MANURE STORAGE PONDS

LIVESTOCK BMP #6

Description: A reservoir, pit, or pond made by excavation or earth fill for the temporary storage of liquid and/or solid livestock manures, waste water, and/or other polluted runoff prior to land application.

AWQA Minimum Requirements: Construct a storage pond for the temporary storage of liquid and/or solid animal manure until it can be spread or used more effectively and without causing degradation to the water, and manage the pond properly.

Recommendations: Clean water should be excluded from concentrated manure areas to the fullest extent practical. See Livestock BMP #18 Stormwater Management. Locate out of the floodplain area unless other protective measures are taken. Check soils, rock depth, topography, and underlying geology for site suitability. Place close to the manure source to reduce excessive surface runoff water in the holding pond. Select a site with the greatest practical distance from residences, roads, streams, and lakes. Consider wind direction and offensive odor problems.

Sufficient land must be available for a disposal area without overloading soils or exceeding crop requirements. Leakage through the sidewalls and bottom may allow pollutants to move into groundwater.

Technical References
- AGR-166 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 Manures as Nutrient Sources
- AEN-125 Closing a Liquid Manure Storage Structure

Funding Assistance Options
- State Cost Share: See your local Conservation District to apply.
- Kentucky Ag. Development Fund (KADB/KAF): Select from available program options here.
- NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP): Select from available program options here.

Important Considerations
Water Quality Benefit ( ): good, best: see STEPL Model (KEY: =good, =best: see STEPL Model)