

Application Type **Renewal**
Facility Type **CAFO**
Permit Type **Individual**

NPDES PERMIT FACT SHEET
CAFOs

Application No. **PA0248312**
APS ID **584466**
Authorization ID **1501165**

Applicant and Facility Information

Applicant Name	<u>Willow Behrer Farm LLC</u>	Farm Name	<u>Willow Behrer Farm</u>
Applicant Address	<u>3288 Behrer Lane</u>	Farm Address	<u>3288 Behrer Lane</u>
	<u>Spruce Creek, PA 16683-1500</u>		<u>Spruce Creek, PA 16683-1500</u>
Applicant Contact	<u>Michael Behrer</u>	Farm Contact	<u>Michael Behrer</u>
Applicant Phone	<u>(814) 682-2700</u>	Farm Phone	<u>(814) 682-2700</u>
Client ID	<u>248632</u>	Site ID	<u>649159</u>
SIC Code	<u>0241</u>	Municipality	<u>Franklin Township</u>
SIC Description	<u>Agriculture - Dairy Farms</u>	County	<u>Huntingdon</u>
Date Application Received	<u>September 30, 2024</u>	WQM Required	<u>No</u>
Date Application Accepted	<u>October 10, 2024</u>	WQM App. No.	<u>N/A</u>
Project Description	<u>Willow Behrer Farm LLC submitted an NPDES renewal application for their existing dairy CAFO.</u>		



Approve	Deny	Signatures	Date
X		<i>Jared Lescavage</i> Jared Lescavage / Project Manager	April 8, 2025
x		<i>Scott M Arwood</i> Scott M. Arwood, P.E. / Environmental Engineer Manager	04/10/2025

Description:

Willow Behrer Farm is an existing dairy operation located in Spruce Creek, Huntingdon County. The operation submitted a renewal application to be permitted at 1856.9 AEUs. The operation is not considered a CAO since the animal density is less than 2 AEUs/Acre. The operation is considered a large CAFO for exceeding 1,000 AEUs and for exceeding the EPA large CAFO threshold of 700 mature dairy cows. The operation will have the following animal population:

Animal Type	Number	AEUs
Holstein Lactating Cow	1,048	1,519.60
Holstein Heifer:1 -2 yr.	260	260
Holstein Calf: 0–1 yr.	180	75.6
Holstein Bull	1	1.70
	Total AEUs =	1856.9

Manure/Nutrient Management:

The NMP was approved on December 5, 2024. There are 1165.8 acres available on lands owned by the applicant for manure application according to the NMP.

Manure Group Information:

Manure Group	Manure Generated Annually	Manure Used on the Farm	Manure Exported (gallons or tons)
Pond (Fall)	2,500,000.0 gal	3,054,500.0 gal	0.0
Pond (Winter)	1,500,000.0 gal	2,652,500.0 gal	0.0
Pond (Spring)	2,500,000.0 gal	2,676,600.0 gal	0.0
Pond (Summer)	500,000.0 gal	1,902,600.0 gal	0.0
Semi-Solid (Fall)	1,200.0 tons	1725.6 tons	0.0
Semi-Solid (Winter)	1,200.0 tons	2,104.8 tons	0.0
Semi-Solid (Spring)	1,200.0 tons	3,353.5 tons	0.0
Semi-Solid (Summer)	1,025.0 tons	2,233.9 tons	0.0
Settling Basin Liquid (Fall)	150,000.0 gal	314,800.0 tons	0.0
Settling Basin Liquid (Spring)	150,000.0 gal	216,300.0 tons	0.0
Separated Solids	750.0 tons	1,076.9 tons	0.0
Pen Pack	3,800.0 tons	3,804.0 tons	0.0
Houck Liquid Dairy (Spring)	500,000.0 gal	0.0	500,000 gal
Houck Liquid Dairy (Fall)	500,000.0 gal	0.0	500,000 gal
Houck Liquid Dairy (Winter)	500,000 gal	203,000 gal	297,000 gal
Houck Liquid Dairy (Summer)	500,000 gal	314,100 gal	297,000 gal

Exported Manure:

Name/ Address	Amount and Source of Manure Exported per Season (gallons/ tons)			
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
(Brian Houck) Seven Stars Farm 3498 Spruce Creek Road, Spruce Creek, PA 16683	400 tons & 800,000 gal	800,000 gal	400 tons & 800,000 gal	500,000 gal

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 approved in the NMP.

Manure storage facilities should have adequate freeboard on December 15 to implement the NMP. The following winter freeboards should be met:

Manure Storage	Freeboard by December 15 th
Earthen Lined Pond	9.4'
Semi-Solid Settling Basin	3.9'
Houck Underbarn Concrete Pit	5.8'

Manure Storage Facilities:

Storage	Type	Dimensions	Freeboard	Capacity
<i>Name</i>	<i>Liquid or solid</i>	<i>Ft' x ft' x ft</i>	<i>Minimum regulatory (ft)</i>	<i>Gallons or cubic feet</i>
Earthen Lined Pond	Liquid	226' x 162' x 15'	2'	2,600,000
Semi-Solid Storage/ Settling Basin	Liquid	105' x 55' x 5'	2'	130,000 gal
Heifer Barn Storage	Liquid	40' x 60' x 6'	0.5'	375 tons/ 90,000 gal
Sand Settling Cells (Quantity: 2)	Liquid	25' x 100' x 4' each	2'	37,400 gal each
Houck Underbarn Concrete Pit (Satellite Storage)	Liquid	130' x 14' x 12'	0.5'	156,556 gal
Cell 1*	Liquid	Irregular Shape	2	N/A
Cell 2*	Liquid	Irregular Shape	2	N/A

***Cell 1 and Cell 2 no longer collect manure at the Home Farm. These cells now collect roof runoff from the Freestall Cow Barn and rainwater. While Cell 1 and Cell 2 no longer hold manure, DEP still requires manure storage self-inspection forms since the Cells have not officially been decommissioned.**

This CAFO permit amendment/renewal includes the addition of the satellite Houck Underbarn Concrete Pit. While the operation exceeds 2.5 MG of manure storage, a WQM permit is not required due to the added Houck Satellite storage being an existing structure (Constructed in 1995) and not a "new or expanded" storage.

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 draft 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 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 (Composting)

The following list are BMPs prescribed for Willow Behrer Farms in the operation's Act-38 compliant approved 2025 to 2027 NMP:

- Silage Leachate Solids Collection, BMP Location: Pond: Continuous
- Lagoon Fence Maintenance, BMP location: Pond, Implementation: Continuous

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:

The mortalities are composted using penpack manure from the dairy herd. Mortality compost is typically reused with penpack manure for future mortality composting or land applied with the penpack manure.

Animal Concentration Areas (Chapter 102.4a):

An animal concentration area exists to the area west of Past1E. This area will be restricted to livestock to allow vegetation to re-establish; however, the intent is to maintain the location as an Animal Heavy Use Area (Not identified by a layer in NMP maps).

Chapter 102 E&S (Conservation Plans):

Agricultural E&S and Conservation Plans have been included and verified to exist for operation lands subjected to plowing and tilling activities. A conservation plan for Brian A Houck (Importer located in HQ watershed) was also included and verified to exist.

Downstream Public Water Supplies:

The nearest public water supply intake is located over 3 miles downstream on Spruce Creek by the Franklinville Water Company. The intake is listed as inactive. The operation should not have an impact on any public water supplies.

Compliance History:

There are no open violations for this operation.

In addition to the freeboard, leak detection, and subsurface drainage monitoring requirements, the following applicable site specific requirement was included in the prior renewal of this permit:

C. Perform routine maintenance of the grassed waterway in Fields 5 and 7 at all times.

DEP has included the above site specific requirement (C) in the renewed permit.

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.