



Right to Farm Proactive Review

PROGRAM MANAGER: Michael Wozniak | 517-284-5618 | wozniakm1@michigan.gov

The Right to Farm program can assist farms of all sizes by reviewing the farm operation's conformance with Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPs). The most intensive portion of this activity is in the siting of livestock facilities. This service is designed to help farmers properly plan, site, build, and maintain new and expanding livestock facilities. The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development works with the farm to evaluate all applicable management practices and facility designs, as well as the proximity to non-farm neighbors and existing land use considerations.

IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

On-farm production agriculture is the foundation of Michigan's \$104.7 billion food and agriculture industry, with livestock facilities generating more than \$8.2 billion in annual cash receipts. Yet, there are increasing social and environmental concerns regarding agricultural production in Michigan, especially animal agriculture. Right to Farm proactive reviews allow the industry sector to grow in a responsible way that minimizes nuisance to non-farm neighbors.

2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Continued Lean Process Improvement initiative, including launch of revised application materials.
- Year-to-date, processed 58 total applications, including eight for livestock production facilities.
- Responded to 51 applications from small/non-livestock operations.
- Proactive reviews approved in 2020 will annually generate:
 - \$80.4 million in economic activity
 - \$14.6 million in earnings for farm households
 - 852 ongoing full-time jobs
 - \$3.98 million in additional tax revenues

MEASURING SUCCESS:

Metric	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
New Site Selection Requests	58	46	50	49	15	6	8
New facilities	22	13	25	25	7	2	3
Expanding facilities	36	33	25	24	8	4	5
Final Approvals by Species							
Dairy	23	19	10	22	4	2	0
Swine	18	8	20	17	6	7	1
Poultry	7	16	18	9	3	5	3
Beef	6	3	1	0	2	0	0
Other	3	0	1	2	0	0	0
Small/Non-Livestock Reviews	10	37	23	30	49	52	51

2021 PROGRAM GOALS:

- Complete initial reviews for all new proactive requests within 20 business days.
- Develop helpful management plan templates for small/non-livestock proactive reviews.
- Implement a process for review and adoption of innovative odor control technologies for new and expanding livestock production facilities.
- Increase education, outreach, and guidance to the agricultural industry on GAAMPs, including those for Site Selection and Odor Control for New and Expanding Livestock Facilities.
- Continue to develop resources to assist technicians, consultants, and landowners in submitting conformance review applications.



KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan farmers
- Non-farm rural residents
- Local governments
- Commodity organizations

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Michigan Right to Farm Act, Public Act 93 of 1981, as amended