AG. WATER QUALITY ACT

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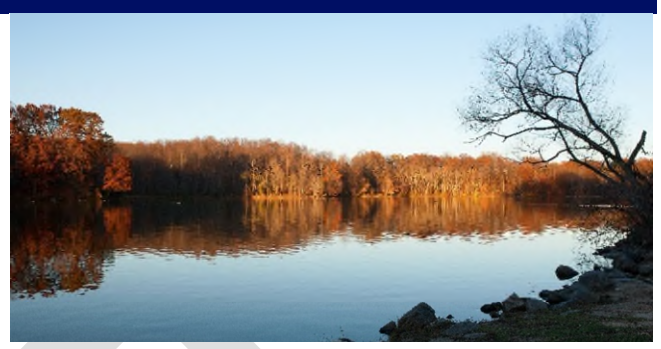

Photo courtesy of USDA ARS

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	FUNDING ASSISTANCE	IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

MANURE HOLDING TANKS

LIVESTOCK BMP #7

Photo courtesy of USDA ARS

Description:
A tank structure of concrete, concrete block, steel, fiberglass, or similar materials to temporarily store livestock liquid and slurry manure.

AWQA Minimum Requirements:
Construct a holding tank to store animal manure on site until it can be applied in a slurry form when soil conditions permit and it is needed most for production.

Recommendations:
Clean water should be excluded from concentrated manure areas to the fullest extent practical. Locate as close to livestock manure source as possible. Tanks are usually constructed underground (e.g., under a building), although some are above ground. Locate where surface water is excluded, unless it is needed for manure dilution. Site should be easily accessible for emptying and spreading equipment. Check soils, depth of rock, drainage, and topography for planning, design, and easy access for emptying equipment. Adequate land must be available for a disposal area without overloading soils or exceeding crop requirements causing an increase in nutrients reaching ground water. If a high water table is present, either drainage or special tank design is needed to reduce seepage problems. Consider future livestock expansion, as well as present numbers, in determining tank size. More than one tank may be needed in large operations. Adhere to local and state health regulations concerning design, location, and ventilation (especially if tank is located under a building).

Technical References

University Publications
- AGR-165 Agronomics of Manure Use for Crop Production
- AEN-91 Managing Liquid Dairy Manure
- ID-148 Sampling Animal Manure
- IP-57 Potential for Livestock and Poultry Manure to Provide the Nutrients Removed by Crops and Forages in Kentucky
- AGR-146 Using Animal Manure as Nutrient Sources

USDA/NRCS Publications
- Practice Code 313 Waste Storage Facility

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 (💧-💧💧💧💧): 💧💧

Wildlife Benefits
- Contact the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife's Habitat Improvement Program how to improve wildlife habitat with select BMPs (1-800-858-1549).