

Application Type New
Facility Type CAFO
Permit Type Individual

**NPDES PERMIT FACT SHEET
CAFOs**

Application No. PA0281816
APS ID 1035050
Authorization ID 1347741

Applicant and Facility Information

Applicant Name	<u>Harold E Merkey</u>	Farm Name	<u>Merkey Hog Farm CAFO</u>
Applicant Address	<u>2904 Sunnyside Road</u> <u>Manheim, PA 17545-8333</u>	Farm Address	<u>2904 Sunnyside Road</u> <u>Manheim, PA 17545-8333</u>
Applicant Contact	<u>Harold Merkey</u>	Farm Contact	<u>Harold Merkey</u>
Applicant Phone	<u>(717) 989-8230</u>	Farm Phone	<u>(717) 989-8230</u>
Client ID	<u>361812</u>	Site ID	<u>848420</u>
SIC Code	<u>0211,0213</u>	Municipality	<u>Rapho Township</u>
SIC Description	<u>Agriculture - Beef Cattle Feedlots,</u> <u>Agriculture - Hogs</u>	County	<u>Lancaster</u>
Date Application Received	<u>March 26, 2021</u>	WQM Required	<u>No</u>
Date Application Accepted	<u>April 15, 2021</u>	WQM App. No.	<u>n/a</u>
Project Description	<u>Merkey Hog Farm CAFO has submitted an application for new individual CAFO permit coverage for their swine operation.</u>		



Approve	Deny	Signatures	Date
X		<i>Hans D Shollenberger</i> Hans Shollenberger / Environmental Engineering Specialist	April 15, 2021
x		<i>Scott M Arwood</i> Scott M. Arwood, P.E. / Environmental Engineer Manager	7/9/2021

Description:

The Merkey Farm CAFO is an existing swine operation located in Rapho Township, Lancaster County. The farm submitted an individual NPDES CAFO permit new coverage application to the Department on March 26, 2021. On a typical day, the operation has the following animals:

Animal Type	Animal Number	AEUs
Swine grow finish: 10–28 wk.	2,200	348.08
Beef Finishing: 8–24 mo.	21	19.95
Beef Cow	15	21.00
Light Horse Mature	2	2.20
Beef Calf: 0-8 mo.	37	11.10
Miniature Horse Mature	32	6.40
Layer, breeder hen, white egg: 17-70 wk.	35	0.11
	Total	408.85

With a total of 408.85 AEUs and 45.8 spreadable acres, the operation has an animal density of 8.93 AEUs/Acre. Since the animal density exceeds 2 AEUs/Acre and the operation exceeds 300 AEUs, the operation is considered both a CAO and a CAFO. The Merkey Farm is not located in a high-quality watershed but will be permitted under an Individual Permit for compliance reasons.

The closest stream to the site is Brubaker Run, located in watershed 7-G and designated for Trout Stocked Fishery, Migratory Fishes (TSF, MF). The stream is considered impaired by Department standards with the source cause being Agriculture Siltation.

Manure/Nutrient Management:

The NMP was approved on January 6th, 2021. There are 45.8 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)
Liquid swine	418,500.0 gal	213,400.0 gal	200,000.0 gal
Mixed Solid - uncollected	824.9 tons	813.6 tons	0.0 tons

Exported Manure:

Name/ Address	Amount and Source of Manure Exported per Season (gallons/ tons)			
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Steve Miller 3248 Echo Valley Road Manheim, PA 17545	235,000 gallons	0	235,000 gallons	0

Winter Manure Management:

There is a winter stacking area adjacent to the mortality compost. The application of manure during the winter period is not approved in the NMP.

The swine underbarn storage must have a minimum freeboard of 1.6 ft by December 15th.

Manure Storage Facilities:

The liquid swine manure is stored in a rectangular slatted floor underbarn concrete pit with dimensions 250'Lx82'Wx6'D. With a minimum required freeboard of 0.5 ft, the storage holds approximately 845,000 gallons which includes both liquid swine manure and washdown water. Manure samples are collected during pump out.

The storage is completely covered and does not receive any precipitation or runoff. The storage is engineer certified and has a subsurface drain and leak detection system.

All other manure is uncollected. There are no proposed manure storage facilities on this operation.

Animal Mortality:

Animal mortality is composted. Some solid manure scraped from the concrete feed and water area in the AHUA is used for mortality composting.

Animal Concentration Areas (Chapter 102.4a):

The NMP and E&S plan address practices to reduce erosion from AHUAs. PA Technical Guide Code 342-*Critical Area Planting* has been prescribed for Pasture 1 and Pasture 2 for all years. The ACA area in Pasture 1 should be scraped approximately every 30 to 60 days, and prior to a known precipitation event. Any manure stacked must be spread within 14 days or covered.

Chapter 102 E&S (Conservation Plans):

An E&S plan was developed in 2014 for this operation. The manure importer listed in the NMP is not located in a High-Quality watershed.

Downstream Public Water Supplies:

The nearest downstream public water intake is located 6 miles downstream on the Little Chickies Creek by the Mount Joy Borough Authority in Cumberland County. This facility is not expected to adversely impact any public water supplies.

Compliance History:

The Merkey Farm has had ongoing issues with not properly implementing the BMP's prescribed in the operation's NMP leading to a series of complaints by a neighbor. Complaint Id 354356 received 1/11/2021 described issues of manure running off Pasture 2 into the small stream at the front of the property (UNT to Brubaker Run). There are currently no open violations for this operation, however an Individual CAFO Permit has been required by the Department. The following BMPs have been prescribed in the approved 2021 to 2023 NMP for this operation:

Manure Management and Stormwater BMP Implementation Summary

Best Management Practice	NRCS Practice Code ¹	BMP Location	Implementation Season & Year
Maintain pasture vegetation (critical area planting)	342	PP1, PP2	All years
Structure for runoff control, water bar	570	PP2 Animal walkway	Winter 2020
Regrade and seed CRPA in east side of the field	342	Field 1	Spring 2021
Scrape Heavy Use Area regularly	561	Pasture 1	Prior to anticipated precipitation events and/or Every 30-60 days annually

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.