UG 210-16-3 ENG Animal Waste Management (AWM) Version 2.4 and User s Guide

User Guide: 210-16-3 **Date:** February 2, 2016

Subject: ENG – Animal Waste Management (AWM) Version 2.4 and User's Guide

Purpose. To announce the official release and availability of the NRCS AWM version 2.4 software and companion user's guide.

Effective Date. Effective upon receipt.

Background. This new version enhances and corrects AWM version 2.3. Version 2.4 adds the capability to evaluate existing structures and generates reports in terms of their adequacy to handle the waste generated and flowing into them. AWM is a software tool used to plan or design waste storage facilities associated with animal feeding operations. It is used to estimate the production of manure, bedding, and process water and calculate the size of storage or treatment facilities required based upon herd sizes and management practices. In addition, the software produces a gross nutrient balance for estimating land application requirements and a standard or custom report to document the system design. AWM software was originally a DOS-based program. It is redeveloped in Visual Basic by NRCS.

Explanation. Users may obtain the software through State-level Information Technology Support (ITS) managers, who have received the software and user's guide for distribution. ITS managers are to—

- Coordinate with State conservation engineers (and equivalent) to determine exactly which computers are to receive the software installation.
- Review the README file before running the program, as it contains detailed information.
- Install the software by first placing it on the server, then moving the software from the server to each identified user's computer.

Users are to discontinue using all prior versions of this software and user guide.

Users are to direct questions or comments regarding the software or the user's guide to the appropriate State-level staff engineer. In addition, user support can be obtained from the environmental engineers on the USDA-NRCS national technology support centers' core staff.

Programming issues should be directed to the Environmental Engineer, Central National Technology Support Center, by telephone at (817) 370-3353.

Distribution. Due to printing and distribution costs, this directive is only available electronically at http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/technical/ecoscience/mnm/?cid=stelprdb1045812.

Filing Instructions. In the event that a paper copy of this directive and the attached AWM user's guide is retained, place it in a three-ring binder, adjacent with other technical reference materials.

Contact. For further information, please contact the National Engineering Software Coordinator, Conservation Engineering Division, by telephone at (202) 720-2520.

/s/

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[UG_210_16_3 - - February 2016]