



KnowCAFOs, Inc / PO Box 253 / Grantsburg, WI 54840/ www.knowcafos.org / info@knowcafos.org



What is a CAFO (Factory Farm)?

- “Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation” = CAFO (Industrial Producers)
- Houses hundreds to multiple thousands of animals in confined warehouse style buildings – no little red barns and few (if any) pastures on these industrial agriculture properties
- There are nearly 300 CAFOs in Wisconsin alone
- Wisconsin currently has 14 hog CAFOs statewide

Why are CAFOs a Concern?

- Operations emit toxic gases/odors – risks to workers and neighboring residences
- Huge volume of animal waste and farm field spreading creates issues with ground and surface water pollution (algae-green lakes, fish kills, potentially contaminated water in private wells)
- Infiltration of bacteria into wetlands, lakes, rivers and streams
- Private well contamination issues (nitrates or bacteria such as e. coli, salmonella, etc.)
- Overuse of antibiotics due to close proximity of animals to each other (residual medications in meat, milk, & cheese linked to antibiotic resistance in humans effecting medical treatment)
- Decreased property values for surrounding rural residents within 3 miles of the facility
- Self-reporting by industrial producers of violations (spills) is not working; DNR staff only cited 4% of violations committed by industrial producers per the Legislative Audit Report in June 2016

What about proposed Burnett/Polk County CAFOs?

- Close proximity to St. Croix River – located in the St. Croix River watershed
- Close proximity to Fish Lake Wildlife Area
- Proposal for 26,350 hogs in this one location
- 6.8 million gallons of manure could be produced annually and spread on area fields where run off into groundwater, rivers, and streams is very likely
- Potential expansion to include multiple feed lots and a slaughterhouse (along with their contaminants)
- Out-of-state controlled company with no roots in Wisconsin – not a local family farmer to approach with concerns
- Lyme disease treatment will be more difficult if antibiotic resistant bacteria infiltrate the air and private wells

What Can You Do?

- Check KnowCAFOs.org regularly for updates and meetings
- Stay in the loop on Facebook at Farms not Factory Farms Burnett County Wisconsin
- Donate to assist us with yard signs, brochures, printing and website costs.
www.knowcafos.org/donate/
- Attend public meetings and voice your concerns
- Email the elected officials with your concern. Email addresses are on the home page
www.knowcafos.org