Options for Closing Manure Storage and Treatment Systems

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Presentation Goal: Help understand the options

Decision Considerations

- Future Plans For Farm
- Fate of Storage Unit & Permit
- Legal/Permit Requirements
- Financial Considerations

Storage Closure Concepts

- Accumulated Manure Usually A Liability
- 1st Clean The Barns, Then Storage
- Barn And Storage Cleaning Likely Required To Restart Operations
- All Manure Will Need To Be Land Applied
- Application Rates
  - Maximum Is N Crop Needs
  - Lower Rates Likely Due To P Concerns
- May Take More Than One Cropping Season

The archived presentation is available at:
http://www.extension.org/pages/21819/chronological-webcast-archive
Critical Concepts

• Engineers/Consultants Deal With Closing Storages
• Regulatory Agency Deals With Closing Permits
• To Close Permit You Must Close Storage

Storage & Permit Closure Options

1. Manage Storage & Keep Permit
   – Some States Don’t Mandate Closure
   – Some States Mandate Closure After A Period Of Time
2. Renovate Storage & Keep Permit
3. Close Storage & Close Permit

*CANNOT* Leave Manure In Storage & Close Permit

Manage Storage & Keep Permit Details

• Follow Normally Recommended Storage Practices
  – Minimizes Initial Costs
  – Will Have Ongoing Management Costs
  – Can’t Close Permit Without More Work
  – Must Keep Permit Active
  – Active Permit Potentially Increases Property Value
  – Accumulated Manure Solids Will likely Decrease Property Value
Renovate Storage & Keep Permit Details
- Clean Barns, Land Apply All Manure, Clean Storage To Original Capacity
  - Moderate Initial Costs
  - Will Have Ongoing Management Costs
  - Can't Close Permit Without More Work
  - Must Keep Permit Active
  - Active Permit With No Manure Accumulation
    Potentially Maximizes Property Value

Close Storage & Close Permit Details
- Fresh Water Pond
  - Clean Barns
  - Land Apply All Manure
  - Prevent Future Manure Loading
  - Convert To Freshwater
  - Vegetate Disturbed Area
- Stable Soil Grade
  - Clean Barns
  - Land Apply All Manure
  - Prevent Future Manure Loading
  - Establish Stable Grades
  - Vegetate Disturbed Area
- Must Close Permit
- Free of Permit Requirements
- Highest Initial Costs
- No/Limited Ongoing Costs
- Increase Alternative Land Use Options

Storage Closure Decision Tree

No Animals
- Keep Permit
  - Normal Practices
  - Renovate then Normal Practices
  - Convert to Fresh Water
- Close Permit
  - Return to Stable Soil Grade

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