

Report

**Community
Manure
Management
Feasibility Study**

Dane County, WI

February 2008

Report for
Dane County, Wisconsin

Community Manure Management
Feasibility Study

Prepared by:

STRAND ASSOCIATES, INC.®
910 West Wingra Drive
Madison, WI 53715
www.strand.com

February 2008



March 28, 2007

«FNAME» «LNAME»
«FARM»
«ADDRESS»
«CSZ»

Dear «FNAME»,

As you may have heard, Dane County has asked Strand Associates, Inc. to complete a manure management feasibility study. The study is scheduled to be completed in 2007. The main goals of the study include:

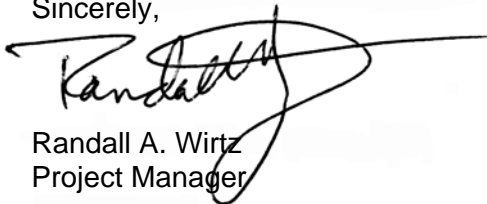
- Strengthening the livestock industry.
- Protecting water quality.
- Preserving open space.

The key to success for this study is getting input and cooperation from livestock producers like you. Please take a few moments to complete the questionnaire. Additional information is located at www.danewaters.com; click on "manure management pages" and then "Community Manure Feasibility Study Committee."

Your answers to the questions will be kept confidential and will be combined with those of other producers. Once the data are compiled, we will send you a summary of the results. We will contact you only if you express an interest in working with us on manure management solutions.

Please mail the completed questionnaire to us by April 13, 2007, in the postage-prepaid envelope, or cut it in half and fax it to Rachel Lee at 251-8655. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to call Randy Wirtz at Strand (251-4843) or John Reindl at Dane County (267-8815). Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randall", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Randall A. Wirtz
Project Manager

Enclosure

Dane County Manure Management Survey April 2007

Please answer all of the questions to the best of your ability. Any information provided will be kept strictly confidential. A summary of survey results will be provided to all respondents. Mail your questionnaire by April 13, 2007 to: Strand Associates, Inc., 910 West Wingra Drive, Madison, WI 53715 or fax it to Rachel Lee, 251-8655. Thanks for your help!

1. What do you see as your greatest farming challenges now and in five to ten years? **[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.]**

NOW FUTURE

- Prices received for grain, milk and livestock
- Cost of land in competition with urban development
- Cost of inputs for grain and livestock production
- Disposal of livestock manure (handling, storing & spreading)
- Environmental laws and restrictions (odor, water quality, development)
- Federal agricultural policies
- Other _____
- Other _____

2. Please indicate how many acres of each crop you grow. Then enter how many acres of each receive manure.

Crop	Acres Grown in 2006	Acres Owned Now Used for Manure Application	Acres Owned by Others Now Used for Manure Application
Corn for grain and silage			
Soybeans			
Small grains			
Alfalfa, clover & other forage crops			
Vegetables			
Pasture			
All other crops			
TOTAL ACRES			

3. How many head of livestock are you now raising on all of your farm sites? Plan for 2008? Plan for 2012?

	Dairy Milking Cows	Dairy Dry Cows	Other Adult Dairy	Adult Beef	Adult Swine	Young Stock *	Total Poultry	Other (describe)
2007 Current								
2008 Next Year								
2012 Five Years								

* Young stock should include all dairy and beef calves, as well as pigs under 100 pounds. Do not include them in previous counts for adult livestock. Other should include horses, mules, ponies, sheep, goats, llamas, alpacas, etc.

4. How much livestock manure is generated each year on all of your farms? **[ENTER ESTIMATES FOR EACH TYPE.]**

LIQUIDS: _____ gal/year
 SOLIDS: _____ cubic yards/year
 SOLIDS: _____ tons/year

5. What is your current method of manure collection, solids separation, and treatment (if any)? **[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.]**

- Scraped or pushed into a pile
- Scraped or pushed into a pit or tank
- Flushed or pumped into a pit or tank
- Other: _____

6. What is the type and volume size of your manure storage?

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>VOLUME</u>	<u>CHECK ONE</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Unlined lagoon	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> gallons or <input type="checkbox"/> months
<input type="checkbox"/> Lined lagoon	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> gallons or <input type="checkbox"/> months
<input type="checkbox"/> Slurry tank	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> gallons or <input type="checkbox"/> months
<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete wall pit	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> gallons or <input type="checkbox"/> months
<input type="checkbox"/> Pile on ground	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> cubic yards or <input type="checkbox"/> months
<input type="checkbox"/> Store in spreader and frequently haul	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> gallons or <input type="checkbox"/> days
<input type="checkbox"/> Don't have any manure storage		

7. What is your main method(s) for applying manure to the land? **[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.]**

- Honey wagon Manure spreader Irrigation system Other _____
 Incorporated into soil within 72 hours

8a. What is the maximum distance that you now haul manure? _____ MILES

8b. Would you be willing to increase the maximum hauling distance if a manure processing station were available in your area?

- Definitely yes Probably yes Not sure Probably not Definitely not

9a. What types and amounts of animal bedding do you use in a year?

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>VOLUME</u>	<u>CHECK ONE</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Sand	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> cubic yards or <input type="checkbox"/> tons
<input type="checkbox"/> Straw	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> bales or <input type="checkbox"/> tons
<input type="checkbox"/> Corn stalks/soybean stubble	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> bales or <input type="checkbox"/> tons
<input type="checkbox"/> Saw dust/wood chips	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> cubic yards or <input type="checkbox"/> tons
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ or <input type="checkbox"/> _____

9b. How much do you spend each year on bedding purchased from others? _____ DOLLARS

10a. How much water do you use in your livestock operation? _____ GALLONS/YEAR

10b. How much do you spend for electricity to pump water? _____ DOLLARS/YEAR

11. How many labor hours are spent annually by you or your hired help on the following manure management tasks?

HOURS PER YEAR

- _____ hrs. for **collecting** manure
 _____ hrs. for **storing** manure
 _____ hrs. for **hauling** manure
 _____ hrs. for **applying** manure to fields
 _____ hrs. for **maintaining** manure related equipment
 _____ hrs. for **doing paperwork** for nutrient management plans, documentation, etc.
 _____ hrs. for **other** manure related tasks
 _____ hrs. **TOTAL**

12a. Do you have a nutrient management plan? Yes No

12b. If land application of manure is based on P rather than N, do you have enough land? Yes No

12c. If NO to Q.12b, how many additional acres of land do you think you need? _____ ACRES

12d. Are manure disposal requirements limiting plans for expanding your livestock operation? Yes No

13. Please indicate your level of concern with the following aspects of manure management. Circle 5=VERY CONCERNED, 4=SOMEWHAT CONCERNED, 3=NEUTRAL, 2=SOMEWHAT UNCONCERNED, and 1=NOT AT ALL CONCERNED, or 9=NOT APPLICABLE. [BE SURE TO RATE EACH ASPECT.]

	<u>VERY CONCERNED</u>	<u>SOMEWHAT CONCERNED</u>	<u>NEUTRAL</u>	<u>SOMEWHAT UNCONCERNED</u>	<u>NOT AT ALL CONCERNED</u>	<u>NOT APPLICABLE</u>
a. Odor or bad smells.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
b. Local water quality.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
c. Hauling on highways.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
d. Residential development.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
e. Spreading regulations.....	5	4	3	2	1	9

14. Do you or someone else plan to continue operating this place as a farm in the future? If NO, please explain.

- a. 1-4 years Yes No Don't Know Comments: _____
- b. 5-9 years..... Yes No Don't Know Comments: _____
- c. 10+ years..... Yes No Don't Know Comments: _____

15. What obstacles do you think would need to be overcome before farmers would accept a community manure processor that served many livestock operations?

16. This Dane County Manure Management Feasibility Study will be completed in 2007. Please indicate below your possible interest in helping with this study.

- Yes, I am interested in exploring individual farm solutions to nutrient and manure management
- Yes, I am interested in exploring potential "farm cluster" or community solutions with other farmers
- Yes, but I would like to get more information about the study first [SEE CONTACT NAMES BELOW.]
- No for now, but check back with me at a later date
- No, not at all interested
- No, but talk with this family member or neighbor to see if they are interested:
NAME _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

Thank you very much for your help. Please provide the following information so that we can send you a summary of the survey results or contact you about helping with the feasibility study.

Owner/Operator's Name: _____ Corporate or Farm Name: _____

Road or PO Box Address: _____ Town _____ ZIP _____

Address(es) of Livestock Operations (if different from mailing address):

Road or PO Box Address: _____ Town _____ ZIP _____

Road or PO Box Address: _____ Town _____ ZIP _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Preferred Method of Contact: Phone E-mail US Mail On farm visit

PLEASE USE THIS SPACE OR THE BACK OF THIS PAGE TO ADD ANY COMMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE ABOUT THE IDEA OF HAVING A COMMUNITY MANURE PROCESSOR, GETTING COOPERATION OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS, OR ANYTHING ELSE RELATED TO PROTECTING FARMLAND AND WATER QUALITY IN YOUR AREA. IF YOU NEED MORE INFORMATION, FEEL FREE TO CONTACT: RANDY WIRTZ AT STRAND (252-4843) OR JOHN REINDL AT DANE COUNTY (267-8815).

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS