

Which permit do you need? Virginia AFO/ CAFO Permit Program

What is an AFO?

"Animal Feeding Operation" or "AFO" means a lot or facility where the following conditions are met:

1. Animals have been, are, or will be stabled or confined and fed or maintained for a total of 45 days or more in any 12-month period; and
2. Crops, vegetation, forage growth, or post-harvest residues are not sustained in the normal growing season over any portion of the lot or facility.

What is a CAFO?

"Concentrated animal feeding operation" or "CAFO" is an AFO that discharges and is further defined as a Large CAFO, a Medium CAFO or designated a Small CAFO. Two or more AFOs under common ownership are considered to be a single AFO for the purposes of determining the number of animals at an operation, if they adjoin each other or if they use a common area or system for the disposal of wastes.

See below for Large CAFO, Medium CAFO and Small CAFO definitions.

1 Are you an Animal Feeding Operation (AFO)?

No

No permit required

Yes

2 Does the facility discharge?

A discharge occurs when pollutants leave the site and reach surface waters.

No

Virginia Pollution Abatement Permits No Discharge

Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permits Discharge

3 How many animals do you have?

3 How many animals do you have?

Less than:
Livestock-
300 Animal Units
Poultry-
200 Animal Units
{see boxes to right for animal number and type}

No permit required

300 Animal Units or greater:
{utilizing a liquid manure collection and storage system}
200 Dairy Cattle (milked or dry)
750 Swine (> 55 lbs)
300 Slaughter or Feeder Cattle
150 Horses
3,000 Sheep or Lambs
16,500 Turkeys
30,000 Laying Hens or Broilers

VPA General Permit
Animal Feeding Operations Permit

200 Animal Units or greater:
{dry poultry waste}
11,000 Turkeys
20,000 Chickens

VPA General Permit
Poultry Waste Management Permit

LARGE
700 Dairy Cattle
2500 Swine (> 55 lbs)
1,000 Beef Cattle
55,000 Turkeys
125,000 Chickens (dry waste)
30,000 Chickens (liquid waste)
Other animal types - see EPA resource list

VPA General Permit
Animal Feeding Operations Permit **Poultry Waste Management Permit**

General Permit vs. Individual Permit:
General Permit: the permit requirements are identical for each facility. The Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) is individualized for each facility.
Individual Permit: the permit requirements are individualized to the facility and are typically more restrictive than the general permit.
Both permit types include NMP requirements.

Individual VPA Permit

LARGE
700 Dairy Cattle
2500 Swine (> 55 lbs)
1,000 Beef Cattle
55,000 Turkeys
125,000 Chickens (dry waste)
30,000 Chickens (liquid waste)
Other animal types - see EPA resource list

Individual VPDES Permit

MEDIUM
Falls within the size range below and either:
1.-has a manmade ditch, flushing system, pipe or similar manmade device that carries manure or wastewater to surface water; or
2.-the animals come into direct contact with surface water that passes through the area where the animals are confined:
200-699 Dairy Cattle
750-2499 Swine (> 55 lbs)
300-999 Beef Cattle
16,500-54,999 Turkeys
37,500-124,999 Chickens (dry waste)
9,000-29,999 Chickens (liquid waste)
Other animal types - see EPA resource list

Individual VPDES Permit

SMALL
Must be designated by DEQ as a significant contributor of pollutants:
Less than 200 Dairy Cattle
Less than 750 Swine (> 55 lbs)
Less than 300 Beef Cattle
Less than 16,500 Turkeys
Less than 37,500 Chickens (dry waste)
Less than 9,000 Chickens (liquid waste)
Other animal types - see EPA resource list

Individual VPDES Permit

Non compliance with the State Water Control Law or general permit requirements or otherwise do not qualify for the general permits regardless of size of operation.

Individual VPA Permit