

Iowa County's 2019 Manure Storage and Management ordinance Summary and key points

The 2000 Iowa County Animal Waste Storage and Nutrient Utilization Ordinance was updated as part of a County-wide ordinance review process and because of recent technical standard updates. This ordinance had previously not been revised since 2000.

Planning & Development and Land Conservation staff began meeting in January 2018 to draft the updated ordinance based on the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection's (DATCP) model ordinance. Staff received advisory comments from DATCP to ensure consistency with State regulations. The ordinance was presented at a public hearing on July 25, 2019 and was approved by the Land Conservation, Planning & Zoning, and Public Works Committees before being passed by the County Board on October 15, 2019.

Significant changes include:

- Requirement of permits for new storage of any size (see section 1-2(9))
- Specifies that the NRCS Standards to follow are those current at time of application (section 1-2(23) and (24)).
- Added setbacks (section 1-3(4)).
- Added NR151.08 Manure Management Prohibitions (section 1-4(7)).
- Requirement of a Certificate of Use for new permits (section 1-6) that:
 - Requires proper operation and maintenance (1-6(4)c. and d.)
 - Allows the Land Conservation Department to inspect storage structures or request proof of compliance/operating checklist in the future (1-6(4)f.)
 - Requires annual Nutrient Management Plan checklists and regular updates for permitted facilities (1-6(4)a. and b.)
- Adjustment of boilerplate language throughout to match DATCP's template

The permitting process remains the same: the Planning & Development office handles the permits and citations, while Land Conservation provides technical assistance with plan reviews, checklists, and inspections.

Fees associated with this ordinance were established by resolution 4-1019 and are available online or through the Planning & Development or Land Conservation Departments.

This ordinance is not retroactive except that the Manure Management Prohibitions apply to all Iowa County farms.

Feel free to call the Land Conservation Department with any questions: 608-930-9891.