

# AG. WATER QUALITY ACT



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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FUNDING ASSISTANCE

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

## POULTRY FACILITY SITING AND LAND APPLICATION OF ON-FARM GENERATED WASTE BY-PRODUCTS

### LIVESTOCK BMP #17



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#### Description:

Site poultry facilities and apply waste in a way that eliminates or controls the contribution of excess nutrients (especially nitrogen and phosphorus) to water resources.

#### AWQA Minimum Requirements:

The minimum acreage to site one or two poultry house farm is 15 acres. Each additional poultry house requires five acres. These distances apply to all nutrient management facilities as well as poultry houses themselves. Setbacks relating to dwellings, churches, and property lines may be waived by obtaining a sworn affidavit from the owner that he or she is agreeable to the waiver:

- Schools, churches and adjacent cemeteries, incorporated city limits, and public parks as of July 1, 1998 - minimum of 1500 feet.
- Dwellings other than growers/or not associated with the operation - 500 feet.
- Except at tunnel ventilation fan outlets - 750 feet.
- Property

lines - minimum of 75 feet. •Roadways, primary (state and federal) - minimum of 150 feet. •Roadways, secondary (county) - minimum of 100 feet. •Lakes, rivers, blue line streams, sinkholes with openings - minimum 150 feet. •Water well not owned by producer - minimum of 300 feet. These distances apply to all poultry waste or by-products that are land applied. Setbacks relating to dwellings, churches, and property lines may be waived by the owner of these features by obtaining a sworn affidavit from the owner that he or she is agreeable to the waiver: •Dwellings or occupied buildings - minimum of 300 feet. •Water well - minimum of 200 feet. •Lakes, rivers, blue line streams, sinkholes with openings - minimum of 75 feet. •Each poultry operation must prepare a nutrient management plan. As a minimum this plan must meet the AWQA requirements in [Livestock BMP #11](#). The nutrient management plan will specify on-farm application of litter.

#### Recommendations:

Waste should be used to the fullest extent possible by recycling through soil and plants. Manure shall be collected and safely spread on land, treated, or stored until it can be safely spread. Adequate storage must be provided to allow spreading during favorable weather and at times compatible with crop management and available labor. Adequate drainage, erosion control and other soil and water management practice shall be incorporated to prevent system-related problems. The overall system shall include sufficient land for proper use or disposal of waste at locations, time, rates, and volumes that maintain desirable water, soil, plant and other environmental conditions. Appropriate waste handling equipment shall be available for effective operation of the system. Analyze waste products for nutrient content prior to use as feed. Feeding waste materials to livestock should be incorporated into a total feeding program and should meet the applicable requirements in [Livestock BMP #12 - Equine or Poultry Waste Feed](#).

#### Technical References

##### University Publications

- [University of Kentucky College of Agriculture Extension publications](#)

##### USDA/NRCS Publications

- [Practice Code 590 Nutrient Management](#)
- [Poultry Water Quality Handbook](#)

#### Funding Assistance Options

##### State Cost Share

- See your local Conservation District to [apply](#).

##### Kentucky Ag. Development Fund (KADB/KAFC)

- Select from available program options [here](#).

##### NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- Select from available program options [here](#).

#### Important Considerations

Water Quality Benefit (●-●●●●): ●●

(KEY: ●=good, ●●●●=best: see [STEPL Model](#))