

General information

Public comment period begins: June 24, 2024
Public comment period ends: August 9, 2024
General permit issued: February 1, 2021
General permit expiration date: January 31, 2026

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to issue this permit for a term of approximately five years.

Name and address of Permittee:	Facility name and location:	MPCA contact person:
Multiple Locations	State of Minnesota General Animal Feedlot NPDES Permit 520 Lafayette Rd N Saint Paul, MN 55155	George Schwint Watershed Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 12 Civic Center Plz, Ste 2165 Mankato, MN 56001 Phone: 320-894-5866 Email: george.schwint@state.mn.us
		File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or 1-844-828-0942

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to issue this permit. A copy of the general permit is available for review at: www.pca.state.mn.us. Coverage under this permit will expire on the date indicated above.

The draft permit, fact sheet and public notice is available for review on the MPCA Public Notices webpage at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publicnotices>. Additional materials are available for inspection by appointment at any MPCA office (<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mPCA/contact-us>) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The MPCA will mail or email a copy of the General Permit, permit application or any supporting materials upon request. Comments, petitions, and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and U.S. Mail comments must be received by 4:30 p.m.

Watershed: Statewide

Description of permitted activity

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) proposes to issue a General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for the construction, expansion, modification, or operation of animal feedlots in Minnesota. An NPDES permit is required for any animal feedlot facility that currently has capacity, or is proposing to have capacity, that meets or exceeds any one of the federal large confined animal feeding operation thresholds and discharges to waters of the United States. Additionally, animal feedlots that are required to obtain a State Disposal System (SDS) Permit may choose to obtain an NPDES Permit in lieu of the SDS Permit.

Animal feedlot owners across the State of Minnesota will apply for coverage under this permit. Upon MPCA approval, a qualified animal feedlot will be authorized to operate in compliance with this permit for five years.

The permit establishes conditions that will govern construction or expansion of the covered facility, and conditions governing operation and maintenance of the covered facility, including management of manure. The General NPDES Permit authorizes discharges to waters of the state only if the covered facility is in compliance with Minn. R. ch. 7020, and 40 C.F.R. § 412, and all applicable portions of the permit. A more complete description of the permit can be found in the factsheet associated with this notice.

The preliminary determination to issue this Feedlots Permit is tentative.

Procedure for public participation

As stated in Minn. R. chs. 7000 and 7001, there are three formal procedures for public participation in the MPCA's consideration of this matter. Interested persons may:

- 1) Submit written comments on the draft permit.
- 2) Petition the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting.
- 3) Petition the MPCA to hold a contested case hearing.

Submitting written comments

Comments about the terms and conditions of the draft permit may be submitted:

- 1) Online at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publiccomments>; or
- 2) By U.S. postal mail to the following address:
George Schwint
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
12 Civic Center Plz, Ste 2165
Mankato, MN 56001

Submitted comments or petitions must state:

- 1) Your interest in the draft permit.
- 2) The action you wish the MPCA or Permittee to take, including specific references to the parts of the draft permit you believe should be changed.
- 3) The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the position.

Public informational meeting

A public informational meeting is an informal meeting during which interested persons can ask questions concerning the proposed facility. MPCA staff will be present to provide information. If an interested person would like the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting, the person should include all information identified above and in addition include a statement of the reasons the person desires the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting and the issues that the person would like the agency to address at the public informational meeting.

Contested Case Hearing

A contested case hearing is a formal proceeding before an administrative law judge empowered to advise the MPCA regarding issues of fact. As described in Minn. R. 7000.1800, persons who submit petitions for a contested case hearing must also state the issues they propose to address in a contested case hearing, the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter, and the reasons (which may be in the form of proposed findings) supporting an MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing. Failure to comply with these rules exactly may result in a denial of the request. To the extent known, the petitioner may also submit a list of prospective witnesses to be called at a hearing, a proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced at a hearing and the approximate time required for the petitioner to present the matter at a hearing. The decision whether to hold a contested case hearing will be made under Minn. R. 7000.1900.

General information

Public comment period begins: June 24, 2024

Public comment period ends: August 9, 2024

General permit issued: June 15, 2015

General permit expiration date: May 31, 2025

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to issue this permit for a term of approximately ten years.

Name and address of Permittee: **Facility name and location:**

Multiple Locations

State of Minnesota
General Animal Feedlot
SDS Permit
520 Lafayette Rd N
Saint Paul, MN 55155

MPCA contact person:

George Schwint
Watershed Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
12 Civic Center Plz, Ste 2165
Mankato, MN 56001
Phone: 320-894-5866
Email: george.schwint@state.mn.us

File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or
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Watershed: Statewide

Description of permitted activity

The MPCA proposes to issue a General State Disposal System (SDS) Permit for the construction, expansion, modification, or operation of animal feedlots in Minnesota. An SDS permit is required for any animal feedlot capable of holding 1,000 animal units (AU) or more, or the manure produced by 1,000 AU or more. Animal feedlots that are required to obtain a SDS permit may choose to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit in lieu of the SDS Permit.

Animal feedlot owners across the state of Minnesota will apply for coverage under this permit. Upon MPCA approval, a qualified animal feedlot will be authorized to operate in compliance with this permit for ten years.

The permit establishes conditions that will govern construction or expansion of the covered facility, and also conditions governing operation and maintenance of the covered facility, including management of manure. The General SDS Permit prohibits discharge to waters of the United States and only allows discharge to waters of the state if the facility is in compliance with Minn. R. ch. 7020, and all applicable portions of the permit. A more complete description of the permit can be found in the factsheet associated with this notice.

The preliminary determination to issue this Feedlots permit is tentative.

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