

Act No. 105 (H.829). Conservation and land development; agriculture; water quality; small farms

An act relating to water quality on small farms

This act amends the standards the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM) is required to address in revising the Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs) by rule. The act authorizes AAFM to approve the storage of manure, nutrients, or fertilizer in a floodway that would otherwise be prohibited under the RAPs, if the site is the best available site on the farm for protecting groundwater or surface water quality. The act authorizes AAFM to allow the siting of a waste storage facility within 200 feet of a well or water when the site is the best available site on the farm for the purposes of protecting groundwater or surface water quality and the facility is designed by a licensed engineer. The act also repeals the requirement that the RAPs prohibit construction of farm structures for manure, fertilizers, or pesticides within a FEMA floodway. In addition, the act extends from July 1, 2016 to September 15, 2016 the date by which AAFM shall amend the RAPs by rule.

Effective Date: May 12, 2016