

# NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD WASTE STORAGE FACILITY

CODE 313  
(NO.)

## DEFINITION

An agricultural waste storage [impoundment](#) or containment made by constructing an embankment, excavating a pit or dugout, or by fabricating a [structure](#).

## PURPOSE

To store manure, agricultural by-products, [wastewater](#), [manure processing derivatives](#), [leachate](#), and [contaminated runoff](#) to provide the agricultural operation management flexibility for waste utilization.

## CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

Use where regular storage is needed for wastes generated by agricultural production or processing, where soils, geology, and topography are suitable for construction of the facility, and where the construction, operation, and maintenance will protect the soil and water resources.

For structures and conduits used to transfer waste and other byproducts, use the Wisconsin NRCS Conservation Practice Standard (WI NRCS CPS) Waste Transfer (Code 634).

For liquid waste storage facilities implemented with an embankment, this practice applies only to low hazard facilities as defined in the NRCS National Engineering Manual (NEM), Part 520 subpart C with a maximum [effective height](#) of 25 feet.

This standard applies to:

- Waste storage impoundments or structures up to 30 million gallons in size. Multiple independent storage impoundments or structures, up to 30 million gallons each, may be constructed on the same site if all other conditions are met;
- Waste storage impoundment or structures up to 25 feet of [impoundment depth](#); and
- Facilities that are part of a planned agriculture waste management system intended to meet the facility management goals, regulatory requirements, or [nutrient management plans](#) by providing storage of waste.

For the purposes of this standard, liquid waste is used to describe any waste that is too wet to stack. It includes both liquid and slurry waste.

This practice does not apply to the storage of human waste, routine animal mortality, the unstacked waste that accumulates in animal housing units (barns) or [animal production areas](#) not intended to store waste (animal confinement/feed areas).

## CRITERIA

### General Criteria Applicable to All Waste Storage Facilities.

The following criteria establish minimum allowable limits for design parameters, acceptable installation processes, or performance requirements for all waste storage facilities (impoundments and structures).

**Laws and Regulations.** Plan, design, and construct the waste storage facility to meet all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations. This standard does not contain the text of the federal, tribal, state, or local laws governing waste storage facilities. Regulatory approval may be needed prior to accepting off-site material(s) or adding chemicals to the waste storage facility. The operator is responsible for securing required permits.

**Location.** Locate and design the waste storage facility such that it is outside the 100-year floodplain unless site restrictions require locating it within the floodplain. Where waste storage facilities are located in [flood prone areas](#), protect these facilities from inundation, structural damage, and instability. Design these facilities to accommodate any additional loading resulting from static water levels or saturated soils. The lowest point at which floodwater could potentially enter the waste storage facility must be 2 feet above the maximum flood elevation resulting from a 100-year, 24-hour rainfall event. Additionally, follow the policy found in the NRCS General Manual (GM) 190, Part 410.25, Flood Plain Management.

### **Management Assessment**

Conduct, document, and incorporate a management assessment into the design. Perform the assessment with the owner/operator to explore options and to determine the purpose of storage components, available resources, manure disposal schemes, sand and manure solids separation methods, and waste characteristics.

The management assessment shall address the following as appropriate to the system being designed:

- Waste Characterization
  - » Sources, volumes, and consistency of manure, contaminated runoff, manure processing derivatives, leachate, wastewater, and other inputs to the waste storage facility
  - » Animal type, size, number and weight
  - » Bedding types and quantity
  - » Chemical characteristics which may impact facility design
- Land base available for utilization of waste
- Method of distribution of manure onto the land base
- Planned storage period
- Waste handling and transfer methods from the waste source to the storage facility
- Facility waste removal methods
- Storage facility liner possibilities and preferences
- Access needs and limitations
- Safety needs, including those to address the hazards of manure gases
- Labor and equipment needs
- Potential odor concerns
- Provisions for facility expansion

When the intent of the owner/operator is to process and/or treat the various waste streams within the animal production area, provide a narrative describing the system. The description will include the intent and purpose of the processing or treatment strategies relative to land spreading or waste distribution strategies, stabilization of organic by-products, separation of sand bedding, reducing pollutant loads, nutrient concentration, waste consistencies, odor control, energy production, and volume reduction.

### Site Assessment

Conduct, document, and incorporate a site assessment into the design. Perform the assessment to determine physical site characteristics that will influence the placement, construction, maintenance, and environmental integrity of a proposed waste storage facility, liner(s) and transfer components. Include input from the owner/operator in the site assessment. The site assessment shall include:

- Locations and elevations of buildings, roads, lanes, soil investigations, property lines, setbacks, easements, wells, springs, floodplains, surface waters, surface drains, subsurface drains, utilities, overhead lines, [cultural resources](#), and wetlands.
- The location of [sinkholes](#) and other [karst features](#) and [conduits to groundwater](#) within 1,000 feet of the facility. Features within 1,000 feet of the facility must be further analyzed per WI NRCS Engineering Field Handbook Supplement Chapter 4, Exhibit A (Chapter 4, Exhibit A) to determine if they pose a hazard to the facility or environment.
- Log subsurface investigations for all waste storage facilities sufficient in detail and analysis to support the design in accordance with Chapter 4, Exhibit A. Describe the soil material encountered, location of any seeps, depth to subsurface saturation, and depth to [bedrock](#) (*Note: Chapter 4, Exhibit A follows NRCS NEM Part 531, Geology, by utilizing ASTM D2488 procedures*). Document the location of test pits or soil borings, soil test results, photos taken during the soils investigation, and a narrative describing the design parameters that have been derived from the soils data. *Note the bedrock type, if encountered, such as sandstone, limestone, dolomite, or granite.*
  - » Locate test pits and borings used to meet the criteria within the [footprint](#) or no more than 100 feet from the footprint. A minimum of one test pit or boring per 15,000 square feet of footprint, with a minimum of two per facility, is required. Extend these test pits/soil borings to bedrock, a free water surface, or to a minimum depth to ensure subsurface saturation and bedrock separation distances required in this standard or associated Pond Sealing or Lining standards are achieved.
  - » Complete soil tests for [sub-soil](#) or [sub-liner soils](#) in a laboratory on representative samples of soil beneath the proposed liner grade at a rate of 1 test per 15,000 square feet of facility footprint, with a minimum of two tests. The [plasticity index \(PI\)](#) shall be determined in accordance with ASTM D4318 and the [percent fines](#) (% fines) in accordance with ASTM D1140.
  - » Increase the number and distribution of test pits and soil borings needed to characterize the subsurface (soils, saturation, and bedrock) if there is inconsistency within or between test pits or borings.

- » Characterize soil for liners according to Chapter 4, Exhibit A. Include locations, dimensions and elevations, soil volumes, soil samples, testing results, and reclamation plans of any borrow areas. Complete liner soil characterization at a rate of one test per 15,000 square feet of facility footprint, with a minimum of two tests per area. Distribute the test pit or borings evenly across the borrow source. Soils for liners and sub-liners may be located within the footprint of the storage, on site, or off site and transported to the site for construction. Additional soils testing may be needed to meet the requirements of the selected liner type. See the appropriate Pond Sealing or Lining standards and Wisconsin construction specifications for additional criteria.

**Separation from Subsurface Saturation or Bedrock.** The separation is determined to be the closest distance from any point on the inside surface (bottom and sides) of the storage facility to the feature from which separation is required.

For the purposes of this standard, factors used to identify subsurface saturation shall include observed saturation, [gleyed soil](#), gray redoximorphic features, and soil color in conjunction with nearby surface water features. The highest subsurface saturation elevation in a test pit/soil boring will be identified by any of the following soil properties:

- Free water or wet soil identified by glistening, due to the slow release of water
- Gleyed soil, that may extend uninterrupted from an observed free water surface.
- The presence of distinct gray redoximorphic features with a chroma of 2 or less based on Munsell color charts.
- Depleted matrices having a value of 4 or more and chroma 2 or less based on Munsell color charts. In some cases soil parent materials have a natural color of 2 chroma or less or gleyed color that is not due to saturation. In these cases other indicators may be used such as landscape position, relative elevation or soils in relation to nearby water features.

In soils not conducive to mottling, such as sand, establish the subsurface saturation elevation by evaluating the soil morphology of the soil profile. Other indicators that may be considered in making the determination are the position of the soil in the landscape, topography, nearby wetlands and well construction logs. In sites susceptible to groundwater contamination or complex hydrogeological sites, additional saturation verification methods may be required. Verification methods could include but are not limited to groundwater monitoring wells, piezometers, and soil test pits conducted during the wet season. Other information to consider includes historic precipitation and groundwater elevation records from nearby locations, which can indicate whether or not the area is experiencing a local high or low trend in groundwater elevation.

If the site assessment indicates artesian features, complete a hydrogeologic and geotechnical evaluation of the site to determine the site suitability for an in-ground waste storage facility. Include a piezometer monitoring well below the apparent confining layer and a water table observation monitoring well in the evaluation. Monitor the site through the wettest portion of the groundwater recharge cycle.

Construct and develop groundwater monitoring wells and piezometers according to WI NRCS CPS Monitoring Well (Code 353) or appropriate state monitoring well construction requirements.

Subsurface saturation, pockets of sand and gravel, or water-bearing materials, if encountered, shall not be removed or drained except for [perched conditions](#). Include documentation to demonstrate that subsurface saturation is perched and of drainable extent or its effects otherwise eliminated.

Excavation of bedrock is permitted to achieve the required separation distance as specified in Table 5 or 6 of this standard and tables in associated Pond Sealing or Lining standards. Do not remove bedrock by blasting. Evaluate the exposed bedrock surface to ensure a structurally sound base for liner or other soil material. Treat fractures or voids to prevent migration of soil material. The entire surface of the excavated bedrock shall have a positive grade, minimum of 1 percent, under and away from the storage facility, as to prevent any significant ponding on the rock surface. If bedrock is excavated, the material placed between the liner and the bedrock shall meet the requirements of sub-liner soil in the appropriate Pond Sealing or Lining standards.

**Perched Conditions.** Pockets of sand and gravel, or other water-bearing materials may be removed or drained to achieve separation distances in Tables 1, 5 and 6 within this standard, or tables in associated Pond Sealing or Lining standards, and to relieve hydrostatic loads on the facility and its liner(s). All [drainage systems](#) shall drain to the ground surface or surface water by gravity. Evaluate the effect of temporary tailwater on the structure or liner and the effects of outletting to perennial and intermittent waterways. Locate a drainage system around the outside perimeter of the facility footprint and drain to a surface outlet. Protect outlets against erosion and undermining of the conduit, entry of vegetation, damaging periods of submergences, and entry of rodents or other animals into the subsurface drain. A drainage system may also be located around the outside perimeter of an impoundment floor within the facility footprint if the drainage system enters an observation and pumping port and then continues by gravity to a surface outlet. Design the port such that the outlet can be blocked and a pump can be utilized to remove the polluted liquids until the source is identified and repairs can be completed.

**Sensitive Environmental Settings.** Wisconsin Sensitive Environmental Settings are sites where one or more of the following conditions are met:

- Bedrock or subsurface saturation separation distances are less than those listed in Tables 1 or 5 of this standard, Table 1 of WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining – Compacted Soil Treatment (Code 520), Tables 5 and 6 of WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining –Geomembrane or Geosynthetic Clay Liner (Code 521), or Table 2 of WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining – Concrete (Code 522);
- Sub-liner soils do not meet both the required thickness and percent fines listed Table 5 of this standard, Table 1 of WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining – Compacted Soil Treatment (Code 520) , Tables 5 and 6 of WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining –Geomembrane or Geosynthetic Clay Liner (Code 521), or Table 2 of WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining – Concrete (Code 522);
- For facilities with one or more sloped sides or structures with vertical sides with the storage floor below existing ground surface, a sinkhole or other karst feature is present within 400 feet horizontally from the footprint of the proposed storage facility; or
- For above ground structures where the storage floor is entirely above existing ground surface, a sinkhole or other karst feature is present within 200 feet horizontally from the footprint of the proposed storage facility.

In-situ soils that do not meet both the sub-liner required thickness and percent fines listed in the applicable liner standard can be removed and replaced with compliant materials. When designed and constructed in this manner, the site is no longer classified as Wisconsin Sensitive Environmental Settings.

Where liquid-storage is to be provided in sensitive environmental settings, design according to WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining – Concrete (Code 522), Sensitive Environmental Settings.

**Storage Period.** The storage period is the maximum length of time anticipated between emptying events. Base the minimum storage period on the timing required for environmentally safe waste utilization considering the climate, crops, soils, equipment, in accordance with the operations and maintenance plan, nutrient management plan and Federal, State, and local regulations.

**Design Storage Volume.** Calculate design storage volumes with the procedures and default values found in the Wisconsin supplement to Chapter 10 of the NRCS Agricultural Waste Management Field Handbook (AWMFH) or site-specific estimates and measurements documented in the design. Include the sum of the following during the storage period in the design volume:

- The maximum operating level (MOL) for liquid storage facilities is the level that provides the operational volume (Figure 1 contains a diagram of this information). This includes the following:
  - » Manure, wastewater, bedding, and all other wastes accumulated during the storage period.
  - » For liquid storage facilities, include normal precipitation (omit diverted roof runoff) less evaporation during the storage period.
  - » Normal runoff from the facility's drainage area during the storage period. Exclude [clean water](#) from the facility to the fullest extent practical except where including the runoff is advantageous to the operation of the agricultural waste management system.
  - » Additional storage when required to meet management goals or regulatory requirements.
- Emergency Volume (liquid storages only) includes the following:
  - » 25-year, 24-hour precipitation on the surface of the liquid storage facility at the maximum level of the required design storage.
  - » 25-year, 24-hour runoff from the facility's drainage area.

**Remaining Waste.** Add a minimum of two feet to storage depth for facilities with side slopes and one foot for vertical walled facilities for planned maximum remaining waste. The additional storage depth can be reduced if a sump is installed or other provisions to empty the facility have been made. The anticipated method for solids removal must be accommodated in design, particularly in determining the configuration of impoundments and the type of liner to be used and maintained.

**Freeboard Volume.** This volume applies to liquid waste storage exposed to precipitation. Add a minimum of one foot of depth to the design storage volume to reduce the risk of overtopping. This depth is not intended to add storage capacity.

**Inlet.** Design inlet to resist corrosion, plugging, freeze damage, and ultraviolet deterioration. Incorporate erosion protection for [in-place earth](#) (Table 1 of this standard), clay liner (WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining – Compacted Soil Treatment (Code 520), Table 1), and geosynthetic clay liners (WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining –Geomembrane or Geosynthetic Clay Liner (Code 521), Table 6).

**Waste Removal.** Provide components for removing waste such as gates, pipes, docks, wet wells, pumping platforms, retaining walls, or ramps. Incorporate features to protect against erosion, tampering, and accidental release of stored waste as necessary. Design ramp slopes to accommodate anticipated equipment and traction available. Use WI NRCS CPS Nutrient Management (Code 590) for land application of stored material or follow other disposal options outlined in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP).

**Outlet.** An outlet that can automatically release stored material is not permitted except for outlets leading to another storage facility with adequate capacity for releases due to accident or system component failure. Design a permanent outlet that will resist corrosion and plugging. Provide a backflow prevention measure for an outlet that pumps wastewater to secondary storage located at a higher elevations.

**Staff Gauge.** Place a staff gauge or other permanent marker that does not compromise the integrity of the liner in the liquid storage facility to clearly indicate the following elevations:

- Maximum operating level (top of the operational volume).
- Emergency level (top of the design storage volume).
- State or local codes may require additional markers.

For storages where the contents or staff gage are not visible, such as below a slatted floor, identify the method for the operator to measure the depth of stored waste.

**Safety.** Identify and minimize the hazards to animals and people in the safety design. In particular, waste storage facility designs may create [confined spaces](#), which may pose significant hazards in terms of the inhalation of poisonous gases, asphyxiation, or explosion. At a minimum, the safety design shall include the following:

- Include appropriate safety features to minimize the hazards of the facility (refer to American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) Standard EP470, Manure Storage Safety for guidance, as needed). Design and operate confined spaces where human entry might occur in compliance with the provisions contained in ASABE EP470, Manure Storage Safety.
- Characterize and identify any combination of effluent and amendments currently in use that may have the potential to create hazardous conditions.
- Provide warning signs, fences, ladders, ropes, bars, rails, and other devices as appropriate, to ensure the safety of humans and livestock. Provide ventilation and warning signs for covered waste holding facilities, as necessary, to prevent explosion, poisoning, or asphyxiation.
- Install safety stops, gates, or both at push-off ramps and load-out areas of impoundments and structures to reduce the potential for accidental entry of machinery.
- Ensure equipment access ramps and embankment slopes are compatible with the equipment intended to be used.
- Design covers and grating over openings such that livestock or humans cannot accidentally displace them and fall into the facility.
- Design pipelines with a water-sealed trap and vent, or similar device, if there is a potential for gases from the pipe to accumulate in confined spaces.

- Place a fence around impoundments and uncovered tanks which have exposed walls less than 5 feet above ground surface. Use the WI NRCS CPS Fence (Code 382) for design of a fence that will restrict access to safety hazards by people and animals likely to be onsite. Post universal warning signs to prevent children and others from entering liquid waste storage facilities.
- Safety features should be added to the Operation and Maintenance Plan.

**Roofs and Covers.** Use WI NRCS CPS Roofs and Covers (Code 367) for design of waste storage facility covers or roofs, as needed.

**Failure Analysis.** Evaluate the overall functionality of the waste storage facility for possible malfunctions which could lead to sudden breach of embankment or accidental release of waste from the storage facility under normal operational conditions. Identified failure modes should be addressed in the design phase, the operation and maintenance plan, and the emergency action plan.

The Failure Analysis should include features, safeguards, and/or management measures to minimize the risk of failure or accidental release, or to mitigate impact of this type of failure when any of the features listed below might be significantly affected:

- Human safety
- Surface water bodies – perennial and intermittent streams, lakes, wetlands and estuaries
- Conduits to groundwater
- Artesian well features
- Critical habitat for threatened and endangered species
- Riparian areas
- Farmstead, or other areas of habitation
- Off-farm property
- Historical and archaeological sites or structures

**Seeding and Mulching.** Seed and mulch disturbed areas and embankments in accordance with WI NRCS CPS Critical Area Planting (Code 342).

### **Additional Criteria for Liquid Waste Storage Impoundments**

The following criteria establish **additional** design parameters, acceptable installation processes, or performance requirements for waste storage impoundments.

**Foundation.** Locate the impoundment in soils with a [permeability](#) that meets all applicable regulations (Table 1 meets the specific discharge requirements specified in the National Engineering Handbook (NEH), Part 651, Agricultural Waste Management Field Handbook (AWMFH), Chapter 10, Appendix 10D). Alternately, line the impoundment with suitable material. If a liner is needed, use liners which meet or exceed WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining – Compacted Soil Treatment (Code 520), Pond Sealing or Lining – Geomembrane or Geosynthetic Clay Liner (Code 521), or Pond Sealing or Lining – Concrete (Code 522). Construction shall not occur on or with organic soils.

A combination of liners is acceptable. Join the liners so as to preserve the performance and integrity of all liner types. Concrete walls used within impoundments shall maintain the integrity of any liner. Construct and maintain any penetration and overfall/outfalls of the liner to maintain the performance and integrity of the liner used.



Waste storage impoundments that store milkhouse waste or feed storage runoff may be subject to the requirements of Wisconsin Administrative Code, Chapter NR 213 (NR 213) if the operation is considered a CAFO or if compliance with NR 213 is required by other NRCS standards. NR 213 contains requirements not contained within this standard. If the waste storage impoundment is regulated under NR 213, the design must meet the requirements of both NR 213 and this standard.

**Embankments.** Minimum design requirements for in place earth storages are listed in Table 1. Minimum embankment top widths are shown in Table 2. Design the combined side slopes of the settled embankment to be equal to or flatter than 5 horizontal to 1 vertical. Interior side slopes must meet the design requirements listed in either Table 1 or the selected liner requirements, found in the pond liner standards (WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining – Compacted Soil Treatment (Code 520), Pond Sealing or Lining – Geomembrane or Geosynthetic Clay Liner (Code 521), and Pond Sealing or Lining – Concrete (Code 522)). Exterior side slopes may be no steeper than 2 horizontal to 1 vertical.

The top of the embankment may be constructed to drain, either toward or away from the stored waste, as desired by the designer. Add additional material above the required top width to accommodate desired drainage.

Increase the constructed embankment height by at least 5 percent to allow for settlement. After settlement, the top of the embankment shall be greater than or equal to 1 foot above the surrounding grade. Stabilize all embankments to prevent erosion or deterioration. Compact according to WI FOTG Construction Specification 204, Earthfill for Waste Storage Facilities or Construction Specification 300, Clay Liner, as applicable. For an impoundment with greater than one acre of surface area and where wave action is a concern, increase the embankment height to account for calculated wave height.

Any diversion or waterway along the embankment shall have a capacity for 25-year, 24-hour storm plus 0.5 feet of freeboard, with a minimum depth of 1 foot.

Construct a core trench whenever the settled embankment fill height at the centerline is greater than or equal to 10 feet. Minimum dimensions of the core trench shall be 8-foot bottom width, 2-foot depth, and 1 horizontal to 1 vertical or flatter side slopes.

**Spillway or Equivalent Protection.** For a facility having an effective height greater than 20 feet, construct an auxiliary (emergency) spillway designed to handle the peak flow or routed peak flow from the 25-year, 24-hour precipitation event, as defined in the Design Storage Volume section of this standard. The crest of the spillway shall be sited above the design storage volume elevation.

**Excavations.** Design embankments and excavated side slopes to meet the requirements of the liner used; see WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining – Compacted Soil Treatment (Code 520), Pond Sealing or Lining – Geomembrane or Geosynthetic Clay Liner (Code 521) and Pond Sealing or Lining – Concrete (Code 522), as applicable.

**TABLE 1. IN-PLACE EARTH CRITERIA FOR WASTE STORAGE FACILITY IMPOUNDMENTS 20 FEET DEEP OR LESS** <sup>NOTE 1, 2</sup>

Size		
Design Storage Volume	≤ 300,000 cu. feet	> 300,000 cu. feet
Manure Produced at Farm per Year	≤ 600,000 cu. feet	> 600,000 cu. feet
Waste Characteristics	≥ 4% manure solids in stored waste, ruminant animals only	All
Soils (In Place)		
% Fines	≥ 40%	≥ 40%
Plasticity Index (PI)	≥ 7	≥ 12
Total Thickness (measured perpendicular to storage surface, includes thickness of recompacted layer)	≥ 5 feet <sup>Note 3</sup>	≥ 5 feet <sup>Note 3</sup>
Thickness of Recompacted Surface Layer	≥ 1 foot	≥ 1 foot
WI FOTG Construction Specification for Recompacted Layer	204, Earthfill for Waste Storage Facilities	300, Clay Liner
Sub-Soil <sup>Note 4</sup>		
% Fines	≥ 20%	≥ 20%
Plasticity Index (PI)	—	—
Thickness (bottom and sides)	≥ 3 feet	≥ 3 feet
Separation Distances		
Well Distance <sup>Note 5</sup>	≥ 250 feet	≥ 250 feet
Sinkholes or Other Karst Features	≥ 800 feet	≥ 400 feet
Subsurface Saturation	≥ 8 feet	≥ 8 feet
Bedrock	≥ 8 feet	≥ 8 feet
Impoundment		
Inside Slope	2.5:1 or flatter	
Embankment	Construct with material meeting criteria in the Soils (In Place) rows of this table, to the total thickness and applicable compaction specification for the recompacted 1 foot surface layer. Place material complying with the sub-soil requirements listed in this table underneath the Soils (In Place) thickness, compacted to WI FOTG Spec 204.	

Other		
Scour Protection	Agitation and Pumping Locations	Minimum 20 feet wide x 30 feet long x 4 inches thick concrete pad or sump in bottom and 20 feet wide ramp or a 16-foot wide ramp with 12-inch high curbs to the top of the facility.
	Scraping and Other Mechanical Means of Removing Solids and Sand	Protect with hard surfacing designed for the expected conditions and loads, a minimum of 4 inches thick.
Existing Field Drain Tile	Additional site investigation shall be completed to determine the presence of existing subsurface drain or underground outlet within 100 feet of the footprint of the facility. Any tile found must be abandoned or removed.	

Note 1 The depth is measured from the bottom of the impoundment to the maximum operating level.

Note 2 Facilities in this table do not meet the requirements of NR 213.

Note 3 Thickness is calculated based on a maximum permeability of  $1 \times 10^{-7}$  cm/sec

Note 4 Sub-soils are located beneath the required in place soils and above subsurface saturation or bedrock. Sub-soils must be in situ materials.

Note 5 Community water system wells may require larger separation distances (see Wisconsin Administrative Code, Chapter NR 811 (NR 811)).

**TABLE 2. MINIMUM EMBANKMENT TOP WIDTHS**

Effective Height (feet)	Top width (feet)
< 15	8
15–19.9	10
20–25	12

### **Additional Criteria for Fabricated Structures**

The following criteria establish **additional** design parameters, acceptable installation processes, or performance requirements for waste storage structures.

**Foundation.** Based on subsurface investigation, provide a foundation for fabricated waste storage structures to safely support all superimposed loads without excessive movement or settlement.

**Total and Differential Settlement.** Where a non-uniform foundation cannot be avoided or where applied loads may create highly variable foundation loads, calculate differential settlement based upon site-specific soil test data. Index tests (such as Atterberg limits, moisture content, etc.) of site soils may allow correlation with similar soils for which test data is available.

**Bearing Capacity.** If no site specific test data are available, presumptive bearing strength values for assessing actual bearing pressures obtained from Table 3 or another nationally recognized building code may be used. In using presumptive bearing values, provide adequate detailing and articulation to avoid distressing movements in the structure (i.e., settlement).

**Structural Loadings.** Design the waste storage structure to withstand all anticipated loads in accordance with the requirements in NRCS NEM, Part 536, Structural Design. Such loads should include internal and external loads, hydrostatic uplift pressure, concentrated surface and impact loads, and water pressure due to subsurface saturation, frost or ice. If a dense ice cover can be expected, account for the additional point load associated with an ice sheet against a vertical wall.

Calculate loading from lateral earth pressures using soil strength values determined from the results of appropriate soil tests and procedures described in NRCS Technical Release 210-74, Lateral Earth Pressures. Table 4 provides minimum lateral earth pressure values when soil strength tests are not available. If heavy equipment will operate near the wall, use an additional soil surcharge as indicated in footnote 4 in Table 4 in the wall analysis.

For the lateral load from stored waste not protected from precipitation, use a minimum 65 pounds/square foot/foot of depth as the design internal lateral pressure. Use a minimum value of 60 pounds/square foot/foot of depth for the lateral load from stored waste protected from precipitation and not likely to become saturated. Use a minimum internal lateral pressure of 72 pounds/square foot/foot of depth for sand-laden manure storage if the percentage of sand exceeds 20%. Designers may use lesser values if supported by measurement of actual pressures of the waste to be stored.

Design structures covers to withstand both dead and live loads. Use the minimum live load values for covers contained in ASABE EP378, Floor and Suspended Loads on Agricultural Structure Due to Use, and in ASABE EP393, Manure Storages. Use the actual axle load for tank wagons having more than a 2,000 gallon capacity.

If the facility is to have a roof, use WI NRCS CPS Roofs and Covers (Code 367) for design of waste storage facility covers or roofs, as needed. Use snow and wind loads specified in American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) SEI/ASCE 7-10 or newer version, Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures. If the facility is to serve as part of a foundation or support for a building, consider the total load in the structural design.

**TABLE 3. PRESUMPTIVE ALLOWABLE FOUNDATION AND LATERAL PRESSURE** <sup>NOTE 1</sup>

Class of materials	Allowable foundation pressure (pounds per square foot)	Lateral bearing	Coefficient of friction	Cohesion (pounds per square foot)
Crystalline bedrock	12,000	1,200	0.70	-
Sedimentary and foliated rock	4,000	400	0.35	-
Sandy gravel or gravel (GW and GP)	3,000	200	0.35	-
Sand, silty sand, clayey sand, silty gravel, clayey gravel (SW, SP, SM, SC, GM and GC)	2,000	150	0.25	-
Clay, sandy clay, silty clay, clayey silt, silt and sandy silt (CL, ML, MH and CH)	1,500	100	-	130

<sup>Note 1</sup> International Building Code (IBC), 2015, International Code Council (ICC)

**Concrete Joints.** Wall [control joints](#) with embedded waterstop – Cast-in-place cantilevered vertical walls shall have a control joint spacing less than 100 feet of running wall length, including around corners and bends. This criterion does not apply to hoop strength design or tanks with pin connections at both the top and bottom of the wall.

**TABLE 4. LATERAL EARTH PRESSURE VALUES** <sup>NOTE 1</sup>

Description of backfill material <sup>Note 2</sup>	Unified soil classification <sup>Note 3</sup>	Design lateral soil load (pounds/square foot/foot of depth) <sup>Note 4</sup>
Well-graded, clean gravels; gravel-sand mixes <sup>Note 5</sup>	GW	60
Poorly graded clean gravels; gravel-sand mixes	GP	60
Silty gravels, poorly graded gravel-sand mixes	GM	60
Clayey gravels, poorly graded gravel-sand mixes	GC	60
Well-graded, clean sands; gravelly sand mixes	SW	60
Sand-silt clay mix with plastic fines	SP	60
Silty sands, poorly graded sand-silt mixes	SM	60
Sand-silt clay mix with plastic fines	SM-SC	100
Clayey sands, poorly graded sand-clay mixes	SC	100
Inorganic silts and clayey silts	ML	100
Mixture of inorganic silt and clay	CL-ML	100
Inorganic clays of low to medium plasticity	CL	100
Inorganic clayey silts, elastic silts	MH	Note 6
Inorganic clays of high plasticity	CH	Note 6

<sup>Note 1</sup> Table 1610.1, Lateral Soil Load, International Building Code (IBC), 2015, International Code Council (ICC). For lightly compacted soils (85% to 95% maximum standard density). Includes compaction by use of typical farm equipment.

<sup>Note 2</sup> Base the definition and classification of soil in accordance with ASTM D2487 and D2488.

<sup>Note 3</sup> All definitions and procedures in accordance with ASTM D2488 and D653.

<sup>Note 4</sup> Design loads based on moist conditions for the specified soils at optimum density. Include the weight of the buoyant soil plus hydrostatic pressure for submerged or saturated soil. Pressures are calculated for level backfill for a distance equal to the wall height. If backfill exceeds wall height at a distance equal to or less than the wall height, increase pressures accordingly. If equipment loads are expected or are possible to operate within a distance equal to the wall height behind the wall, use an additional live load soil surcharge equal to 2 feet of backfill for 5,000 pound wheel loads and more or less for other wheel loads, as appropriate.

<sup>Note 5</sup> Generally, only washed materials are in this category.

<sup>Note 6</sup> Not recommended. Requires special design if used.

**Waterstop.** Use embedded or expansive waterstop in accordance with WI Construction Specification 004-WS Embedded or Expansive Waterstop. The type of waterstop is based on the joint movement criterion indicated below.

Install an embedded waterstop at the wall to footing intersection if the joint is designed for movement. Install either an expansive or embedded waterstop at this joint if it is not designed for movement (fixed).

If there is no embedded waterstop at the wall base, cast the wall joint waterstop a minimum of 4 inches into the footing. If there is an embedded waterstop between the footing and the bottom of the wall, weld the wall joint waterstop to a factory fabricated intersection at the base of the wall.

Floor joints in vertical walled structures, if used, should be extended through the footing and continue to the top of the vertical wall. Joints and liner shall meet the criteria listed in WI NRCS CPS Pond Sealing or Lining – Concrete (Code 522).

Joints for pre-cast walls shall demonstrate evidence of equivalent performance to waterstop joints as determined by the NRCS State Conservation Engineer.

Make transitions from concrete wall footings to concrete slabs at a ratio of one inch of thickness change to one inch of run (1:1) or flatter.

**Structural Design.** Design structures with reinforced concrete, steel, wood, or masonry materials in accordance with NRCS-NEM, Part 536, Structural Engineering. Account for all items that will influence the performance of the structure, including loading assumptions, durability, serviceability, material properties, construction quality, waterstops, pipe penetration, channel penetrations, anchor plates, or other attachments to walls such as fence posts. Ensure that the material used for a fabricated structure is compatible with the waste product to be stored.

Indicate design assumptions and construction requirements on the construction plans. Construct any penetration of the structure to maintain the performance and integrity of the structure.

Tanks may be designed with or without a cover. Design covers, beams, or braces that are integral to structural performance accordingly and indicate their location and design requirements on the construction drawings. Design openings in a covered tank to accommodate equipment for loading, agitating, and emptying. Equip these openings with fencing, grills or secure covers for safety, and for odor and vector control as necessary.

Fabricated structures shall be designed according to the following criteria:

- Steel: "Manual of Steel Construction," American Institute of Steel Construction.
- Timber: "National Design Specifications for Wood Construction," American Forest and Paper Association.
- Concrete: "Building Code Requirements for Reinforced Concrete, American Concrete Institute (ACI) 318". Concrete design calculations shall use a minimum design compressive strength of 3,500 psi. or "Code Requirements of Environmental Engineering Concrete Structures, ACI 350.
- Concrete used as part of a structure: WI Construction Specification 4, Concrete.

**Separation Distance.** All fabricated structures must meet the separation distances listed in Table 5 below.

**TABLE 5. WASTE STORAGE STRUCTURE SEPARATION DISTANCES**

Feature	Separation Distance
Well Distance <sup>Note 1</sup>	≥ 100 feet
Sinkholes or Other Karst Features	
Storage floor above ground	≥ 200 feet
Storage floor below ground	≥ 400 feet
Subsurface Saturation, Bedrock	See WI CPS 522 Table 2 or 3
Sub-Liner Soil	See WI CPS 522 Table 2A

<sup>Note 1</sup> For operations subject to Wisconsin Administrative Code, Chapter NR 243 (NR 243), the private or non-community well separation distances is 250 feet, community water system wells may require larger separation distances (see NR 811).

**Additional Criteria - Stacking Facilities**

This criteria applies to stacking the following materials at the animal production area:

- Separated manure solids
- Compost
- Dewatered, recycled sand storage
- Poultry litter (turkey or broiler operations)
- Dry poultry layer manure
- Bedded manure (>50% solids)
- Waste feed

Criteria for stacking facilities are shown in Table 6. Solids stacking within the animal production area may be done in an impoundment, fabricated structure or stacking slab, when provisions are made to capture seepage and runoff for long term storage.

A stacking facility may be open, covered, or roofed and is used for wastes which behave primarily as solid. Determine the wall height using the anticipated stacking angle of the waste material. Construct a stacking facility of durable materials such as reinforced concrete, reinforced concrete block, or treated lumber. Design the stacking facility with adequate safety factors to prevent failure due to internal or external pressures, including hydrostatic uplift pressure and imposed surface loads such as equipment which may be used within, on, or adjacent to the structure.

**TABLE 6. LINER CRITERIA FOR PERMANENT SOLIDS STACKING FACILITIES AT THE ANIMAL PRODUCTION AREA**

NOTE 1

	Roofed		Not Roofed	
	Work Surface <sup>Note 2</sup>	No Surface <sup>Note 3</sup>	Work Surface <sup>Note 2</sup>	No Surface <sup>Note 3</sup>
<b>Soils In-Place Liner</b> <sup>Note 3</sup>				
% Fines	≥ 30%	≥ 30%	≥ 40%	≥ 40%
Plasticity index (PI)	-	≥ 7	-	≥ 7
Thickness	≥ 2 feet	≥ 2.5 feet	≥ 3 feet	≥ 5 feet
<b>Soils Compacted Liner</b> <sup>Note 3</sup>				
% Fines	≥ 30%	≥ 40%	≥ 40%	≥ 40%
Plasticity index (PI)	≥ 5	≥ 7	≥ 7	≥ 7
Thickness	≥ 1.5 feet	≥ 2 feet	≥ 2 feet	≥ 3 feet
Compaction	WI Spec 204	WI Spec 204	WI Spec 204	WI Spec 204
<b>Separation Distances</b>				
Sinkholes	≥ 400 feet	≥ 400 feet	≥ 400 feet	≥ 400 feet
Well distance <sup>Note 4</sup>	≥ 100 feet	≥ 100 feet	≥ 100 feet	≥ 100 feet
Subsurface Saturation	≥ 3 feet	≥ 3 feet	≥ 5 feet	≥ 5 feet
Bedrock	≥ 3 feet	≥ 3 feet	≥ 5 feet	≥ 5 feet
<b>Stacking Area</b>	Stacking area not to exceed 7 acres for unroofed managed compost, 2 acres for sand, 2 acres for roofed facilities, or 1 acre for all other materials.			

<sup>Note 1</sup> Solids and sand stacking facilities, treatment areas and other production area structures and systems may be subject to surface water setbacks and other requirements under state and local rules. MOL requirements do not apply to this Table.

<sup>Note 2</sup> The work surface may be constructed of any of the following: minimum 3 in. for asphalt; minimum 4 in. for concrete; or minimum 8 in. for macadam, and designed for anticipated equipment loads. Refer to industry standard design criteria for each work surface material. The purpose of the work surface is to protect the liner material.

<sup>Note 3</sup> Facilities without a work surface must be operated to minimize rutting and removal of the soil liner. Ruts must be repaired and the soil liner thickness maintained after material handling. Stacking height is not to exceed 10 feet.

<sup>Note 4</sup> Additional separation distances to wells may be necessary on WDNR regulated farms.

**Seepage.** All facilities lacking permanent, engineered roofs are considered not roofed for the purposes of this standard. Tarps, plastic coverings, or other temporary measures are considered not roofed. Facilities that are not roofed must have floors sloped to control surface drainage and all leachate and runoff (up to the 25-year, 24-hour storm) must be managed. Prevent influent seepage in amounts that would infringe on designed storage capacity. Seepage control may not be necessary on sites that have a roof or waste material with little seepage potential.

**Internal Drainage.** Make provisions for drainage of leachate, and rainfall from the stacking areas without a roof. Collect leachate and runoff in a facility suitable for liquid containment (as defined within this standard) or transfer receptacle WI NRCS CPS Waste Transfer (Code 634), until land applied in accordance with WI NRCS CPS Nutrient Management (Code 590), or provide other acceptable treatment.



**Poultry Litter Stacking Facility.** To reduce the potential for spontaneous combustion damage to wood walled facilities, design the height of the litter stack not to exceed 7 feet, with litter to wood contact limited to 5 feet. Compost facilities should be designed and operated to meet the requirements of WI NRCS CPS Composting Facility (Code 317).

Design facilities to prevent run-on and runoff, and operate them to prevent ponding and significant hydrostatic head. Facilities may commonly be located near the ground surface, but may be above or below ground. Determine the wall height using the anticipated stacking angle of the waste material.

## CONSIDERATIONS

Additional recommendations relating to design which may enhance the use of, or avoid problems with, this practice, but are not required to ensure its basic conservation function are as follows:

Consider using the companion documents located in Chapter 10 of the NRCS, Agriculture Waste Management Field Handbook (AWMFH).

Consider using the Waste Storage Design spreadsheet located in Chapter 10 of the NRCS AWMFH for design storage volume, liner thicknesses, and other calculations described in this standard.

This standard does not preclude the addition of other off farm organic materials not specifically prohibited by standard, pending approval by the appropriate regulatory authority. During planning, consider discussing the potential for off farm organic material storage with the landowner. Encourage the landowner to investigate the impact of accepting off farm organic material to waste consistency, toxic gas generation, nutrient management, and remaining volume prior to accepting any off farm waste. Incorporate any additional operation or maintenance requirements resulting from these discussions.

Consider implementing erosion control methods on the top half of the inside slopes of earthen impoundments.

Consider adding agitation locations on different sides of the storage facility, or different cardinal directions, allowing the location of agitation to be adjusted if wind directions change.

Consider adding curbs, structural or visual components, to all agitation and pumping locations, which may reduce the risk of accidental entry and damage to the liner during agitation.

When designing impoundment embankments, consider using flatter slopes on the outside embankment slope for better operation access and easier maintenance.

Consider adding an auxiliary spillway, additional embankment height, or both as needed to help protect the embankment, particularly for systems that store large volumes of runoff. Factors such as downstream hazards and receiving waters should be evaluated in this consideration.

Consider adding or including steel reinforcement in slabs that will be scraped; this may prevent vertical displacement at crack locations.

Consider placing a permanent marker to designate the empty level. This consideration is particularly important for operations considering future herd expansion to WPDES permit size (see Figure 1).

Monitoring and leakage collection systems should be considered for larger waste storage facilities, especially where the site assessment indicates the area is sensitive for groundwater impacts. This is particularly important for operations considering future expansion to WPDES permit size. Components of a designed system may include secondary containment (soil or synthetic), leachate collection, leachate recirculation, monitoring sumps, and/or monitoring wells. See Wisconsin Administrative Code, Chapter NR 141 (NR 141) for regulations concerning monitoring wells.

For exposed liners utilizing HDPE or similar materials that are slippery when wet, consider the use of textured liners or addition of features such as tire ladders that would allow for escape from the waste storage facility.

Consider solid/liquid separation of runoff or wastewater entering impoundments to minimize the frequency of accumulated solids removal and to facilitate pumping and application of the stored waste.

Due consideration should be given to environmental concerns, economics, the overall waste management system plan, and safety and health factors.

Since the economics and risks associated with waste storage facilities are quite high, consider providing the operator with the cost to close the facility. Cost should include removal of the planned sludge accumulation volume and the waste stored at the maximum operating volume.

Consider using well construction logs within ½ mile of the proposed facility, available from the Wisconsin Geologic and Natural History Survey and/or the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, which promote understanding of water supply aquifers in the area along with area hydrogeology.

### **Considerations for Improving Air Quality**

Liquid manure storage may result in emissions of volatile organic compounds, ammonia, hydrogen sulfide, methane, nitrous oxide, and carbon dioxide. Solid manure storage may result in emissions of particulate matter, volatile organic compounds, ammonia, carbon dioxide, and nitrous oxide.

To reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, ammonia, volatile organic compounds, particulate matter and odor, other WI NRCS CPSs such as Anaerobic Digester (Code 366), Roofs and Covers (Code 367), Waste Treatment (Code 629), Amendments for Treatment of Agricultural Waste (Code 591), and Composting Facility (Code 317) can be added to the waste management system. Additionally, consider adding the following components: siting of livestock housing or feedlots, manure storage, and land application; biofilters; feed ration additives and adjustments; manure additives, disinfectants, or aeration; incorporation of manure when land-applied; moisture and dust control within livestock housing areas; and dead animal disposal plans.

For additional information on odor abatement, see ASABE EP379.54 April 2012, Management of Manure Odors.

Adjusting pH below 7 may reduce ammonia emissions from the waste storage facility but may increase odor when waste is surface applied - see WI NRCS CPS Nutrient Management (Code 590).

Some fabric and organic covers have been shown to be effective in reducing odors.

Maintain appropriate manure moisture content for solid manure storage facilities. Excessive moisture will increase the potential for air emissions of volatile organic compounds, ammonia, and nitrous oxide, and may lead to anaerobic conditions, which will increase the potential for emissions of methane and hydrogen sulfide. Too little moisture will increase the potential for particulate matter emissions.

## PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Prepare plans and specifications that describe the requirements for applying the practice to achieve its intended use. As a minimum, include the following in the engineering plans and specifications:

- Plan view of system layout.
- Minimum of two cross sections, perpendicular to each other, for each waste storage facility.
- Structural details of all components, including reinforcing steel, type of materials, thickness, anchorage requirements, and lift thickness, sufficient to clearly show the construction requirements.
- Locations, sizes, and type of pipelines and appurtenances including a profile of the waste transfer system.
- Requirements for foundation and preparation and treatment, including bedrock treatment.
- Surface Drainage/Grading plan.
- Subsurface drainage details.
- Location of soil test pits within 100 feet of the facility footprint on the plan view, and a summary of soil logs plotted on the cross sections or profile, with subsurface saturation and bedrock elevations marked, if encountered.
- Safety features, roof covers, fencing, ladders, and safety signs.
- Construction site erosion control practices.
- Specifications for materials and installation.
- Vegetative requirements.
- Quantity of materials.
- Approximate location of utilities and notification requirements.
- Other site-specific information necessary to construct the waste storage facility.
- Applicable Wisconsin Construction Specifications.
- Signature of the person responsible for the design, their engineering stamp, NRCS Job Approval or WDATCP Agricultural Engineering Practitioner Certification level, the date, and a statement attesting the plans meet the requirements of the this standard and appropriate liner standard.

The following information should be included only if applicable to the project:

- Details for joining different liner types or new liners to existing liners.
- Waterstop joint layout for slabs and walls.
- References to components supplied by others (pumps, etc.).
- Identification of borrow source location(s).
- Reclamation plans for borrow area.

**Engineering Design Documentation.** Prepare engineering design documentation in compliance with the Design Deliverables in the WI NRCS Statement of Work for the WI NRCS CPS Waste Storage Facility (Code 313), and demonstrate that the criteria in the NRCS practice standard have been met. Include all substantiating data, assumptions, computations and analyses in design documentation. The design documentation shall include:

- Management assessment,
- Site assessment,
- Operation and maintenance plan,
- Construction plan,
- Construction Quality Assurance Plan,
- Engineering computations, such as runoff, structural (unless using NRCS Standard Drawings), earthwork quantities, and volumetric computations for sizing of waste storage facility.

### **Construction Quality Assurance Plan**

A construction quality assurance plan is required that describes the type and frequency of testing, items requiring observation, and the documentation required. The plan shall be approved by a person with NRCS Job Approval, WDATCP Agricultural Engineering Practitioner Certification, a Wisconsin registered professional engineer, or staff under the direction and control of the person holding the aforementioned credentials. The construction quality assurance plan shall address all the following items:

- Contact information and responsibilities of key parties (including owner, designer, construction observer, and contractor).
- Pre-construction meeting agenda items (including quality assurance plan, construction plans and specifications, design change procedures, and critical project-specific items).
- Observation and construction verification (including items to be verified, sequencing, layout/staking, notification requirements, and onsite materials testing documentation).
- Items to be noted on as-built plans, job diary, and other certification (attesting) documentation.

## **OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

Develop an operation and maintenance plan that is consistent with the purposes of the practice, its intended life, safety requirements, and the criteria for its design. At a minimum, the plan will contain where appropriate:

Include a narrative describing the purpose of the system or structure and how it is intended to operate. This narrative should include design criteria such as number and type of animals, type of waste, type of bedding, days of storage, method for emptying, vehicle sizes intended to operate within or near the system and other pertinent operational information. Include the operational requirements for emptying the storage facility, including the expected storage period. Also include the requirement that waste be removed from storage and utilized at locations, times, rates, and volume in accordance with the overall waste management system plan and WI NRCS CPS Nutrient Management (Code 590).

Manage the stored waste such that it remains below the maximum operating level during normal operating conditions. Include a contingency plan, which shall be implemented when the maximum operating level is reached. The contingency plan shall include how to handle unexpected volumes of wastewater and/or runoff that could cause the system to overflow or negatively impact the liner before scheduled emptying can occur. The contingency plan shall provide for the safe disposition of waste. Include requirements for location and methods of waste removal and emergency disposal.

For impoundments and other liquid storages include an explanation of the staff gauge or other permanent marker to indicate the maximum operating level. For storages where the contents are not visible and a staff gauge would not be visible, such as below a slatted floor, identify the method for the operator to measure the depth of accumulated waste. Include requirements for monitoring the waste level relative to the permanent maximum operating level markers or indicators.

Include a provision for emergency removal and disposition of liquid waste in the event of an unusual storm event that may cause the waste storage facility to fill to capacity prematurely.

If an observation and pumping port is installed, monitor the discharge in the port for flow depth and pollutants. If pollutants are identified, block the gravity outlet and utilize a pump to remove the polluted liquids until the source is identified and repairs can be completed. Pump pollutants to an appropriate location (e.g. pumped back to the structure or spread per a nutrient management plan).

Describe safety issues and procedures/requirements connected with waste storage facilities, including confined spaces. Include additional measures needed to address the fatal or serious inhalation hazards of gases including, but not limited to, hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), and ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>), which may or may not exist where manure gases are generated through the handling of liquid or semi-solid manure through activities such as pumping, mixing, agitating, spreading, or cleaning-out. Agitating open-air manure storage facilities can be especially hazardous when high humidity and low winds may cause hydrogen sulfide gas to reside near the storage.

Include instructions as needed for ventilating confined spaces according to ASABE Standard S607, Venting Manure Storages to Reduce Entry Risk.

Develop an emergency action plan for waste storage facilities where there is a potential for significant impact from breach or accidental release. Include site-specific provisions for emergency actions that will minimize these impacts.

Include a requirement to contact the appropriate regulatory authority for approval prior to storing any off-farm waste material in a waste storage facility that has been constructed using the criteria in this standard.

Include a description of the routine maintenance needed for each component of the facility. Also include provisions for maintenance that may be needed as a result of waste removal or material deterioration and requirements for inspecting and maintaining the structural components and mechanical systems.

Maintain appropriate manure moisture content for solid manure storage facilities. Excessive moisture will increase the potential for air emissions of volatile organic compounds, ammonia, and nitrous oxide, and may lead to anaerobic conditions, which will increase the potential for emissions of methane and hydrogen sulfide. Too little moisture will increase the potential for particulate matter emissions.

## REFERENCES

American Society for Testing and Materials. Annual Book of ASTM Standards. Standards D 653, D 698, D 1140, D 1760, D 2487, D 2488, D5084. ASTM, Philadelphia, PA.

American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures, SEI/ASCE 7-10 or newer version.

American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE), Standards EP378, EP393, EP379, and EP470.

Manual of Steel Construction, American Institute of Steel Construction.

National Design Specifications for Wood Construction, American Forest and Paper Association.

USDA NRCS. 1992. Agricultural Waste Management Field Handbook. USDA-NRCS, Washington, DC.

USDA NRCS. General Manual. USDA-NRCS, Washington, DC.

USDA NRCS. National Engineering Manual. USDA-NRCS, Washington, DC.

USDA NRCS. National Handbook of Conservation Practices.

USDA NRCS Wisconsin Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG), Section IV, Practice Standards and Specifications.

USDA Soil Conservation Service. 1989. Technical Release Number 74, Lateral Earth Pressures, USDA-SCS, Washington, DC.

Wisconsin Administrative Code, Department of Natural Resources, Chapters NR 141, NR 213, NR 243 and NR 811.

## DEFINITIONS

**Animal Production Area** – Means any part of the livestock operation that is used for the feeding and housing of livestock. This includes the entire animal confinement and feeding area, and any adjacent manure storage areas, raw materials storage areas, and waste containment areas. This does not include pasture and cropland.

**Bedrock** – The solid or consolidated rock formation typically underlying loose surficial material such as soil, alluvium or glacial drift. Bedrock includes but is not limited to limestone, dolomite, sandstone, shale and igneous and metamorphic rock.

*Note: Although solid or consolidated bedrock can sometimes be removed with typical excavation equipment, these materials are included in the above definition.*

**Clean Water** – Water that has not been mixed with manure, wastewater or other contaminants

**Conduits to Groundwater** – Sinkholes, swallets, fractured bedrock at the surface, mine shafts, non-metallic mines, tile inlets discharging to groundwater, quarries, or depressional groundwater recharge areas over shallow fractured bedrock. Wells were intentionally left out of this NR 151 list.

**Confined Space** – Confined Space is a space that 1) contains or has the potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere; 2) is large enough and so configured that a person can bodily enter; 3) has limited or restricted means for entry or exit; and 4) is not designed for continuous human occupancy.

**Contaminated Runoff** – Runoff that has come through or across a barnyard or animal lot or feed storage area. It generally includes the runoff and any manure, sediment, feed, or other material carried in the runoff. It contains lower concentrations of contaminants than leachate from feed or manure.

**Control Joints** – Control joints, often called contraction joints, are used to control the location of cracks caused by concrete shrinkage during setting and thermal changes. Steel reinforcement is interrupted in control joints with embedded waterstop.

**Cultural Resources** – Cultural resources are the traces of any past activities and accomplishments of people. They include tangible traces such as historic districts, sites, buildings, structures, historical

documents and cemeteries. They also include traces of less tangible objects such as dance forms, aspects of folk-life, cultural or religious practices, and some landscapes and vistas.

**Drainage System** – Water conveyance measures of specified capacity, location, and material that insure the removal of water to a free outlet.

**Effective Height** – The difference in elevation between the auxiliary (emergency) spillway crest or the settled top of the embankment if there is no auxiliary spillway and the lowest point in the cross section taken along the centerline of the embankment at existing ground surface.

**Environmental Structure** - Any structure intended for conveying, storing, or treating water, wastewater, or other liquids and nonhazardous materials, such as solid waste, and for secondary containment of hazardous liquids or solid waste and designed to be liquid-tight, with minimal leakage under normal service conditions.

**Flood Prone Areas** – These include areas delineated as floodplains on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) maps, or local floodplain maps as well as areas along perennial streams (blue lines) shown on the United States Geologic Survey quadrangle sheets that may be subject to out of bank flows.

**Footprint** – This is the horizontal area within the perimeter of a facility liner, or the perimeter of a work surface that may cover a liner. For a liquid or solids containment facility, the footprint is the maximum horizontal extent of containment. For a liquid impoundment facility or pond, the footprint is normally defined by the inside top of the embankment. For a solids storage facility, the footprint is normally defined by the edge of the pad, the curb on a pad, or the inside surface of bunker walls.

**Gleyed Soil** – A soil condition resulting from prolonged soil saturation, which is manifested by the presence of grayish, bluish or greenish colors through the soil matrix. Gleying occurs under reducing conditions, by which iron is reduced predominantly to the ferrous state.

**Hydraulic structure** - any structure subjected to hydrostatic or hydrodynamic pressures, either externally or internally.

**Impoundment** – A waste storage facility constructed of earthen embankments and/or excavations for the purpose of storing waste. An impoundment may be lined or unlined.

**Impoundment depth** – Depth is the distance from the bottom of the impoundment up to the maximum operating level (M.O.L.).

**In-Place Earth** – A waste storage facility impoundment where the entire bottom surface is sited where in situ soils have sufficiently low hydraulic conductivity to provide waste storage without a constructed liner. The bottom is excavated a minimum depth of one foot into the situ soils as measured from the planned floor elevation.

**Karst features** – Refers to areas of land underlain by carbonate bedrock (limestone or dolomite). Typical land features in karst areas include sinkholes, network of interconnected fissures, fractures, disappearing streams, closed depressions, blind valleys, caves, and springs. See the companion document in Chapter 10 of the AWMFH for additional discussion of karst features.

**Leachate** – Concentrated liquid waste which has percolated through or drained by gravity from a pile of manure, manure processing derivative, or animal feed. It contains much higher concentrations of contaminants than Contaminated Runoff.

**Liquid Waste Storage Impoundment** – A facility where the stored material does not consistently stack and is either a manmade excavation, or diked area formed primarily of earthen materials, such as soil (although the unit may be lined with earthen or manmade materials) .

**Manure Processing Derivatives** – The by-products and waste components that are produced as a result of treatment and processing practices. These include, but are not limited to, the following waste components: separated sand, separated manure solids, precipitated manure sludges, supernatants, digested liquids, composted biosolids, process waters.

**Nutrient Management Plans** – A planning document that outlines the requirements for managing the amount, form, placement, and timing of applications of plant nutrients to cropland.

**Perched Conditions** – A soil moisture condition, usually of limited area, where wet soil, reduced redoximorphic features or depleted, gleyed, or reduced matrixes are maintained above the normal free water elevation. This condition is located above a barrier to downward flow that is dry or moist.

**Percent Fines (% Fines)** – Percentage of given sample of soil which passes through a #200 sieve.

**Permeability** – The coefficient of permeability (K) is a measure of the ability of soil to transmit liquids. It is used to compute the flow rate of liquid through a soil liner for specific conditions of soil thickness and fluid head (e.g.,  $1 \times 10^{-7}$  cm/s).

**Plasticity Index (PI)** – A soil property indicating moldability. Measured by ASTM D4318.

**Sinkholes** – Closed, usually circular depressions which form in karst areas. Sinkholes are formed by the downward migration of unconsolidated deposits into solutionally enlarged openings in the top of bedrock.

**Structure** – A waste storage facility consisting of constructed surfaces, tanks, or walls for the purpose of storing waste above or below the ground surface. Structures may be constructed of concrete, steel, wood or other construction materials.

**Sub-Liner Soil** – The soil directly below the bottom of the liner. This may be placed or in situ material.

**Sub-Soil** – The soil directly below the bottom of the liner. This must be in situ material.

**Wastewater** – Milking center waste, flush water, leachate from feed holding areas, and similar waste materials generated at the animal production area.



# Figure 1 Design Storage Volume

