

Chapter 49 Manure Storage Certificate of Use



Dane County Manure Storage Facility Certificate of Use

In 2019, Dane County Board of Supervisors approved Dane County Code of Ordinances Chapter 49: Agricultural Performance Standards and Manure Management effective July 1, 2019. One of the new requirements under Chapter 49 for landowners or operators with manure storage facilities is a manure storage facility certificate of use program.

What is a Certificate of Use?

A certificate of use is an authorization issued by the Land & Water Resources Department that allows a landowner or operator to use an unpermitted manure storage facility or a facility with an expired permit. An unpermitted manure storage facility is any facility constructed prior to July 1, 2019. Facilities with expired permits under Chapter 49 can be transitioned to a certificate of use if the landowner or operator plan to continue to use the facility.

Obtaining a Certificate of Use

To obtain a certificate of use for a manure storage facility(s), complete the certificate of use application form as completely as possible and submit to the department along with the application fee. Applications will be reviewed and a site visit may be scheduled to assess the condition of the facility(s). Based on the information collected, a certificate of use will be issued. If a certificate of use cannot be issued, the facility may need to be evaluated by a professional engineer registered with the State of Wisconsin to further determine if the facility meets the requirements of Chapter 49. The department will review the evaluation materials submitted and make a determination on whether or not to issue a certificate of use. In some instances, a manure storage facility will not meet the requirements for a certificate of use and will be required to be properly closed or upgraded.

For more information, please contact:

Land Conservation Division
(608) 224-3730
landcon@countyofdane.com

What are the Requirements of a Certificate of Use?

A certificate of use allows the landowner or operator to use the facility to store and utilize manure, process wastewater and other agricultural wastes in accordance with the following requirements:

- ✍ Operate your manure storage facility with a margin of safety level (i.e. freeboard) so it does not overtop.
- ✍ Maintain your manure storage facility free from visible and serious damage, erosion, or deformities.
- ✍ Maintain safety devices such as fences, grates and guards that exclude animals and humans from entering the manure storage facility.
- ✍ Submit to periodic inspections of the manure storage facility with advance notice from the department.
- ✍ Obtain, update, and follow a nutrient management plan. Updated nutrient management plans should be submitted annually by June 1st.