In December 2002, EPA revised the Clean Water Act regulation for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations, or CAFOs. If you own or operate a duck CAFO, you must apply for a permit. This pamphlet gives general information about what your permitting authority might require in your CAFO’s permit.
Is my duck operation a CAFO?
Your operation is a CAFO if it is an animal feeding operation (AFO) and it meets one of the following conditions:

**Large CAFOs**
Your duck AFO is a Large CAFO if it has at least:
- 30,000 ducks (other than liquid manure systems)
- 5,000 ducks (liquid manure systems)

**Medium CAFOs**
Your duck AFO is a Medium CAFO if it has at least:
- 10,000 ducks (other than liquid manure systems)
- 1,500 ducks (liquid manure systems) and
- A man-made ditch or pipe carries manure or wastewater from your operation or
- Your animals come into contact with surface water running through the area where they’re confined

**Designated CAFOs**
No matter what size your operation is, if it is an AFO, it can be designated a CAFO. If your permitting authority inspects your operation and finds that it’s adding pollutants to surface waters, your operation might need a CAFO permit.

My operation is a CAFO. What do I have to do?
You must apply to your permitting authority for a permit. Most states have the authority to manage CAFO programs and issue permits. State CAFO programs are based on the revised national regulation. You can use this pamphlet to help you learn about the minimum requirements for a permit. You should contact your permitting authority to find out what your state-specific requirements are and how to apply for a permit. Check the insert to this pamphlet for your permitting authority’s contact information.

What will my operation’s permit require?
Your CAFO permit will require you to meet certain conditions for your production and land application areas. The specific requirements of your permit will depend on whether your operation is a Large, Medium, or designated CAFO.

**Requirements for all duck CAFOs**
You can expect your permit to require you to:
- Implement a nutrient management plan
- Submit annual reports to your permitting authority
- Keep your permit current until you completely close your operation and remove all manure
- Keep records of your nutrient management practices for at least 5 years

**Nutrient management plans for all duck CAFOs must include provisions for**
- Assuring adequate manure storage capacity
- Proper handling of dead animals and chemicals
- Diverting clean water from the production area
- Keeping animals out of surface water
- Using site-specific conservation practices
- Developing ways to test manure and soil
- Assuring appropriate use of nutrients when you spread manure
- Keeping records of your nutrient management practices

Your permitting authority might set more requirements for any size CAFO.

**Requirements for Medium duck CAFOs and designated duck CAFOs**
Your permitting authority might set more requirements for your nutrient management plan. These requirements will depend on the permit writer’s best professional judgement and could be like the requirements for other Large poultry CAFOs.

**Requirements for Large duck CAFOs**
The nutrient management plans for Large duck CAFOs that use a liquid manure handling system have more discharge requirements for their production area. These discharge requirements are the following:

- **Maximum for 1 day**
  - 3.66 lb/1,000 ducks for BOD$_5$
  - Fecal coliform not to exceed most probable number (mpn) of 400/100 ml at any one time

- **Average of daily values for 30 consecutive days cannot exceed**
  - 2.00 lb/1,000 ducks for BOD$_5$
  - Fecal coliform not to exceed most probable number (mpn) of 400/100 ml at any one time

**Transferring manure to other persons**
- Keep records for at least 5 years on the date, recipient, amount, and nutrient content of the manure you transferred
- Information about the nutrient content of your manure must be given to the recipient

See the pamphlet What Are The Federal Record-Keeping and Reporting Requirements? to find out what records you should keep and report to your permitting authority.