rule is available here:

[www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/7020/http://www.pca.state.mn.us/hot/feedlot-rules.html](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/hot/feedlot-rules.html), or call your [MPCA area office](#) or delegated [county feedlot officer](#) listed on these webpages: www.pca.state.mn.us/water/mpca-feedlot-staff-contacts, www.pca.state.mn.us/water/county-feedlot-program.