

Application Type Amendment,
Major
Facility Type CAFO
Permit Type Individual

**NPDES PERMIT FACT SHEET
CAFOs**

Application No. PA0234087
APS ID 752355
Authorization ID 1526026

Applicant and Facility Information

Applicant Name	<u>Philip Courter</u>	Farm Name	<u>Courter's Finisher Farm</u>
Applicant Address	<u>6527 Jacksonville Road</u> <u>Mill Hall, PA 17751-8876</u>	Farm Address	<u>6527 Jacksonville Road</u> <u>Mill Hall, PA 17751-8876</u>
Applicant Contact	<u>Philip Courter</u>	Farm Contact	<u>Philip Courter</u>
Applicant Phone	<u>(570) 660-6464</u>	Farm Phone	<u>(570) 660-6464</u>
Client ID	<u>288501</u>	Site ID	<u>749533</u>
SIC Code	<u>0211,0213</u>	Municipality	<u>Porter Township</u>
SIC Description	<u>Agriculture - Beef Cattle Feedlots,</u> <u>Agriculture - Hogs</u>	County	<u>Clinton</u>
Date Application Received	<u>May 5, 2025</u>	WQM Required	<u>Yes</u>
Date Application Accepted	<u>July 25, 2025</u>	WQM App. No.	<u>WQM 1817201</u>

Project Description Philip Courter submitted an Individual CAFO permit application to amend PA0234087 for his expanding swine operation.



Approve	Deny	Signatures	Date
X		<i>Hans D. Shollenberger</i> Hans D. Shollenberger / Project Manager	01/28/2026
X		<i>Scott M Arwood</i> Scott M. Arwood, P.E. / Environmental Engineer Manager	01/28/2026

Description:

Philip Courter submitted an Individual CAFO permit application to amend PA0234087 for his expanding swine operation located in Porter Township, Clinton County. The operation is constructing a fourth swine barn and after expanding will have the following animals:

Animal Type	Number	AEUs
Swine grow finish: 10–28 wk.	11,800	1,680.28
Beef Cow	20	28.00
Beef Calf: 0–8 mo.	20	4.03
Beef Bull	1	1.50
Beef Finishing: 8–24 mo.	6	5.70
Layer, brown egg: 18–90 wk.	12	0.05
	Total AEUs =	1,719.56

This operation is considered a CAO for having an animal density exceeding 2 AEUs/Acre while exceeding 8 AEUs. The operation is considered a large CAFO for being a CAO exceeding 300 AEUs, for exceeding 1,000 AEUs, and for exceeding the EPA's large CAFO threshold of 2,500 swine each weighing 55 pounds or more.

The nearest potential receiving stream to the operation is Cedar Run, located in watershed 9-C and designated for High-Quality Cold-Water Fishes, Migratory Fishes (HQ-CWF, MF). The stream is not impaired by Department standards.

Since the nearest receiving stream to the operation is designated as High Quality, the Department's Individual CAFO permit is appropriate.

Manure/Nutrient Management:

The current NMP was approved on April 8, 2025, for crop years 2026, 2027, and 2028. There are 287.2 acres available on lands owned and rented by the applicant for manure application according to the NMP, resulting in a density of 5.99 AEUs/acre.

Manure Group Information:

Manure Group	Manure Generated Annually	Manure Used on the Farm	Manure Exported (gallons or tons)
Fall Existing Swine Manure	1,334,700.0 gal	195,400.0 gal	1,139,300.0 gal
Spring Existing Swine Manure	1,334,700.0 gal	1,181,400.0 gal	153,300.0 gal
Fall Proposed Swine Manure	870,408.0 gal	0.0	870,408.0 gal
Spring Proposed Swine Manure	875,952.0 gal	0.0	875,952.0 gal
Solid Beef Manure	120.0 tons	117.8 tons	0.0
Solid Beef Manure - uncollected	339.3 tons	339.3 tons	0.0
Field P1 - Grazing Calculator	169.5 tons	169.5 tons	0.0
Field P2 - Grazing Calculator	169.5 tons	169.5 tons	0.0

Exported Manure:

Name/ Address	Amount and Source of Manure Exported per Season (gallons/ tons)			
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
George Courter 7194 Jacksonville Road, Mill Hall, PA 17751	Up to 727,650 gal swine	0	Up to 727,650 gal swine	0
Kyle Courter 5859 Nittany Valley Drive, Mill Hall, PA 17751	510,400 gal swine	0	510,400 gal swine	0

NPDES Permit Fact Sheet
NPDES Permit No. PA0234087
Courters Finisher Farm

Rogers Dairy LLC 5950 Jacksonville Road, Howard, PA 16841	300,000 gal swine	0	300,000 gal swine	0
Elam Stoltzfus Jr 683 Dotterer Road, Mill Hall, PA 17751	168,000 gal swine	0	168,000 gal swine	0

The following requirements must be met when transferring manure to other persons:

40 CFR 122.42(e)(3) - Requirements relating to transfer of manure or process wastewater to other persons.

Prior to transferring manure, litter, or process wastewater to other persons, Large CAFOs must provide the recipient of the manure, litter or process wastewater with the most current nutrient analysis. The analysis provided must be consistent with the requirements of 40 CFR part 412. Large CAFOs must retain for five years records of the date, recipient name and address, and approximate amount of manure, litter or process wastewater transferred to another person.

Winter Manure Management:

Application of manure during the winter period is not approved in the NMP.

Manure storage facilities should have adequate freeboard on December 15th of each year to implement the NMP. Below are the minimum freeboards that must be available on December 15th:

Storage	Minimum Freeboard on December 15 th
Swine Underbarn #1	1.8 ft
Swine Underbarn #2	1.8 ft
Swine Underbarn #3	1.8 ft
Swine Underbarn #4	1.7 ft

Manure Storage Facilities:

Storage	Dimensions	Freeboard	Usable Capacity
Name	Ft x ft x ft	Minimum regulatory	Gallons or cubic feet
Swine Underbarn #1	80.17' x 222.67' x 6'	0.5 ft	734,409 gallons
Swine Underbarn #2	80.66' x 244.50' x 6'	0.5 ft	811,337 gallons
Swine Underbarn #3	80.66' x 244.50' x 6'	0.5 ft	811,337 gallons
Swine Underbarn #4 (Proposed)	81.5ft x 501ft x 6ft	0.5 ft	1,679,800 gallons
Concrete Circular Storage (Emergency Use Only)	70' x 12'	2 ft	321,702 gallons

The Department issued WQM 1817201 A-1 on May 1, 2025 for the construction and operation of the fourth swine concrete underbarn manure storage.

The operation does not field stack manure and has no planned alternative manure technology practices.

BMPs Applicable to the Chesapeake Bay TMDL:

DEP has evaluated the information included in the application materials; as well as the effluent limitations, BMPs, and other requirements included in the permit. This would include the approved Act 38 compliant Nutrient Management Plan, which includes Best Management Practices to meet Pennsylvania nutrient and manure management regulations, as well as Nutrient Balance Sheets for manure importers, applicable manure storage and manure spreading setback requirements, and Emergency Response Plan. Applicable Conservation Plans

NPDES Permit Fact Sheet
NPDES Permit No. PA0234087
Courters Finisher Farm

and/or Agricultural Erosion & Sediment Control Plans were also evaluated, which includes Best Management Practices to meet Pennsylvania erosion and sediment control regulations.

The applicant is implementing the following BMPs within the production area:

- Manure Storage Facilities
- Mortality Management

The following NRCS Practice Codes are prescribed as BMPs in the approved 2026 to 2028 NMP for this operation:

- NRCS 313 Waste Storage Facility, BMP Location: Proposed Swine Barn 4, Spring 2026
- NRCS 587 Structure for Water Control (2 Basins), BMP Location: Proposed Swine Barn 4, Spring 2026

Based upon this evaluation, DEP believes no additional BMPs will be required at this time to meet the goals and requirements of the Chesapeake Bay TMDL and to protect water quality criteria. This determination will be reevaluated through review of self-inspection reporting, annual reporting, and regular compliance inspections.

Animal Mortality:

Animal mortality on the operation is composted and applied to crop fields as a small quantities manure group.

Animal Concentration Areas (Chapter 102.4a):

Animal Heavy Use Areas (AHUAs) are designated in the NMP, and will be managed according to the provisions of the NMP. Cattle have access to a curbed concrete heavy use area on the eastern side of the cattle barn. Cattle manure accumulates under the roofed section of barn. Roof gutters, downspouts and underground outlets have been installed to control stormwater from entering the heavy use area. Any stormwater that accumulates on the concrete heavy use area is collected and applied with liquid manure.

Chapter 102 E&S (Conservation Plans):

Agricultural E&S Plans have been included and verified to exist for land subjected to plowing and tilling activities.

Downstream Public Water Supplies:

The nearest downstream public water intake is located more than 73 miles downstream on the Susquehanna River by PA American Water White Deer. This CAFO is not expected to adversely impact any public water supplies.

Compliance History:

There are no open violations for this operation.

Public Participation:

DEP will publish notice of the receipt of the NPDES permit application and a tentative decision to issue the individual NPDES permit in the Pennsylvania Bulletin in accordance with 25 Pa. Code § 92a.82. Upon publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, DEP will accept written comments from interested persons for a 30-day period (which may be extended for one additional 15-day period at DEP's discretion), which will be considered in making a final decision on the application. Any person may request or petition for a public hearing with respect to the application. A public hearing may be held if DEP determines that there is significant public interest in holding a hearing. If a hearing is held, notice of the hearing will be published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin at least 30 days prior to the hearing and in at least one newspaper of general circulation within the geographical area of the discharge.