

Fact Sheet

Feedlot Program

The Scott Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) has been assisting landowners with feedlot issues since the early 1970s. In the mid-70s, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Feedlot Division was developed to oversee feedlot issues within Minnesota. Grant money was awarded to the Scott SWCD in 1994 to conduct a county-wide, level-three feedlot inventory. This inventory was completed in 1997 and has been updated to bring the district's feedlot inventory to its present status.

What is the feedlot program?

This program was developed to assist Scott County landowners with feedlot permit applications; review completed applications for accuracy and maintain records on feedlot the status of feedlots in the county. All feedlot operators with 10 or more animal units are reviewed and entered into the database. Feedlot operators with a pollution rating are eligible for cost-share dollars to upgrade their systems to meet MPCA requirements.

Who is eligible to participate?

All landowners in Scott County are eligible for the program services. Any concerns or complaints regarding feedlots in Scott County are handled by the Scott SWCD.

What is the goal of the feedlot program?

The primary goal of the Scott SWCD feedlot program is to have all feedlots in the county in compliance with the MPCA and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by 2010. Along with feedlot compliance, another goal of the district is to have all Manure Management Plans for all feedlot operations within Scott County.

The purpose of the feedlot program is to assist feedlot operators in complying with EPA and MPCA feedlot rules and regulations. Technical assistance is available to landowners to help them comply with all state and federal feedlot regulations. Along with the services mentioned above, Scott SWCD maintains an up-to-date database of all active feedlots and operations in the county.

Financial Assistance for Pollution Abatement

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). EQIP provides cost-share funds to pay up to 50 percent of the cost of implementing conservation practices and management practices. The maximum EQIP payment is \$50,000 over the life of the contract. To qualify for assistance through EQIP, a producer must agree to implement practices through a long-term agreement spanning between five and 10 years. This agreement must address the resource concerns identified both by producer and by the agency personnel that is providing technical assistance.

State Revolving Fund Loan Program. Administered by the Scott SWCD in cooperation with Scott County, low-interest loans are available to farmers and rural landowners in the county to bring their livestock-holding facilities into conformance with water-quality standards. Low-interest loans of 3 percent interest plus .5 percent origination fee are available for livestock-holding facilities and agricultural waste management projects.



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