

Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets FY 2018 Inspection and Enforcement Summary

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (VAAFAM) has developed a comprehensive approach to the regulation of farms in the State in order to best protect water resources. The approach to regulating Vermont farms addresses all size farms, providing size specific regulatory oversight from a small farm subject to regulation under the Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs) Regulations, to a Medium Farm Operation (MFO) regulated under the state's MFO General Permit, to a Large Farm Operation (LFO) regulated under a LFO Individual Permit.

In fiscal year 2018, the Regulatory Program in the Water Quality Division at the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets made 652 water quality compliance visits and issued 118 enforcement actions for alleged violations.



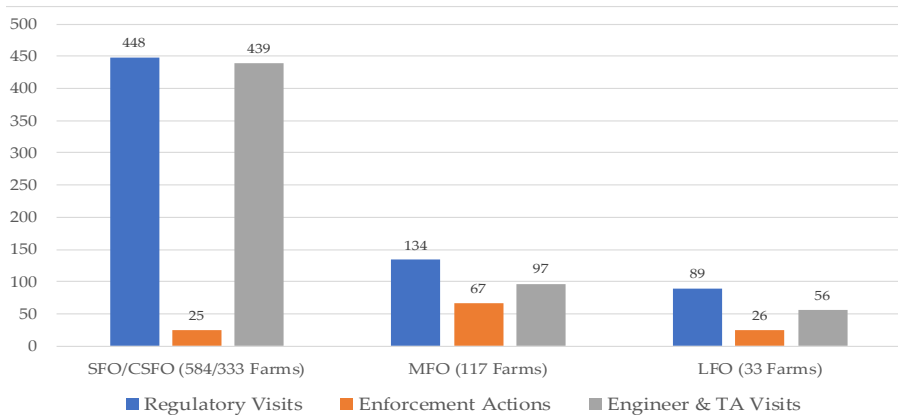
VAAFAM water quality farm specialist discusses farm practices with a farmer during an inspection.

SUMMARY OF ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS AND REFERRALS 2016-2018

YEAR	INVESTIGATIONS & INSPECTIONS	ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS	REFERRALS TO ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE	REFERRALS TO AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
2016*	379	38	1	1
2017*	505	82	2	18
2018	652	118	7	30

**Data reported for 2016 and 2017 reflect calendar year reporting, whereas 2018 data reflects state fiscal year data. Previous reporting for this work was done on a calendar year basis and is now transitioned into fiscal year reporting.*

FISCAL YEAR 2018 FARM VISITS AND ENFORCEMENT BY FARM SIZE



MONETARY PENALTIES ASSOCIATED WITH ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

In FY 2018, VAAFAM issued 118 enforcement actions of which 30 were Notice of Violations (NOVs) which assessed associated monetary penalties totaling \$69,000.

Thirty individual cases were referred to the Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). For accurate updates on penalty amounts it is best if you contact DEC directly as AAFM coordinates on the violation and solution as opposed to the penalty amounts being assessed by ANR.

In FY 2018, VAAFAM referred 7 individual cases to the Vermont Attorney General's Office (AGO) which assessed associated monetary penalties of \$115,831.

**5 FARM VISITS
EVERY DAY**

WATER QUALITY VISITS EVERY DAY ON AVERAGE

240 VIOLATIONS

ALLEGED VIOLATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH
118 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

333 CSFOs

UNDER THE NEW CERTIFIED
SMALL FARM OPERATION PROGRAM

88 APPLICATORS

CERTIFIED CUSTOM MANURE APPLICATORS

**\$69,000 IN
PENALTIES**

PROPOSED PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS
ASSOCIATED WITH 30 NOTICES



VAAFAM water quality farm specialist measures the distance of an annual crop field perennial buffer during an inspection.