EPA Permitting – What is the Reality

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Clean water - an essential element for all life.

Yet Pennsylvania's waterways are under heavy assault — from sources like longwall mining, acid mine pollution, abandoned mines, municipal and industrial wastewater discharges, development pressures and stormwater runoff, chemical waste dumps, inadequate storm sewer systems and factory farms. About 14 percent of Pennsylvania's rivers and streams and nearly half of our lakes still do not meet Clean Water Act standards.
More of “The Issue”

PennFuture works to protect our Commonwealth's precious water resources from these threats. We work hand-in-hand with local watershed groups, fishing organizations, land conservancies and landowners providing outreach, education and representation on various legal issues that affect their watersheds. We serve as a watchdog over the agencies that should be protecting our water resources and take action to guarantee that the laws are enforced. We provide workshops to local groups looking to safeguard rivers and streams, and offer our expertise and assistance to guarantee safe drinking water for all.

Source: Penn Future Website 2/07
Factory Farming – an Axiom

300M people in US
2% work in Ag =
Most food comes from Large Scale food operations.
The Reality of This

- We have to Obey Laws Enacted
- Legal Knowledge is not Universal
- There are groups out there that are watching
- Not all of society shares the same goals as Agriculture Community...
Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations - CAFO

- Act 6 revised into Act 38 in 2006.
- AEU used as a determination of animal density loads on local environment.
- Loopholes closed for “dry” poultry farms
- EPA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits needed for large CAFO.
CAFO Benchmark Levels for Poultry (Dry)

- 55,000 Turkeys
- 125,000 Broilers
- 82,000 Layers
- 30,000 Ducks
- 1,000 AEU of Combined Species
What is required for compliance of NPDES?

- DEP General Farm Information form
- Nutrient Management Plan
- County Cons. Dist. Approval Letter of NMP
- EPA NDPES permit application Filed.
- Emergency Plan for Spills / phone #’s
- Soil Conservation Plan; Crop rotations, Veg Buffers, etc.

*On farm files*
Where to Go for Help

- Soil Conservation District for where county farm sits.
- PSU Extension
  panutrientmgmt.cas.psu.edu
- DEP – forms and info
  www.dep.state.pa.us
- EPA – Information
  cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/afo/compliance.cfm
Federal Premise ID

- Used by Federal & State programs
  - NPIP – AI Program
  - PA Animal Health
- Will ID farm to a Map
- FOIA Exempt

http://farminfo.psu.edu
Thank You!

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