Conservation Practice Overview

Dust Management for Pen Surfaces (Code 375)

NRCS Conservation Practice Standard (CPS) Dust Management for Pen Surfaces (Code 375) is for reducing or preventing the emissions of particulate matter (i.e., dust) arising from animal activity on pen surfaces at animal feeding operations.

Practice Information

The purpose of this practice is to improve air quality by reducing the dust emissions caused by animal activity on pen surfaces. The primary air quality resource concern addressed by this practice is “Emissions of Particulate Matter (PM) and PM Precursors.”

This practice applies to any pen surface (e.g., open-lot area, holding pen, corral, working alley, or other similar area where animals are confined) that may be subject to animal activity at animal feeding operations (AFOs). It is particularly important for AFOs in drier climates located close to major roadways and populated areas.

Prior to installation of this practice, incorporate a dust prevention and control strategy for mitigating dust emissions from animal activity on pen surfaces into the site conservation plan.

This practice requires maintenance over the expected life of the practice.

Common Associated Practices

NRCS CPS Dust Management for Pen Surfaces (Code 375) is commonly applied with other conservation practices such as NRCS CPSs Sprinkler System (Code 442), Critical Area Planting (Code 342), Heavy Use Area Protection (Code 561), Mulching (Code 484), Dust Control on Unpaved Roads and Surfaces (Code 373), and Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (Code 380).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.