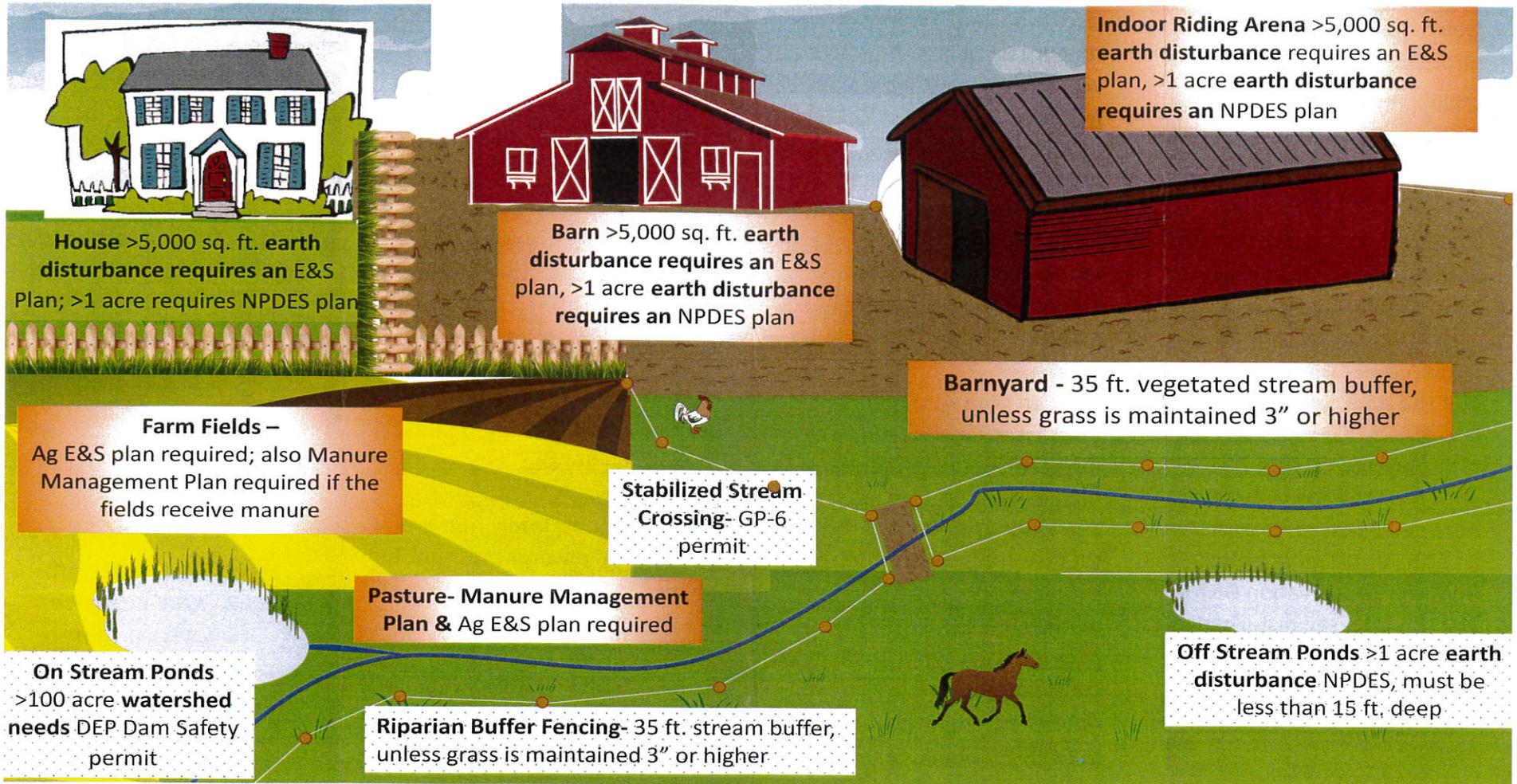


# Does Your Farm Need a Permit?



See more explanations on back.

### E&S Permits

Landowners who are disturbing soil on their land in PA will probably need a permit:

- **Tilling (including no till)** over 5,000 sq.ft. requires an Ag E&S Plan (can be satisfied with a Conservation Plan from NRCS).
- **Buildings and ponds (including barns, houses, driveways, sheds, manure pits, and animal heavy use areas)** are all required to have an E&S Plan:
  - 1) if the total soil disturbance is less than 5,000 sq.ft., an E&S plan must be on site;
  - 2) If the total soil disturbance is between 5,000 sq. ft. and 1 acre, an E&S Permit must be acquired from the Conservation District;
  - 3) If the total soil disturbance is over 1 acre, an NPDES permit must be acquired from the Conservation District (no “farm” exemption) .

### Manure Management Plans

Landowners in PA, regardless of size, who land apply livestock manure or ag process waste water, must have a Manure Management Plan. Livestock includes cattle, horses, sheep & goats, poultry (not aquatic species), swine, donkeys, mules, bison, oxen, camels, etc. Only having one of these animals creates the need for a Manure Management Plan (e.g. one chicken).

Manure Management Plans can be created in a workbook by farmers to explain their farm’s manure management system. The workbooks are available at WCD or <https://extension.psu.edu/programs/nutrient-management/>. Nutrient Management Plans are a more comprehensive plan and are required if the farm is a Concentrated Animal Operation (if there are more than

2,000 pounds of animals per acre of land on which manure is spread).

Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs) must be prepared by a commercial plan preparer and approved by the Conservation District; NMPs can be used voluntarily by farmers for the limited liability feature offered by having a plan.

### Streams & Buffers

Manure stacks must have at least a 35 foot vegetated buffer from Waters of the Commonwealth (WoC) - streams, ponds, lakes; manure contaminated water must not be allowed into WoC; liquid manure pits must be over 200 feet from property lines.

Animal stream crossings require a General Permit #6. Work on drainage to a stream requires a General Permit #9.

### Ponds

Construction of a pond with less than a 100 acre watershed flowing to it does not require a General Permit (GP); however, if the total soil disturbance is over 5,000 sq.ft., an E&S Plan is required to be approved by WCD. Ponds with over 100 acre watershed flowing to it requires a DEP Dam Safety Permit.

### Contact WCD for any questions.

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