

## Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (“CAFOs”) and Manure Spreading

A “**large**” CAFO is a livestock operation that confines more than 700 mature milk cows, 1,000 beef cattle, 2,500 pigs, 55,000 turkeys, etc. (all 1,000 “animal units”). A “**medium**” CAFO confines between 300 and 1,000 animal units.

As shown in the map to the right, Wisconsin has **140 large CAFOs** - a small fraction of the **30,000 livestock operations** in the state. Many of those large CAFOs are concentrated in northeastern Wisconsin.

While those **140 CAFOs represent less than 1% of all livestock operations**, they generate more than **10% of the manure** in Wisconsin.

CAFOs are required to follow manure management plans, and in many cases do, but the **standards for manure application in those plans are too weak** to protect drinking water and streams from contamination.

**For more information**, contact Midwest Environmental Advocates at: [www.midwestadvocates.org](http://www.midwestadvocates.org) or 608-251-5047 ext 2.

