

March 19, 2020

Alternative Approach to On-Site Status Review

Performing Nutrient Management On-Site Status Reviews Without On-Site Farm Visit

Due to the current concern with Covid-19, the State Conservation Commission (SCC) has developed the following guidance for performing Act 38 Nutrient Management *On-Site* Status Reviews, as an alternative, without going on the actual farm where the animals are housed. This alternative approach is only for use during periods of heightened concern with Covid-19

If after applying the below guidelines, CDs still have questions concerning who qualifies, or procedures to take, they should contact their SCC regional coordinator.

Guidelines for Using the Alternative Approach Status Review:

1. This Alternative Approach will be in effect until the SCC and/or county conservation districts inform employees to resume normal activities.
2. Use of the Alternative Status Review is determined on a case by case basis between the CD and operator.
3. A face-to-face meeting between the operator and CD, can be suspended, if the operator is willing to share records, etc. per scan, fax, e-mail, etc. and can meet over the phone to answer the appropriate questions listed in the status review form. Please note, any records or other information not normally kept by the CD should be destroyed when no longer needed for the review.
4. The current *On-Site* Status Review form will be used for the alternative approach. Questions requiring the on-site inspection will be noted as "*alternative status review performed,*" and include operators responses (if applicable).
5. In cases where an operation's approved NMP calls for Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be implemented (as listed in the plan's BMP Implementation Summary) or cases where the operation has implemented additional BMPs since the CD's last on-site inspection (annual status review or post construction of the BMP), that inspection will need be performed after #1 above has been initiated.